

July 3, 1943

(19)

Dr. T. P. Hickey,
E. I. du Pont Company,
Joliet, Illinois.

Dear Dr. Hickey:

In confirmation of my wire of yesterday, I am sending you the report on the urine and blood of [REDACTED]. I should also amplify the interpretation in the telegram by a few additional comments.

We have seen cases of lead intoxication in individuals with lead concentrations in the blood of the order of magnitude shown here. Generally speaking, however, such concentrations were found not during the peak of the absorption, but at a later date after the subject had been removed from exposure and after the symptoms had subsided but not completely vanished. Therefore, it is not safe to say that the symptoms in this case might not be due in part or in whole to lead absorption. It would be quite fair, however, to say that the symptoms in such a case should be mild and rather fleeting. None of the more severe consequences of lead absorption would be expected to be present, unless they had developed at a prior time while the exposure was heavier, that is, before the cessation of exposure. (I insert this reservation only for the reason that it is not quite clear from your history whether this man worked right up to the present time, or whether his exposure had occurred and come to an end some weeks before these samples were collected. Actually, in making an interpretation of such data as these, one should have all of the precise information concerning the nature of the work, the time at which exposure occurred, whether intermittent or continuing, and the date on which the last exposure occurred. Without such information one is compelled to be somewhat discursive, as I am here.)

As to the urine, the result is only slightly above normal levels. Taken in conjunction with the blood finding with which it is in satisfactory agreement, I should conclude that this man's exposure had only been slight. It is not uncommon to find analytical results of this type among rather large groups of persons among whom no cases of lead poisoning have been seen. In my opinion, it is most unlikely that this man's symptoms are due to his lead

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Dr. T. P. Hickey - (2) - July 3, 1943

exposure.

Cordially yours,

Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.

RAK of

Enc.

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DAY LETTER
WESTERN UNION - JULY 1 1943 - PAID ~~MEXXXX~~ - 11:40 AM

DR T P HICKEY
E I DU PONT CO
JOLIET ILL

RE [REDACTED] CASE URINE 0.10 MG PER LITER BLOOD 0.075 MG PER 100 GRAMS
VALUES INDICATE MILD ABSORPTION STOP LEAD INTOXICATION POSSIBLE BUT
NOT PROBABLE LETTER FOLLOWS

KEHOE

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E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS & COMPANY
INCORPORATED
KANKAKEE ORDNANCE WORKS
P. O. BOX NO. 955
JOLIET, ILLINOIS

EXPLOSIVES DEPARTMENT

June 17, 1943

Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.
University of Cincinnati
College of Medicine
Eden Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio

RE: HOWARD A. NEFF

Dear Doctor Kehoe:

Under separate cover we are sending you blood samples and 24-hour urine specimen for lead examination in the case of [REDACTED]

Mr. [REDACTED] has been employed as a leadburner helper since the first of February. During March he was out for 13 days with a throat infection. He had very poor oral hygiene. In April he complained of occasional headaches and slight tingling of the fingers. He has shown no evidence of anemia or of basophilic stippling.

We believe that he has a low grade influenza at this time. However, his hygiene is very poor and we would like your impression from the laboratory findings whether or not the individual has sufficient lead to account for his symptomatology.

Yours very truly,

C. A. THURSTON, MANAGER

KANKAKEE ORDNANCE WORKS

BY:

T. P. Hickey
T. P. Hickey, M. D.
Medical Supervisor

TPH:hk


Samples of urine and blood received from the Kankakee Ordnance Works, Joliet, Illinois, for lead analyses.

Urine

Analysis Number = 43A-2339

Volume = 940 ml.

Mg. Pb Found = 0.09

Mg. Pb/Liter = 0.10-

Blood

Analysis Number = 43A-2319

Grams = 21.8

Mg. Pb/100 g. = 0.075

Samples Received: June 18 and 21, 1943

Samples Reported: July 1, 1943

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