

January 15, 1930

Mr. Joseph Forcier,
Gravelbourg, Sask. Canada.

Dear Mr. Forcier:

I dare say you have wondered why you have not heard from me sooner as to the results of our examination of your employee, Mr. Joe Pierson. After going over all of the results which we were able to obtain, I personally have come to the conclusion that most of the difficulties which Pierson experienced were due to an unusual exposure to the vapors of gasoline. We have been unable to demonstrate any adequate evidence of the part played by lead in his illness, and I am quite skeptical as to the significance of lead in the matter.

However, I am not minimizing the importance of his illness, though I believe that he has recovered practically completely and that he will probably have no further disturbance if he handles gasoline with normal precautions. I am not in position, however, to make an arbitrary decision in which I would say with certainty that lead had nothing to do with his illness. In any case, I am quite confident that his illness has had no serious consequence to his health and that he need have no anxiety about his health for the future, so far as this illness is concerned. I see no reason for his discontinuing his employment with you, though I should suggest to him and to all others that it is inadvisable to work for more than very short periods of time in an atmosphere containing high concentrations of gasoline vapor. It is also distinctly inadvisable to allow one's clothing to become saturated with gasoline and to allow his skin to be in contact with it for long periods of time. Gasoline intoxication in itself is sometimes a serious matter, and precautions should be taken against absorbing large quantities of it.

I would be greatly obliged if you would keep me informed from time to time as to Mr. Pierson's condition, so that if there are any new developments of any kind I may be informed of them. I am saying this to you because I do not wish Pierson to feel any anxiety about his condition. I should not

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wish him to feel that he had to look out for a development of illness of any kind. I have assured him that he will recover his health completely, and I am quite certain that he will do this if he is completely free of any anxiety about himself.

Very truly yours,

RAK:EJ