



The B.F. Goodrich Company

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REX H. WILSON, M. D., F. A. C. P.
MEDICAL DIRECTOR

February 11, 1966

Dr. John L. Creech
806 Medical Towers Building
Louisville, Kentucky

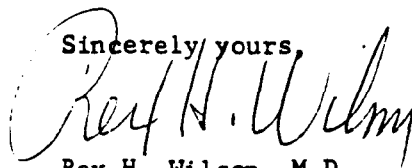
COMPANY CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Doctor Creech:

Yesterday we received in the mail a quantity of forms from the Louisville Plant. I presume these had been mailed prior to your receiving my letter of February 7. We have gone through these and found a number with pertinent symptoms. We are attaching a list of the names with their indicated symptoms.

As I indicated in my previous letters to you, I believe you should examine these people and determine whether or not they have any existing symptoms commensurate with Raynaud's disease or scleroderma.

Sincerely yours,


Rex H. Wilson, M.D.

cc: Mr. L.G. Crunkleton
Mr. W.W. Baughman

RHW/js

BFG67691

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

REDACTED

Hand Cases With Complaints

<u>Name</u>	<u>Complaints</u>
	Sensitive to Cold Arthritis Blanching of Skin Numbness of Hands Tingling Fingers Tingling Fingers Nodules Sensitive to Cold Numbness of Hands Nodules Sensitive to Cold Tingling Fingers Nodules Tingling Fingers Sensitive to Cold Nodules Arthritis Numbness of Hands Numbness of Hands Sensitive to Cold Sensitive to Cold Sensitive to Cold Sensitive to Cold Sensitive to Cold Sensitive to Cold Arthritis Blanching of Skin Tingling Fingers Numbness of Hands; Immobility of Hand
<i>rt. wrist (bone structure)</i>	

BFG67692

REDACTED

Sensitive to Cold

Nodules

Nodules

Fingernail Changes
Nodules

Numbness of Hands

Nodules

Sensitive to Cold

Nodules

Tingling Fingers
Numbness of Hands

Blanching of Skin
Tingling Fingers

Tingling Fingers

Sensitive to Cold
Arthritis

Numbness of Hands

2/11/66

BFG67693

	NAME	FIELD POINT or AKRON DEPARTMENT & BLDG. No.	DATE
	Tom Bolly	Louisville	YOUR LETTER
M	Akron	Dept. 0020 - Bldg. 5-H	THIS LETTER 5/24/68
SUBJECT			

REDACTED

Following are the names of our positive hand cases at your Plant:

The three possible new cases are:

As you know, in addition to the above,
case but is no longer on your rolls.

was a positive

Bill
W.E. McCormick

mj

BFG67694

BFG67695

REDACTED

Louisville Plant
April 28, 1965

Service Date: 3-10-53

- 2-11-57 First known hand case. Reported to dispensary with swelling of wrist and hands with lumps forming on his wrist and hands. Stated condition had existed for about two years. Condition was classed as non-industrial and diagnosed as Raynaud's disease. Stated he had seen his family physician in the winters of 1955 and 1956 and had been given tablets to improve circulation and had X-rays taken of hands.
- 1957-1958 Along with seeing family physician, was being seen by other outside doctors and making frequent visits to see Dr. Creech.
- 1-23-59 Reported to dispensary stating circulation and condition had improved; however, was still seeing Dr. Roby and still taking medicine.
- 7-2-64 Hands X-rayed by Dr. Miller; bone structure seemed to be normal.
- 11-24-64 Interviewed by Dr. Roush of The Kettering Laboratory.
- 3-16-65 Complained of soreness of hands. Examination by Dr. Creech revealed knots on dorsum of hands were becoming larger, with beginning ulcerations. Seemed disgruntled that Company wasn't doing anything about his condition or paying any of his past expenses.
- 4-1-65 Hands X-rayed; bone structure seemed to be normal.
- 4-5-65 Came in to see Dr. Creech regarding surgery to remove nodules on hands and wrist.

BFG67696

REDACTED

Louisville Plant
April 28, 1965

Service Date: 6-3-55

6-2-59 Second known hand case. Reported to dispensary stating he had been working at the plant for the past four years and that about six to seven months after starting work his hands began swelling at intervals, palms itched, and water blisters around fingers occasionally formed. Stated he was laid off for about seven months (January 13, 1958, through August 29, 1958), and after about six months away from the plant the swelling subsided.

