

April 16, 1971

Mr. David C. Greer
Bieser, Greer & Landis
8 North Main Street
Dayton, Ohio 45402

Dear Mr. Greer:

Not having communicated with you for some time, it seems wise to let you know what has been done in the Laboratory, at my request, and also to learn from you what to expect at some future time.

The two teapots which you left in my hands have been examined in the manner indicated in the attached report, with the results there indicated.

As I have stated in the signed interpretation on the report, these are perfectly satisfactory results, and it would seem that, unless they*have been put through some very unlikely and unusual treatment, they were never responsible for yielding up, into the tea brewed in them, significant quantities of lead. As a matter of fact, by inspection alone, these pots seem to have been glazed properly, and they would not be suspected of being a source of danger to their user.

I have not reported these results previously, nor have I sent a bill to cover the cost of the examination. I shall handle this as you wish, paying the bill myself and expecting reimbursement some time in the future, or alternatively sending it to you.

It happens that I have been hard pressed by editorial work since we spoke together of this case, and I've done nothing beyond getting these results behind us, and holding for study the xeroxed hospital records. I have glanced through the records very hastily just to find out if there was anything of note in them. Thus far, there seems to be no evidence that the lady suffered at all from the absorption of lead. I'll look much more critically at the records at the proper time, but at present, I strongly suspect that this was a wild goose chase from the start.

Since my time is fairly well occupied (this is an understatement), I shall be grateful for any information which you may be able to give me about the probable date of the court procedure.

Cordially yours,

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.
Professor Emeritus of
Occupational Medicine

RAK:wb

enclosure as stated

N 5253



University of Cincinnati

Cincinnati, Ohio 45219

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE, EDEN AND BETHESDA AVENUES
KETTERING LABORATORY
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Material: Two (2) brown ceramic tea pots with colored designs on the outside. One of the pots had been broken and repaired while the other pot showed no damage.

Submitted: January 6, 1971 by Dr. R.A. Kehoe, Professor Emeritus, Industrial Medicine, Kettering Laboratory, College of Medicine, Eden Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio 45219

Required: Determination of lead extracted from the internal surface.

Results

One Lipton tea bag was immersed for thirty (30) minutes in each pot which contained 150 ml of boiling water. The lead content of the tea in each pot was determined. (A control sample consisted of tea prepared by immersing a Lipton tea bag for thirty (30) minutes in a 250 ml pyrex beaker containing 150 ml of boiling water.)

Method A	Lead Found PPM
Control Sample	0.003
Brown Tea Pot	0.03
Brown Tea Pot (broken & repaired)	0.02

Method B

Standard A.S.T.M. method

Brown Tea Pot	0.03
Brown Tea Pot (broken & repaired)	0.02

The results of the tests described above, as reported, demonstrate that the glaze on the surface of these articles of ceramic ware, on extraction by the methods employed, have not given up hygienically significant quantities of lead to the test solutions. The results suggest that the glaze has been properly formulated, and that the pots have been fired at appropriate temperatures for the conversion of the lead to the silicate.

Signed:

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.

5253.01