

MEMORANDUM

March 7, 1935

MR. LINCOLN
VICE PRESIDENT AND GENERAL COUNSEL

Concerning your inquiries on General Cumming's reply:

(1) Beginning with the Ficher Clinic and subsequently with the work carried out first in conjunction with the Bureau of Mines and then with the Public Health Service, we have contributed to these studies on silicosis, tuberculosis, and related problems, \$8,000 a year for 8 years, or a total of \$64,000. To the Saranac Laboratory we have contributed \$5,000 a year for 6 years, or \$30,000, making a grand total of \$94,000.

(2) No doubt this research work had a direct and important bearing on the special study of dust conditions and tuberculosis among coal miners in Pennsylvania. Dr. Lanza served on this Commission, and a copy of the report is attached (see page 5).

Dr. Sayers of the Public Health Service, who is directly in charge of this work, was in to see Dr. Lanza and myself today. He tells us that certain other insurance and industrial concerns are interested as possible future contributors to this research. There are indications that these agencies may before long approach the Health Service with an offer of cooperation. The Public Health Service has a definite policy of being on the receptive rather than the initiating end of any such negotiations. It seems unlikely, however, that plans involving possible other participants will mature before the end of the fiscal year (July 1st). It may be 6 months, in fact, and in the meantime funds are needed if the work under way is to continue and the experienced and trained staff is to be held.

The Government is prepared to go on with its full expenditure of \$25,000 to \$30,000 a year, principally in salaries of individuals assigned to this work. Dr. Sayers feels that the present research program could not, without serious sacrifice, be carried out with any less money than is now budgeted. It is also closely interwoven that complete termination, though unfortunate, might be preferable to an attempt at minor curtailment here and there.

Another aspect is the Public Security Bill which contains \$2,000,000 for research. Should this pass, the Health Service probably would get some of it and might be able to discontinue the use of any outside funds. However, that of course is now very uncertain and probably will not be determined prior to the 1st of July.