Further stated he had seen Dr. C. Nichols at Clarkson, Kentucky, who advised him he believed the condition was caused from something he was working with and advised him to see Dr. Creech the next day. Dr. Creech did not diagnose but advised him to see Dr. Mapother, a dermatologist, for diagnosis.

Dr. Mapother's diagnosis: (1) Collagen disease, (2) atypical Raynaud's disease. In his opinion it was in no way connected with his employment; however, he advised seeing another doctor.

9-3-59 Saw Dr. Samuel Goldblatt, Amberly Village, Ohio. Diagnosis was same as Dr. Mapother's.

10-14-59 Phoned dispensary stating he was entering VA Hospital for a number of tests due to his hand condition and would be under the care of a specialist from U. of L., a Dr. Towery.

10-15-59 Off from work. Returned to work and presented a note from Dr. Brill
through at VA Hospital diagnosing condition as Raynaud's disease and stating
11-18-59 he would re-enter VA Hospital on November 29, 1959, for further treatment.

11-29-59 In VA Hospital.
through
1-24-60

1-25-60 Returned to work with hands showing considerable improvement.

2-9-61 Reported to dispensary complaining hands had been much worse the past two months.

7-28-64 X-rays of both hands by Dr. A. O. Miller. On right hand destructive bone change of all fingers, including thumb, was noted. Films of left hand showed similar change except for ring finger, which appeared normal.

8-13-64 In Methodist Hospital for complete work-up by Dr. Dyer.
through
8-24-64

BFG67697

REDACTED

- 2 -

April 26, 1965

9-3-64 & Seen by Dr. Loveman for biopsy of skin and patch test.
9-17-64

9-24-64 Interviewed by Dr. Roush of The Kettering Laboratory.

4-1-65 Hands X-rayed; showed some bone regeneration.

Although is classed as a Chemical Helper, since June 1961 he has been working as a catalyst make-up man and has cleaned 'polys only occasionally. On July 22, 1964, he was removed from any poly cleaning work due to the condition of his hands. He complained about this because about the only overtime work for Helpers is poly cleaning. He also stated he has missed considerable work and has spent his own money on doctor bills, medicine, etc., and feels the Company should reimburse him since, in his opinion, his trouble is due to exposure at work.

BFG67698

REDACTED

Louisville Plant
April 26, 1965

Service Date: 9-20-56

6-22-64 Third known hand case. Reported to dispensary stating right index finger and left thumb were enlarged and tender.

7-22-64 Hands X-rayed by Dr. A. O. Miller; X-ray showed bone resorption of tips of terminal phalanges of right index finger, left middle finger, and left thumb, along with abnormal appearance of subcutaneous soft tissue of fingers, suggesting scleroderma. Due to soreness of left thumb, splint was applied.

8-18-64 In Methodist Hospital for complete work-up by Dr. Dyer.
through
8-24-64

9-17, 22, & Seen by Dr. Loveman for biopsy of skin and patch test.
26, 1964

10-27-64 Right and left hands X-rayed; bone structure of left thumb and left middle finger show improvement.

11-23-64 Interviewed by Dr. Roush of The Kettering Laboratory.

12-20-64 Transferred from Chemical Helper in Dept. 5762-2 to Dept. 5762-1 as Second Class Recovery Operator.

4-11-65 Hands X-rayed; X-rays showed bone regeneration.

5-3-65 Received letter from John F. Stewart, attorney, asking for a medical report from each doctor who had treated or examined since the date of the "alleged accident."

BFG67699

REDACTED

Louisville Flight
April 28, 1965

Service Date: 8-15-61

2-13-64 Fourth known hand case. Reported to dispensary stating he had missed work on February 11 and 12 due to circulatory trouble of the fingers of both hands. Stated he had been in the hospital on February 7 for X-ray and laboratory tests and was under care of Drs. Wolfson and Cohen. Complained that when hands got cold, circulation in fingers was poor and hands and fingers would blanch. Dr. Cohen had referred him to Drs. Ortner and Berg, and case was diagnosed as Raynaud's phenomena.

5-13-64 & 7-17-64 Complained of poor circulatory condition and of fingers becoming white and numb when temperature got below 60°F.

7-29-64 Sent to Dr. A. O. Miller for X-ray of hands. Conclusion of Dr. Miller: (1) destruction of tip of phalangeal tuft of left index finger; (2) possible very early change in tip of phalangeal tuft of right index finger.

8-13-64 through 8-21-64 In Methodist Hospital for complete work-up by Dr. Dyer.

9-17-64 Seen by Dr. Loveman; however, did not receive patch test because he was starting vacation.

