

September 29, 1940

Mr. S. P. Wise
Tide Water Associated Oil Company
Tide Water Division
6000 Pennington Avenue
Baltimore, Md.

Dear Mr. Wise:

Your letter of September 23rd addressed to Dr. Schradin probably crossed in the mail a letter which I had written to Dr. Rubine concerning the probable speed of recovery of your employees. As I indicated to Dr. Rubine, it takes some time to dispose of the rather large quantities of lead which are absorbed under the conditions of exposure to which these men were subjected. Our experience has indicated that the men do not return to normal health until they have eliminated a considerable proportion of the lead which they have absorbed. This usually takes some weeks or months, but during this time it is not necessary that the men be entirely idle. They should be returned to their occupations as soon as they feel like working, and they should be assured that they will recover completely but that it is not expected that they do more than they feel like doing. It is of some importance that they should not become unduly fatigued since they will feel much worse, and this will discourage them. On the other hand men who are willing to do what they can do and make an honest attempt to get back into their work as soon as possible, feel better for it and we believe they recover more rapidly. In any case they should not have any undue anxiety concerning their recovery. On this latter point, which, perhaps, I did not stress in my letter to Dr. Rubine, it is worth while to mention to them the fact that other men have been poisoned in the same way that they have, and that all of these persons have recovered completely without any residual damage or illness.

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I wish to take this opportunity to thank you and your associates for the courtesy and cooperation which you have shown to Dr. Schradin in connection with this unfortunate affair.

Sincerely yours,

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Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.

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