

September 21, 1942.

Dr. J. C. Fisher,
Ocean Accident and Guarantee Corporation,
1 Park Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Fisher:

I hesitate somewhat to express an opinion on the question raised in your letter of September 16, without having additional information. I would assume from what you have said that the anemia observed among the workmen is not the result of lead absorption. If this assumption is correct, then there is no obvious reason for shifting the men from their present work, since if there are no signs of lead absorption or lead poisoning, the occupational conditions must be regarded as safe from the point of view of lead absorption. However, in the absence of information concerning the nature and the severity of the lead exposure, I am not in position to say whether it is safe or not. Another question enters my mind, in that if anemia is not due to the lead, there must be some other cause for it. Is ^{the} anemia due to some other environmental factor, or is it nutritional, or is it the result of low grade infection?

From the above questions, I think you will recognize that I am unable to answer your question. I would certainly be unwilling to express an opinion one way or the other, without having rather full information. If you will let me know something of the general set-up of the plant together with some evidence on which to base an opinion on the significance of the lead exposure, I should be glad to give you my best opinion.

Cordially yours,

Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.

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