

CONSOLIDATED EDISON COMPANY OF NEW YORK, INC.
AND
AFFILIATED COMPANIES

4 IRVING PLACE
NEW YORK, N.Y.

J. J. WITTMER, M. D.
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ASSISTANT MEDICAL DIRECTOR

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ASSISTANT MEDICAL DIRECTOR

March 15-1940

#25
Sub Co

Transportation Department
(Assistant Stock Man)

Con Tel & Elec Sub Co
Chauffeur - Class A
(Stock Man)

Robert A Kehoe M D
Kettering Laboratory of Applied Physiology
University of Cincinnati
College of Medicine
Eden Avenue
Cincinnati Ohio

Dear Dr Kehoe

This is to acknowledge receipt of your correspondence of 2-1-40 also your correspondence of 2-28-40. Your correspondence of 2-28-40 contained the reports on the analysis of urine and blood samples of the two above captioned individuals.

We cannot accept your contention that these are not lead poisoning cases, or rather I should say the data available in our files and the circumstances surrounding these cases is such that at least for the present we must consider both of these cases as being lead poisoning cases. It is well to note that subsequent to our interview in New York I have had both of these employees examined by another clinician not connected with our organization and also by another eye specialist not connected with our organization. It is the opinion of this other clinician and eye specialist that both of these men represent cases of lead poisoning.

There is still however, doubt as to the source of exposure. I am inclined to agree with you that the possibility of contracting lead poisoning from inhalation of exhaust fumes from motor vehicles using gasoline containing lead is improbable. In view of the fact that these cases are considered as lead poisoning cases here and because of the unusual circumstances associated with this problem we

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feel that it is necessary that we have the working location, i.e., Garage at 491 Walton Avenue, investigated thoroughly for positive opinion as to whether the exhaust fumes going into the stockroom at this location are a source of lead poisoning. The investigation of course should be extensive enough to warrant an expression of opinion as to whether there is any other source of lead poisoning present in the garage. Accordingly if your laboratory will proceed to make such an investigation and give us a report on same we will appreciate it.

In accordance with previous correspondence it is my understanding that because of your connection with the Ethyl Corporation and United States Public Health Service that there will be no charge made to the Consolidated Telegraph & Electrical Subway Company for this investigation.

Inasmuch as we are withholding classification of these two cases as to whether they are compensable or not under our Workmen's Compensation Law until we have definite opinion as to the possibility of occupational source of exposure, we will appreciate it very much if this investigation is done as soon as possible.

Very truly yours



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