

April 4, 1929

Dr. Hugh A. Kuhn,  
417 First Trust Bldg.,  
Hammond, Indiana.

Dear Hugh:

I am afraid that I cannot advise you to use tetraethyl lead in the case about which you wrote in your letter of April 1. I should certainly not advise the injection of tetraethyl lead. It is a fat soluble oil and does not exist in the colloidal form. It would have to be injected in its normal state, or dissolved in some oil, or emulsified in a hydrophilic colloid of some description. I should not advise its injection at all for the reason that it is very toxic and it is likely to give rise to encephalitis except in carefully controlled doses. What I have anticipated doing with it eventually is to apply it directly to the skin, for it is absorbed through the skin, and then by carefully watching the dosage to determine the limits of safety in its administration. Since this has not been done I would hate to take the responsibility for advising its use. We intend to study this matter carefully and expect to have an opportunity to do so in the course of the next few months, but until this is done I should not advise its use. If you wish to use lead at all on this man I should advise you rather to use some of the colloidal lead preparations that have been reported on in the general literature.

I was certainly very glad to see you and Heddie and I hope you will come back this way again. With kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

RAK:EJ

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