

FILE NAME: General Electric (GE)

DATE: 1931 June 25

DOC#: GE075

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Letter from GE

GENERAL ELECTRIC

COMPANY

GENERAL OFFICE SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

1 River Road
SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

June 25th, 1931.

Mr. James F. Harris,
Secretary to Mr. G. Swope,
General Electric Co.,
120 Broadway,
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Harris:-

I have your letter of June 23rd together with
correspondence from Dr. W. G. Lewi.

I have talked with Dr. Lewi at great length
and also corresponded with him regarding the proposition
set forth in his various reports. He seems to have an
ax to grind with the rest of the medical profession and
much of the world at large. While his reports would
indicate wonderful success in the treatment of hay fever
and asthma at the General Electric Company in 1925, I
do not recall that Dr. Smith nor any of the rest of us
were so enthusiastic about the results. It strikes me
that his having been allowed to carry on this work was
a mistake that may prove somewhat embarrassing to cover
up.

Without going into the merits of his treatment
it seems to me that any method of genuine merit
would have been taken more kindly to and would have
found its place in medical armamentoria within a period
of five or six years especially when exhorting by one
so enthusiastic as Dr. Lewi.

I believe it was in February when he first
approached me on the subject of obtaining Mr. Swope's
friendship and financial aid for the work and I told
him I expected to see Mr. Swope in March or April and
would talk with him about the matter. It so happened
that I had little opportunity to talk with Mr. Swope
during those months and the matter slipped my mind.

PLAINTIFF'S
EXHIBIT

GE 399

GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY.

-2- Mr. James F. Harris

In Dr. Lewi's letter to you of June 20th he intimates that he would like to carry on his experimental work here again this year while in his letter to Mr. Swope he states that he would like to get answers from all of the cases treated in 1925 and he would press the Social Service Department of the various plants to make contact with the patients treated six years ago. It strikes me that neither of his propositions are practicable for many more hay fever and asthma patients are available in the clinics in New York City although Dr. Lewi will tell you that the men in charge of these clinics will not give him even the chance to prove the value of his type of treatment. Furthermore, if the reports published by Dr. Lewi on the results of his treatments have failed to gain recognition of the medical profession at large, it seems to me that more reports from missing or delinquent patients will prove equally valueless.

I should not care to be quoted as freely as I have written you regarding this matter.

Very truly yours,

BLV:S

B. L. Vosburgh
B. L. Vosburgh, M. D.