11-3-64 Hands X-rayed. Little change noted compared to X-rays made on July 29, 1964.

11-24-64 Interviewed by Dr. Roush of The Kettering Laboratory.

12-64 Transferred from cleaning polys to paste packing.

2-21-65 Transferred to laboratory as Laboratory Assistant.

4-2-65 Hands X-rayed; show definite bone regeneration.

BFG67700

REDACTED

Louisville Plant
April 26, 1965

Service Date: 6-30-61

7-27-64 Fifth known hand case. Reported to dispensary stating for about one year had been having tenderness and swelling of fingers of both hands; also in cold weather his elbows were painful.

7-27-64 Sent to Dr. A. O. Miller for X-rays. Dr. Miller's conclusions: "various stages of resorption and bone destruction of cancellous tufts of the terminal phalanges of nearly all the digits of both hands. These changes are suggestive of some vascular or neurotrophic disorder such as scleroderma."

8-13-64 In Methodist Hospital for complete work-up by Dr. Dyer.
through
8-21-64

9-17-64 & Saw Dr. Loveman for patch test and study.
9-22-64

11-3-64 Hands X-rayed. X-rays similar to those taken July 27, 1964.

11-23-64 Interviewed by Dr. Roush of The Kettering Laboratory.

12-64 Transferred from poly cleaning to paste packing.

3-1-65 Entered St. Anthony Hospital. Dr. Creech resected a section of the dorsal sympathetic nerve to his right hand. After surgery the right hand was warm, dry, and the color normal. Left hand remains cold, clammy, and the color blue.

4-16-65 Hands X-rayed; definite bone regeneration noted.

7-5-65 Received letter from John F. Stewart, attorney, asking for a medical report from each doctor who had treated or examined since the date of the "alleged accident."

BFG67701

REDACTED

Louisville Plant
April 28, 1965

Service Date: 4-23-62

8-24-61 Hands examined by Dr. Creech; no abnormal findings.
11-29-61 Sixth known hand case. Hands X-rayed for diagnosis; questionable hand condition.
11-11-64 Hands X-rayed.
11-27-64 Hands diagnosed as possible beginning of Raynaud's disease.
12-1-64 & 12-11-64 Comparison with X-rays taken October 2, 1964, and November 17, 1964, showed increased degeneration of the tuft of the distal phalange of the right index finger.
12-23-64 Transferred from poly cleaning work to paste packing.
1-1-65 Hands X-rayed; a little more bone degeneration was noted.

BFG67702

REDACTED

Louisville Plant
April 23, 1965

Service Date: 8-29-62

- 8-18-64 Sent to Dr. A. O. Miller for X-ray of both hands. Dr. Miller's report: "Studies of both hands demonstrated healthy bone density and texture. The phalangeal tufts appear to be essentially normal. There are no bone destructive changes noted."
- 3-9-65 Seventh known hand case. Reported to dispensary complaining of sore and swollen fingers. Hands X-rayed, revealing the phalangeal tuft of the right small finger to be questionable as to the beginning of bone degeneration.
- 3-29-65 Hands X-rayed; increased bone degeneration of right small finger noted.
- 2-7-65 Removed from poly cleaning work because of his hand condition.

BFG67703

REDACTED

Louisville Plant
April 28, 1965

SUMMARY

As the result of meetings on the hand problem on August 3 and 26, 1964, with Dr. Creech, Dr. Wilson, L. G. Crunkleton, H. P. McMath, C. L. Woods, W. L. Cato, W. E. McCormick, and T. C. Bolly, it was decided:

1. To hospitalize four of the five known cases (
This was done August 24, 1964, with complete work-up by Dr. Dyer.
2. Three of five were poly cleaners and should be relocated in some other activity. These three were assigned special clean up work and later were transferred from the polymerizer building to Dept. 5762-1 as paste packers.
3. All other poly cleaners (67) from both Plants 1 and 2 were interviewed by Dr. Creech regarding hand soreness. Of this group, seven complained of some soreness, and their hands were X-rayed.

All seven X-rays showed the hands to be normal except one (Warth) that was doubtful but was normal on a subsequent X-ray taken eight weeks later.

4. Dr. Wilson was to arrange for a consulting dermatologist to see these cases. Dr. Adolph B. Loveman, Professor of Dermatology at the University of Louisville Medical School, saw these cases about the middle of September.
5. Arrangements for study by The Kettering Laboratory of Cincinnati, Ohio, were made. Dr. Roush and Mr. Tye visited the plant October 20, 1964. Dr. Kehoe and Dr. Roush visited the plant on November 5, 1964. Dr. Roush returned to the plant November 23 and 24, 1964, for further study and interview of the five men.

