SOCONY-VACUUM OIL COMPANY

INCORPORATED

26 BROADWAY

NEW YORK

CLAIM DEPARTMENT
E.R. ALDEN

March 9, 1937.

[redacted]

Buff. 2314-A

Dr. Robert A. Kehoe
University of Cincinnati
College of Medicine
General Hospital
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Kehoe:

The above employee was in our employment as a service station salesman from July 17, 1933 to June 10, 1934. From June 10, 1934 to October 1, 1935 he worked as an independent contractor in this same gasoline station. From October 1, 1935 to December 1, 1935 he was still working in this station, but again on an employee basis. He was laid off on December 1, 1935. On February 9, 1937 he filed claim against us alleging total disability by reason of lead poisoning causing atrophy of optic nerves of both eyes.

We are contesting this claim. Attached are copies of reports of Dr. W. B. Burlingham and Dr. Harry M. Weed who both examined this claimant for us in 1933 and 1935. The claimant has submitted reports of Dr. Alan C. Wood, of the John Hopkins Hospital, and Dr. W. L. Phillips, of Buffalo. We have not contacted Dr. Thomas Walsh another of the claimant's doctors inasmuch as the claimant's brother is also a doctor and associated with Dr. Walsh. We are unable to say what might have developed as far as the ethmoidol infection spoken of by Dr. Wood is concerned.

We would appreciate receiving any suggestions or comments you might have to offer on the medical reports at hand, especially that of Dr. Wood.

Thanking you for your cooperation in this matter.

Very truly yours,

E. R. ALDEN

By: [signature]

WJM:AS
Enc.

KE 0011834

WILLIAM LINTON PHILLIPS M.D.

131 Linwood Avenue

Buffalo, N.Y.

C
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Y

February 23rd, 1937

Mr. Blatt:

Dear Sir:

Mr. [redacted] came to me October 15th, 1935 complaining of not seeing as well as he did when I examined his eyes in previous years. His eyes were always 20/20 or normal in each eye separately, but at this time his vision was greatly reduced and he was only able to see 20/50-three letters in the right eye and in the left 20/200, or 1/10 of normal. Glasses did not improve his vision. The optic nerves when taken on the chart, showed enlargement, which indicated some systemic disease. I advised him to see some general practitioner, in order to find the cause, but they did not seem to find the cause.

Thinking that it might be tobacco because all other causes were eliminated, I advised him to stop smoking, but this did not improve him in any way, and was glad to hear that he found out it was lead poisoning.

I will gladly help you further on this case, if you wish, only try and put it off until two in the afternoon for I am too busy in my office in the mornings.

I remain,

Yours truly,

W. L. Phillips

KE 001335