

February 19, 1919.

Dr. W. E. Ramsey,
The American Smelting & Refining Company,
Perth Amboy, New Jersey.

My dear Dr. Ramsey:

At the suggestion of Dr. F. E. Schubmehl of the General Electric Company, I am writing you in regard to possible co-operation in some studies we are desirous of making on lead poisoning. Professor Otto Folin of this Medical School has recently perfected accurate and unpublished methods for the detection of uric acid in blood. These methods are so much better than anything else that has existed before that they have led us to hope that we may have through them a means of detecting abnormal accumulations of uric acid in lead workers considerably before any other symptoms appear. We require 10 cc. of blood for the test, and should you be able to help us by sending us a few such bloods, we will of course place in your hands bottles, mailing cases, etc., so that your only task will be the venous puncture for the collection.

I do not know whether you make regular examinations of your lead workers or not. We have found, in one instance when this was done, that the taking of one extra specimen of blood in this way created no comment or trouble.

I think that you will feel the importance of making this attempt in picking out individuals who are particularly susceptible to lead, and I trust you will be able to help us in the matter.

Very truly yours,