

April 18, 1941

Dr. R. M. Kurten
810 Main Street
Racine
Wisconsin

Dear Doctor Kurten:

I am sending you herewith the results obtained on the four additional men from whom you recently obtained samples of urine and blood. When these results are added to those already obtained, it becomes quite apparent that this group of men shows the effects of lead exposure, in that the general level of their lead excretion and of the lead content of their blood, is well above normal figures. Six out of the eight show definitely elevated values in the blood, and there is good general correspondence between the blood levels and those in the urine. One individual in this last group, Mr. [REDACTED], gives a very high value in the urine. This might be the result of slight contamination of the sample, and it might also be the result of having obtained a concentrated urine sample at a time when the water output was relatively low. On the other hand, this might be the result of an unusual exposure, and in view of the results which have been obtained on [REDACTED], it seems entirely conceivable that the latter is the case. At any rate there is a lead exposure in connection with the work of these men which apparently gives rise to serious brief exposure periodically.

In general I think it is fair to say that the lead exposure of these men is ~~not~~ of an exceedingly hazardous character. On the other hand I believe that mild cases of lead poisoning might occur in occasional instances under these conditions. Perhaps more study would be required to establish this point with certainty. Perhaps, however, one could draw a fairly accurate conclusion if he were in possession of all of the information concerning these individuals. I have already indicated in my letter of February 14th the type of information which I should like to have. I should appreciate it very much if you would send me, as promptly as possible, all of the clinical information on

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these men and all of the facts relating to the duration and character of their work. It is particularly important to know at what time the samples were taken in relation to any possibilities for brief serious exposure. If you will send me this information, I shall go over it carefully and will be in much better position to give an adequate interpretation of the analytical data.

Sincerely yours,

RAK:is

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.