

September 6, 1939

Mr. John G. Ketterer
Lynch, Day, Pontius and Lynch
First National Bank Building
Canton, Ohio

Dear Mr. Ketterer:-

My immediate reaction to your letter of July 27th and the affidavit concerning the use of sugar of lead by Harold D. McDonnell is that this is not a very significant matter. The absorption of lead solutions through the skin, even of the feet, which is a favorable site, would not be a matter of great consequence. If Mr. McDonnell had exercised reasonable care in the avoidance of the contamination of his hands and his food with the solution which he was using on his feet, it would scarcely be expected that he would show any evidence of significant lead absorption. As a matter of fact, and to be quite frank, if I were in the position of considering this matter in an unbiased light, I would feel that the introduction of evidence of this sort was calculated more as a smoke screen to confuse the issue rather than as a bona fide introduction of significant facts toward the solution of the case. I believe the case as it was presented gave little or no reason for regarding it as an occupational disease, and I do not quite see how it could be classified as an occupational disease unless indeed there were reasons behind the scenes for doing so. Obviously you know a great deal more about the matter from the point of view of law and procedure than I do, but I do not consider this new evidence as having any real significance in the issue.

Very truly yours,

RAK:ls

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.

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