

March 11, 1929

Mr. A. E. Mittnacht,  
Ethyl Gasoline Corp.,  
25 Broadway,  
New York City.

Dear Mr. Mittnacht:

I have received your letter in regard to the case of Ralph Dodson at Abilene, Texas. We will look into this matter at our earliest convenience and give you report in full.

I shall also take care of the matter which you refer to me as having been brought to your attention by Mr. Fellingham of the Indiana Company. I am writing him about the matter and we will see what should be done.

In the matter of your letter referring to Mr. Gerdes and his apparatus so far as I know there is no reason to believe that the use of this equipment will aid materially in the excretion of lead. Careful study would be required in order to determine the point. The apparatus is interesting and the results on the general condition of the patient are very interesting and are likely to be helpful, if for no other reason than that the general speed of metabolism is obviously increased. I should not expect this to cure lead poisoning, however, in any specific way though it might turn out that the excretion of lead and the distribution of lead in the body is very much changed by means of this treatment. However, as you know, we do not have any cases of lead poisoning and it is our function to so regulate conditions under which our men work that we prevent lead poisoning. I shall not be satisfied with what we do unless we find it possible to completely prevent lead poisoning. If we succeed in doing this, and so far we have done so, we do not have any patients to treat. We are, therefore, interested only in an experimental way in what Mr. Gerdes has to say, and I do not see any point at this time in investing any money in his equipment. I should be pleased to see the results of observations made but I do not have the time or opportunity to make any such observations myself. My experience with curealls, however, does not lead me to be very sanguine as to the general application of this method.

With kindest regards.

Yours truly,

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