

May 6, 1936

Dr. Robert B. Ellison
Peebles, Ohio

Dear Dr. Ellison:

I have your letter of May 2nd concerning the symptoms of Mr. [REDACTED]. We have been very much interested in any kind of occupational illness associated with the Petroleum industry, and if you have reason to feel that there are any occupational factors in this man's complaint, I should be very glad to see him. Unfortunately I am caught by a number of engagements and am very well tied up for the next two weeks so that I would have to let you know later when I can arrange to see him. Meanwhile I think it would be a good idea if you would let me have the available clinical information together with your opinion as to the character of his illness.

Our chief interest, of course, has been in the question of occupational lead poisoning. In the course of this work we have had occasion to study the lead exposure of garage mechanics and handlers of leaded gasoline in order to determine whether or not they have any exposure to lead in relation to their handling of gasoline. The evidence, both clinical and experimental, is such as to demonstrate that no lead absorption occurs as the result of the exposure to gasoline. Therefore, if it is lead exposure which you have in mind, I think you can rule that out as a factor.

Perhaps you are already familiar with this information, and perhaps there is something else which you had in mind. On the whole, however, the Petroleum industry is rather singularly free of chemical hazards with the exception of the fact that a number of the petroleum products are skin irritants. In any case I should be interested in your opinion and if you still feel that it would be advisable for me to see this man, I shall be glad to arrange to see him at a later date.

In as much as you have addressed me at the Medical College under the heading of "General Motors Research Laboratory", I am taking the liberty of pointing out to you that this Laboratory is not a General Motors Research Laboratory, that, in fact, it has no connection with the General Motors, and that it was named the Kettering Laboratory of Applied Physiology in recognition of the significance of Mr. Kettering as a scientific worker.

Sincerely yours,

RAH:is

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.

KE 0011726