



March 3, 1947

Dr. Robert A. Kenoe
College of Medicine
University of Cincinnati
Cincinnati, Ohio

Dear Dr. Kenoe:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter regarding lead hazards at the Magnus Metal Plant.

I am very glad that you have written to me for your letter has disclosed a few things that I did not know and also gives me an opportunity to explain my position in regard to my report.

My visit was made at the request of Mr. Rutledge of the Martin Service Company and a letter from the management of the plant. It was my purpose and desire to be of help in locating and eliminating lead hazards rather than to in any way avoid responsibility for a case of lead poisoning. Since you have been given a copy of my report, which I hope is a correct one, you will note that parts of the plant were not in operation and I did not see the claimant or any medical reports. I was also told that one of their men who had been engaged in wheeling scrap metal was said to have lead poisoning. The place where he worked had been cleaned and I saw no evidences of lead dust at that time, but you will note that I qualified my statement with the possibility that he may have been exposed around the furnaces. Later when his claim was filed I saw a statement from the claimant in which he not only had worked around the furnaces but had poured metal which, from what I saw, probably contained 85 per cent lead. It seems to have been this exposure which may have accounted for his disability. I have not seen the claim since it was first filed but intend to look it up.

I have never had any thought of questioning the diagnosis of any case made by you or your associates. In fact I have always had the highest regard for your opinions and have considered you an authority on questions pertaining to lead. I deeply regret any misunderstanding or misinterpretation of any of my motives in regard to this plant, especially if it has

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Dr. Robert A. Kehoe, Cincinnati, Ohio

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caused you any inconvenience.

I recently heard of several other cases of lead poisoning in this plant and am glad they are under your supervision.

Very truly yours,

W. E. Pletz

Medic

tor.

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