

November 19, 1940

Dr. Albert W. Van Sickle
Chester, New Jersey

Dear Doctor Van Sickle:

Thank you for taking the trouble to give us such a complete report on Mr. [REDACTED]. It would appear that Mr. [REDACTED] has recovered from the general symptoms of his illness, but he still has the loss of sensation and weakness in the right hand and arm. In the absence of any maintained acute symptoms or laboratory findings of lead poisoning, it is quite possible that his nervous symptoms arise from other causes. It is possible, however, to establish this with a considerable degree of certainty by study of the lead excretions and lead content of the blood.

It would appear from your letter that since Mr. [REDACTED] is feeling better, he is not much concerned about having his case studied further, and in view of the effect that these studies often have on the patient, it may not be wise to suggest them. However, I will leave that entirely to your own good judgment. Should Mr. [REDACTED] have another attack or if you yourself are interested in getting more information on this case, we would be very happy to carry out lead analyses of the blood and urine for you and establish whether or not this patient has any significant lead absorption.

It does not appear from the clinical description of the patient's illness that lead played any role in the production of his symptoms and consequently, we do not feel that the analyses need be urged upon Mr. [REDACTED]. However, you may wish to have these done in order to complete the observations on the man for your own interest; in which case, if you will write us, we will send you the necessary containers and instructions for obtaining samples.

Thanking you again for your courtesy, I am

Very truly yours,

WM:vr

Willard Machle, M.D.

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