

March 6, 1939

Dr. R. H. Jones
Laird and Memorial Hospital
Montgomery
West Virginia

Dear Doctor Jones:-

After some discussion on Saturday with Mr. Arthur G. Stone of Charleston, West Virginia concerning the illness of Mr. [REDACTED], it became apparent that every effort should be made to establish the nature of Mr. [REDACTED] present illness and disability. Probably by the time you receive this letter, this matter will have been taken up with you by Mr. Stone and his associates, and you will be asked to undertake a complete study of this case. It is my feeling that no stone should be left unturned in attempting to arrive at a diagnosis, and although it is apparent that there should be no positive findings with respect to abnormal lead excretion at this time, I feel that we should make every effort to determine just what [REDACTED] present status is with respect to lead absorption and lead excretion. I am quite confident that you realize the difficulty of obtaining accurate data of this kind, and for that reason and also because I am very much interested in the study of cases of this sort, I am very anxious to obtain samples of the blood and excreta of [REDACTED], and also to see blood smears which will enable us to determine what, if any, evidences of anemia or irritation are present at this time. I dare say you will have [REDACTED] in the hospital for a time and during that time I should appreciate it very much if you would obtain for me samples of his blood and samples of his urine and feces for chemical examination. If this meets with your approval, I shall be glad to send the necessary containers to you together with a needle for drawing the blood and instructions which give in detail the methods which we employ in obtaining such samples. I consider it improbable that it is necessary for me to point out to you how common it is to find that samples obtained under the normal hospital regime are so contaminated with lead in the process of collection as to be useless and misleading. However, in order that no

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difficulties may enter into the examination of these samples, and in order that all the medico-legal requirements may be satisfied, I will send you all the containers and precise instructions. Moreover if there is any other assistance which I can provide, I should be very glad to do so.

Cordially yours,

RAK:ls

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.

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