

January 15, 1940

Dr. H. C. Honor  
Manila Hospital and Sanitorium  
707 Vermont Street  
Manila

Dear Doctor Honor:-

I have just received an indirect communication from a representative of the South China Division of the Standard Vacuum Oil Company expressing some concern over the fact that their employees at the Pandacan Terminal in Manila had not received any medical attention since March 1939. It may be that you were not advised of the fact that the customary practice is for the examination of these men four times a year, at least during the first year. In any case I trust that you will be able to get in touch with the local representative of this company and straighten out the situation with them in such a way that they may be led to understand that their men have not been wilfully neglected. It so happens that we have educated the commercial representatives of the oil companies to take the problem of the medical supervision of their employees quite seriously, and I should be very much chagrined if they were led to feel that our medical representatives were any less serious about this matter than they are. I hope, therefore, you will be able to arrive at an understanding with them which will clarify the entire matter. I think, for a time at least, you should examine these men quarterly. If you should assure yourself subsequently that the men are careful, that the plant is kept in good condition and that it is not necessary to examine the men with this frequency, I am entirely willing to leave this to your judgment. On the other hand the safety of this work is dependent entirely upon the care with which the plant is kept in order and with which the regulations are enforced in detail in the day's work. I am quite convinced that in some plants negligence will develop unless the medical supervision is maintained at a high degree of alertness.

I should be pleased if you would let me have your reaction to this matter promptly on receipt of this letter, so that I shall know how to reply to the question which has been raised in the letter mentioned above. Please let me know what you propose to do in the matter of the frequency of your visits. Moreover

if you have occasion to reduce the frequency of your visits  
at a subsequent date, please let me know.

Cordially yours,

BAK:is

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.

KE 0013394