

MEMORANDUM

January 20, 1945

I was asked to see a female employee of the Phillips Petroleum Company at Kansas City with the company physician, Dr. C. C. Nesselrode. (This is the case referred to in Mr. Nixon's weekly letter of January 8, 1945.)

The employee failed to appear for her appointment at Dr. Nesselrode's office and, consequently, the only information which can be stated here is that stated by Dr. Nesselrode.

The employee works in the testing laboratory of the Phillips Company and runs the usual routine fuel tests (gums, sulphurs, distillations, etc.)

She saw her physician, Dr. H. W. King, (who specializes in surgery), because her menstrual periods had become somewhat irregular and there had been some menorrhagia. Dr. King made a diagnosis of lead intoxication wholly on the basis of the above menstrual history, anemia (presumably of very slight degree) and the finding of stippled erythrocytes.

Dr. Nesselrode has called Dr. King's attention to the article on stippled cell findings published by this laboratory.

Equipment and instructions for the collection of blood and urine samples were left with Dr. Nesselrode and effort will be made to obtain these samples.

This case is of some importance, primarily because it has caused a considerable apprehension in the group of laboratory employees, and because there is some possibility of eventual litigation.


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