

F. WILLIAM SUNDERMAN, M. D.
701 MALONEY BUILDING
HOSPITAL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
PHILADELPHIA 4

March 14, 1946

Dr. Robert A. Kehoe
Kettering Laboratory of Applied Physiology
College of Medicine
Eden Avenue
University of Cincinnati
Cincinnati 19, Ohio

Dear Doctor Kehoe:

Under separate cover second blood and urine samples from Ceasare Ponti were sent to you. Enclosed is my check for ten dollars to cover the cost of these analyses.

I was pleased to receive your comments regarding the unreliability of conclusions drawn from testing spot samples of urine. As in the case of other electrolytes, I should believe that it would be impossible to draw conclusions regarding lead exchange in the body without complete balance studies. For this reason it always seems to me that the concentration of lead in the blood should offer a better guide to the presence or absence of plumbism. than testing spot samples of urine. The urine sample sent to you represents a portion of a 24-hour specimen which was collected in carefully prepared pyrex flasks while the patient was on our medical ward. The total volume of urine excreted in 24 hours was 1148 ml. As I indicated in a previous letter, the patient received ammonium chloride medication for a month. I give you these data for what they are worth.

From my clinical observations of Ceasare Ponti I am beginning to suspect that he is malingering. He refuses to go to work because his union tells him he is suffering from lead poisoning. He is a big, husky man who seems to be quite active around the ward, although when questioned he states that he is too weak to work. He has not worked around lead since 1940. I would certainly appreciate your help in arriving at a correct interpretation.

Thanking you most kindly for your valued assistance and with the best of all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

F. William Sunderman
F. William Sunderman, M.D.

FWS:rlg

KE 0007441