

FILE NAME: Metropolitan Life (ML)

DATE: 1933 Apr 11

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DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Letter to Mr. Cummings from Dr. Lanza Stating
It Likely Won't be Possible to Publish the Asbestosis Study

Date: 4/11/33
Title: Letter
Author: Lanza
Receiver: Cummings
Comments:

"I talked it over with Sayers and he feels very strongly that if you and the Saranac Laboratory are going to stay in the consulting business with respect to the mining industry, it will not be possible for you to publishe these papers, at least at the present time. I myself somewhat reluctantly feel inclined to agree with him."

"In that respect, as I pointed out, you are in the same position as we are with the investigations we have meade in the asbestos industry."

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April 21, 1933

Mr. Donald E. Jennings, Assistant Director, **PRODUCED S/C/M/M/S**
The Sarnad Laboratory for the Study of the Accidents,
7 Church Street,
Sarasota Lake, N.Y.

Dear Don:

I found your letter of April 8 on my return from Pittsburgh. I am very much afraid that I have not much of comfort to you. I said it was very difficult and he feels very strongly that if you and the Sarnad Laboratory are going to stay in the consulting business with respect to the Sarnad Laboratory, it will not be possible for you to which these papers, at least at the present time. I myself somewhat reluctantly feel inclined to agree with him.

The Sarnad Laboratory in Michigan, with whom you have been in contact, have interests in the Plover District. If these matters are not linked with the studies of the Tri-State Association, you will undoubtedly be strongly feel the responsibility elsewhere. As I said before, I feel the whole situation is unfortunate but it is one of those things that can not be helped. I think it is important that the Sarnad Laboratory establish and maintain contact with industrial firms because it is not to be increasing responsibility for industry to have available a correctly selected and improved establishment of which it can be benefited. At the same time, we must recognize that the present disturbed condition of affairs with the extraordinary multiplicity of damage, mills for all sorts of not only very disturbing but necessities that all of us are in contact with industrial firms proceed with a great deal of caution. I understand that major lawyers are beginning to set things up in Plover and Miami, which makes the situation with respect to the Tri-State Association still more difficult. On the other hand, I feel fairly certain that when the industrial situation starts to clear up, you will be able to bring your reports up to date and have them published. In that respect as I pointed out, you are in the same position as we are with the investigations we have made in the Sarnad Laboratory.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

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A. J. Lamm, M.D.

June 1, 1933

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THE SARANAC LABORATORY FOR THE STUDY OF TUBERCULOSIS
OF
THE EDWARD L. TRUDEAU FOUNDATION

NEW YORK 200 000
1700 NEW YORK
SARANAC LAKE, N.Y.

APRIL 11, 1932

Dr. Anthony J. Lucas
Metropolitan Life Insurance Company
New York City

Dear Tony:

As you may see from the enclosed letter to Dr. Knight, the fat seems to be in the fire. I am extremely sorry that it has happened and trust that you will not feel that we have played the game unfairly. Had I had any suspicions previous to the Chicago meeting that there would be any objection to bringing this material before the public you may be sure that it would not have happened.

I reread your and Dr. Sayer's letter to Lon written very shortly before we went to Chicago and in neither could I find any reason for believing that the Picher data should not be published. You did mention the fact that you had an agreement with the Tri-State people not to print anything without their authorization, but I inferred and Don inferred that this was a matter of form which would in no sense affect the ultimate treatment. As I told Dr. Knight the only harm that I can see from this reference is the fact that it emphasizes by repetition the state of affairs in Picher for the Keriwether paper has already given the facts to everyone interested.

I very much regret that the Wisconsin board could not be persuaded to delete this evidence from the minutes of their proceedings. I was greatly surprised when the report came yesterday to learn that they had not done so. I sincerely hope that we have not been responsible for adding to the difficulties of the Ket and everyone else in Missouri and Chicago. Forgive us if you can.

PRODUCED S/C/M/MS

Sincerely yours,

R. G.
LEROY O. ANDERSON, M.D.
DIRECTOR

ENCLOSURE

MAY 11 '92 09:54AM BROWN TERRELL HOGAN

DR. KNIGHT
MEDICAL DIRECTOR

On April 22nd, Dr. Gardner and Mr. Cummings of the Bureau Laboratory came to the Home Office for a conference with Dr. Sayers, Dr. McConnell, you and myself. A very thorough discussion was had of all the various actual interests expressed by the pieces of research being carried on at Bureau and at the Bureau of Mines Laboratories in Pittsburgh. In view of the very unusual condition of affairs obtaining in various parts of the country, with respect to law suits for occupational diseases and particularly the unsatisfactory condition in the Picher, Oklahoma District, it was agreed by all present that certain reports dealing with statistics made in Picher should not be published at this time but that publication should be deferred until a more reasonable time.

I enclose the expense accounts of Dr. Gardner and Mr. Cummings in connection with this trip.

May 8, 1938

A. J. Lucas, M.D.
Assistant Medical Director

PRODUCED S/C/M/M'S

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