

UNITED STATES EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION COMMISSION

LONGSHOREMEN'S AND HARBOR WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT

FOURTH COMPENSATION DISTRICT

1261 CALVERT BUILDING

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

E. V. Parker

CHAS. T. BRANNAM

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONERS

JEWELL W. SWOFFORD

CHAIRMAN

JOHN J. KEEGAN

In reply refer to File No. 355-1042

April 7, 1943.

Dr. Robert A. Kehoe, Director,
Kettering Laboratory of Applied Physiology,
University of Cincinnati,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Kehoe:

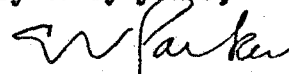
I have before me a claim for compensation filed under our statute wherein the claimant, a shipyard employee, alleges that due to his work as an acetylene burner burning paint from ships which were under repair in Baltimore, he sustained an acute lead poisoning.

Two hearings were held by me on the claim, the first at which testimony was given by the claimant as well as by fellow-workers and the shipyard officials with respect to the kind of work which was performed and the conditions under which it was done; at the second hearing, held in Roanoke, where the man had gone for treatment, testimony was taken from the physician who had treated him, and there were obtained copies of the hospital record and all of the laboratory tests which were done. The employer, Bethlehem Steel Company, has opposed the claim on the ground that the man did not suffer from lead poisoning; and, further, the Company has been concerned about the case because of the many other employees which it has engaged in similar activities.

I have felt that it would be of considerable assistance to me in arriving at a fair decision if I might have the benefit of an opinion by you after you have reviewed the record, if you would be good enough to undertake same. The transcript of the evidence consists of 166 pages of typewritten testimony, double-space, on ordinary letter-size sheets. I assume it would take you an hour or more to read this.

Will you kindly advise me if it will be possible for you to review this record and give me the benefit of your report thereon. If you will notify me that you are agreeable, I will then send on the record to you. Of course, your usual fee for services in matters of this kind would be paid. I will await your reply, and trust that it may be possible for you to assist me.

Very truly yours,



E. V. Parker,
Deputy Commissioner.

EVP:R

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