

February 17, 1934

Mr. Fred Lewis
Dayton Power and Light Co.
Dayton
Ohio

Dear Mr. Lewis:

Mr. Merkle somewhat belatedly called my attention to the fact that during the year 1930 he was employed by you in spray painting automobiles. He was apparently engaged at this most of the time for the full year. This naturally raises a considerable question as to whether he had any appreciable exposure to lead compounds, and I should like to know, therefore, if you have any information as to the lead content of the Duco which was used during this period. It is my understanding that most of these quick drying paints are quite low in lead, and that in some instances they have no lead at all. On the other hand I am told that some of the tans and yellows employ lead chromate as a pigment. I would be very grateful for any information which you can give me as to the composition of the paint, and moreover, as to the precautions which were taken against undue exposure. I shall be able to establish the facts as to whether there were any very large amounts of lead absorbed on his part, but I would like to have the history as far as it can be obtained.

With kindest regards and with my thanks
in advance for this one further detail,

Cordially yours,

RAK:IS

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.

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