BFG67704

REDACTEDLouisville Plant
April 28, 1965**JOB CLASSIFICATION**

P.R. No.	Name	Dept.	Date		Classification	
			From	To		
1820		5762-2	9-20-56	3-24-57	Chemical Helper	
		5766	3-24-57	4-7-57	" "	
		5762-1	4-7-57	4-28-57	" "	
		5762-2	4-28-57	10-22-57	" "	(Laid Off)
	(Reinstated)	5762-2	11-18-58	7-11-60	" "	(Laid Off)
	(Reinstated)	5766	9-6-60	9-11-60	" "	
		5762-1	9-11-60	10-27-60	" "	(Laid Off)
	(Reinstated)	5762-2	5-31-61	12-20-64	" "	
		5762-1	12-20-64	Present	Second Class Recovery	
1696		5762-2	6-30-61	11-8-61	Chemical Helper	(Laid Off)
	(Reinstated)	5762-2	12-13-61	Present	" "	
1747		5762-2	8-15-61	11-8-61	Chemical Helper	(Terminated)
	(Rehired)	5762-2	12-15-61	2-21-65	" "	
		5759	2-21-65	Present	Laboratory Assistant	
1734		5762-1	6-3-55	1-13-58	Chemical Helper	(Laid Off)
	(Reinstated)	5766	8-29-58	11-16-58	" "	
		5762-1	11-16-58	4-2-61	" "	
		5762-2	4-2-61	Present	" "	
1122		5762-1	3-10-53	7-1-53	Chemical Helper	
		5762-2	7-1-53	7-4-54	" "	
		5762-1	7-4-54	6-5-55	" "	
		5762-1	6-5-55	1-29-56	Second Class Operator	
		5762-1	1-29-56	3-24-57	First Class Poly Trainee	
		5762-1	3-24-57	2-2-58	Second Class Concentrator	
		5762-1	2-2-58	10-5-58	Chemical Helper	
		5762-1	10-5-58	11-16-58	Second Class Recovery (B. 121)	
		5762-1	11-16-58	7-5-59	First Class Poly Trainee	
		5762-1	7-5-59	5-1-60	First Class Burner Operator	
		5762-1	5-1-60	1-1-61	First Class P.A.	
		5762-1	1-1-61	2-5-61	Second Class Recovery (B. 121)	
		5762-1	2-5-61	5-14-61	Chemical Helper	
		5762-1	5-14-61	6-4-61	Second Class Recovery (B. 111)	
		5762-1	6-4-61	Present	First Class P.A.	
1801		5762-1	8-29-62	10-7-62	Chemical Helper	
		5764	10-7-62	12-30-62	" "	
		5762-1	12-30-62	Present	" "	
1745		5762-1	4-23-62	4-29-62	Chemical Helper	
		5762-2	4-29-62	Present	" "	

BFG67705

REDACTED

Louisville Plant
April 28, 1965

MISCELLANEOUS

In the past, Helpers wore leather gloves when cleaning polymerizers. Through the recommendation of Dr. Creech a liquid-proof coated glove and a thin cotton inner glove have been supplied for use by all polymerizer cleaners in Buildings 1, 15, 111, and 121. In an effort to keep the poly cleaners' hands dry, new cotton gloves are issued daily. Dr. Creech also recommended that all poly cleaners thoroughly wash their hands after coming out of each poly.

During the first part of October 1964 the hands of all poly cleaners in Plants 1 and 2 (PVC, Latex, and Paste) were X-rayed, 68 in all. At this time it was thought - right index finger showed the beginning of bone degeneration.

On March 9, 1965, : reported to the dispensary complaining of sore and swollen fingers. An X-ray revealed the phalangeal tuft of the right small finger was questionable as to the beginning of bone degeneration.

During the first two weeks of April 1965 the hands of all Helpers and all Helpers who have been promoted in the last six months, 83 in all, were X-rayed. These X-rays did not indicate any new cases.

The poly exhaust systems in Buildings 1 and 15 were checked by Engineering, and the air flow in the exhaust system was stepped up from 50 CFM to 125 CFM by increasing the speed of the blowers. Engineering is now in the process of checking the poly exhaust systems in Buildings 111 and 121.

In an effort to improve ventilation, exhaust fans have been installed on the third floor of Building 15 and are in the process of being installed on the third floor of Building 1.

BFG67706