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August 9, 1941

Mr. H. W. Kaley

Dear Harry:

On Thursday, August 7, Dr. Schradin came to Tulsa and he and I had a conference regarding the latest developments in the Anderson-Prichard case at Cyril. Dr. Schradin was furnished with a copy of our entire file on this case. In the afternoon I drove Dr. Schradin to Lep, Oklahoma, where some men were examined for the Phillips Petroleum Company and then Thursday night we proceeded to Oklahoma City where we were joined by Mr. W. R. Barnes, our Safety Engineer who handles the Anderson-Prichard Plant.

In discussing this case, Dr. Schradin decided that the best procedure would be for him to simply make a routine call at the Anderson-Prichard Plant to examine some new men whom they wish to put on blending. There were three such men. We went to Cyril and Dr. Schradin took a particularly long time in examining each of these men so that he could have the opportunity of talking to them and explaining everything in detail as well as calm any fears that might exist regarding any lead poisoning or any lead hazards. While Dr. Schradin was talking to these men and several of the foremen, Mr. Barnes and I made a routine inspection of the blending plant and also had quite a lengthy conversation with Mr. Bradley, the Superintendent.

I am happy to be able to report that this situation seems to be quieting down. Mr. Bradley states that he has had less and less talk about lead poisoning around the plant and that the three or four men who were convinced that they had lead poisoning by ~~the man~~ the man who died, are now just as convinced that they do not have it. As you will recall from previous reports these men were sent to competent doctors and had clinical examinations in Oklahoma City. One man who had a rather bad case of malnutrition seems to be particularly happy that he now knows what is wrong with him and he is following the recommended treatment given him by the doctor. I questioned Mr. Bradley rather closely about practices and procedures in and around the lead plant and I also talked to Mr. Hicks, foreman, who has charge of the

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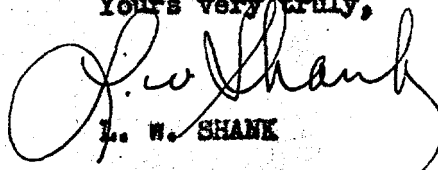
plant. While this is an old type lead plant and not very attractive to look at I am convinced that they are doing their best to keep it as well as they can and that perhaps in the long run this recent scare may be a good thing for them as they now seem to have everything set up to follow our rules and regulations. They also have sufficient men examined now so that there should be no necessity of their using any unexamined men nor any excuse for such action in the making of repairs at the lead plant.

In my conversation with Mr. Bradley he stated that he had made an effort to see the death certificate of [REDACTED] which had been filed but that it had been sent to Oklahoma City. He stated that while he did not see it, he had been advised on good authority that the cause of death as stated by Dr. Gresbach was 'death caused by 12-hour hemorrhage brought on by lead poisoning'. Mr. Bradley also stated that he is of the opinion that a lawsuit is very likely to develop since Mrs. [REDACTED] is a person who is particularly susceptible to persuasion by others and particularly by an unscrupulous lawyer who might convince her all too easily that she has a claim against the company. The insurance company, however, has instructed them to simply let matters take their course and if and when such a suit is filed they are prepared to defend it.

I returned to Tulsa rather late Friday night and on Saturday morning Mr. Ewing, the adjuster for the Aetna Life Insurance Company, called me and advised that the sample jars from Dr. Kehoe had been received by the Anderson-Prichard doctor in Cement and that these samples would be taken the early part of next week and forwarded to Dr. Kehoe. I notified Mr. Ewing regarding Mr. Bradley's statement concerning the death certificate and he is going to get a copy of it. He will then have additional copies made in his office so that we can forward one to Dr. Kehoe. There was one other man, an employee by the name of Hamilton, in this plant who was also examined in Oklahoma City and he showed no evidence of lead poisoning. He has been so advised and is satisfied. Mr. Ewing is also going to forward us a copy of the examination of this man and we will send Dr. Kehoe a copy of it.

I believe that this case is drawing to a close with the exception, of course, the fact that there might later develop a lawsuit. We have instructed our Safety Engineer to make no special trips to the plant but to make his routine visits close enough so as to keep in touch with the situation but far enough apart so as not to arouse any suspicion. We will, of course, keep you advised as to developments.

Yours very truly,


L. W. SHANK

LWS:jvh

cc - Dr. R. A. Kehoe ✓
Dr. L. J. Schradin

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