October 17, 1931

Dr.A.J.Lanza,
General Motors Corporation,
Detroit, Mich.

My dear Lanza:

A matter has come up which I believe to be of considerable importance to the cause of public health and in which I very much want your help.

I have been for four years serving as Vice President for Health of the National Safety Council. I have felt that there was a tremendously important opportunity here to use this extraordinary organization for the promotion of industrial health along the general lines which have been so strikingly successful with regard to industrial safety. It has been a hard fight and the fight is not yet won, but we have had for two years now an industrial health division on the staff with Dr.Sappington in charge and have developed very successful sections on industrial health and industrial nursing at the annual congress. Financial limitations due to the depression have of course prevented any great advance during the past year but as soon as the sky is clear I think we are in shape to go ahead and I think it is difficult to estimate the possible usefulness of a really vigorous development along this line. The Council approaches industry

from inside and has an influence that no other body could possibly exert as instanced I think in what has been accomplished following the report on benzol poisoning.

It is the custom of the Council to change its vice presidents every three years, but I have been in for four and have accepted reelection for 1932 on the condition that someone should be added to the executive committee who after a year's experience would take my place. Of course one can not pledge next year's nominating committee but that is the definite program which everyone has in mind. We would ultimately like to have the Vice President for Health a real industrial physician having direct responsibility for health in industry, but after a very careful canvass of the situation for two years, we have not found the right person. At the meeting of the Council in Chicago last week I had an inspiration. You would be in every respect an ideal man for this job and your new professional connection makes you an altogether logical person. We telegraphed Mr.Stettinius and he said he had no objection to your serving though he wanted you to appear as A.J.Lanza of Detroit without mentioning the G.M.C. We tried to get you by telephone and found you could not be reached and ventured to elect you as a member of the executive committee. This involves attendance at a meeting held every other month in New York or Chicago. The next meeting will be in New York on November 17. No one is of course expected to come to every meeting but I most earnestly hope that you will accept and will come as much as you can. I feel as I have said that this is really one of the great opportunities to promote our cause and I know you are the one man to do it.

Yours very sincerely,

C.-E.A.Winslow