

July 28, 1937

Mr. I. Dent Jenkins
Harrison Radiator Division
General Motors Corporation
Lockport, New York

Dear Mr. Jenkins:

I did not reply at once to your letter of July 20th because I was in the process of preparing a report which would cover all of the details except the final analytical results. The analyses on the blood samples and on the spot urine samples which I collected at the time of my visit, are finished and I have all of the other data tabulated except for the analyses on the large samples. I expect to finish my report up to that point within the next day or two, and I will send it along to you promptly.

It may be of some interest to you to have the individual records of my examinations at once, and I am sending those herewith. I have not made comments on the individual examination records since the data on these will be self-explanatory to Dr. Hillenbrand.

The final analyses will probably not be completed before I get away on my vacation. If they are, I will send them along to you with such additional comments as may be justified. If they are not completed before I get away, I will have them sent to me for examination and will make any additions to my report which they require. I have a hunch that they will turn out to have substantially the same significance that the small samples of urine and the samples of blood have.

You are quite right in believing that the results which I have obtained are favorable. If I had found any evidence of serious danger, I would have reported it to you promptly. As it is, I have seen no evidence in any of the data that there are really serious hazards in your plant. My report will make it clear to you that I do not regard the evidence as entirely adequate but such as it is, it fails to indicate the likelihood of any serious difficulties.

There is one man in the group, namely Mr. Scott, who has a combination of findings which are suggestive of significant lead exposure. I think we should

wait until the analyses of his other samples to arrive at any definite conclusion, but I believe this is the only man about whom there may be any significant question. In order to be specific, I call your attention to the fact that this man had a slight darkening of the gums somewhat suggestive of a lead line. He had a slightly low blood pressure, somewhat increased reflexes, some involvement of the wrists, some tremor, a slight anemia, a little stippling above the average normal level, and a lead concentration in the spot sample of urine of 0.17 mgs. per liter. (The average normal individual does not show a concentration in excess of 0.10 at the highest.) I doubt if any of the things I have indicated as abnormal in this man could properly be attributed to his lead absorption, except the relatively high lead excretion in the urine. I shall have more to say about him later when I have seen the final analyses. However, it is worth while to call your attention to the fact that the development of any more significant illness in this man could very well be regarded as lead intoxication. At least it would be very hard to disprove.

I have not forgotten that you loaned me a book when I was in Lockport. I have not entirely finished reading it but I am taking good care of it and you can be sure I will return it.

Cordially yours,

RAK:is

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.

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