

March 31, 1950

Mr. Alex Stewart,
Director of Research,
National Lead Company,
111 Broadway,
New York City 6.

Dear Mr. Stewart:

Some months ago, in fact somewhat more than a year ago we talked together about certain affairs of the National Lead Company, and later I wrote to you in an effort to bring our conversation to a head. Subsequently, two of your associates came out to see me and we discussed certain phases of the medical activities of National Lead Company, and I promised to do what I could to fulfill the role which it seemed, at that time, might be desired of me.

Inasmuch as nothing has come of our discussions, I might reasonably assume that the circumstances were such that your plans and ideas could not be brought to fruition. On the other hand, I do not wish to make assumptions that may be incorrect, and it is possible that you have been so preoccupied with urgent matters that you have not noted the passage of time. Moreover, in failing to follow up on the matters talked over with your representatives who visited me some time last year, I may inadvertently have conveyed the idea that I was not interested in the matter of routine records and the like. Such was not the case. Rather I waited for a reply to my letter of February 7, 1949, before taking any further steps. Being swamped with work, myself, I let matters ride. In any case, lest I be guilty of any carelessness or neglect, it seems not inappropriate to drop you a note merely to inform you of my continuing interest in the matters dealt with in our conversation.

I gather from a conversation with John Lauer this noon that Mr. Burley of your Board and of Magnus Metals, with whom I talked in New York, was highly dissatisfied with Lauer's efforts in the Cincinnati plant of Magnus. I have no adequate means of knowing why that was the case, but it does not make me feel any better, since I gave advice freely to him whenever he sought it, with respect both to policies and the care of specific cases. There may have been some ineptitude in his performance that was not apparent to me, but I am disposed to suspect that professional ineptitude was not the basis of his failure to please. At any rate Doctor Lauer's associate or assistant is to continue for a time, at least, at the Cincinnati plant, and since he will probably come to me for advice or help from time to time, I am more than a little anxious to be helpful. Therefore, if there is anything I should know about the

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present situation, I shall count on your letting me know.

Cordially yours,

Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.

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