

COMMONWEALTH of PENNSYLVANIA



DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
HARRISBURG

November 3, 1932.

Dr. Robert A. Kehoe,
College of Medicine,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

My dear Dr. Kehoe:

I had hoped to talk to you personally after hearing your paper in Washington on October 24 but was unable to do so. We have a problem here in Pennsylvania on which I should like to have your help if you feel you can help me solve it.

A number of plants having a lead hazard are becoming interested in securing the services of a physician to make periodic examinations of their employees. Most of these physicians are men in general practice who have had no special training or experience with lead poisoning. I should like to be in a position to give these physicians a few simple suggestions with regard to the method of covering their work. If possible, I should like to give them some fairly definite suggestions as to how often a blood examination should be made, say in a storage battery plant; what blood or other findings should call for a transfer of a worker to a less hazardous location in the plant or to a discharge temporary or permanent; and what findings should call for active treatment and what in your opinion is the best treatment. Was I correct in the impression I received from you and Dr. Gehrman that deleading is not a desirable procedure? If that is the case do you make any effort to keep the lead constantly in the bones, or do you permit deleading to take place gradually without any treatment?

Dr. Wirtschafter told me that you have in preparation a book which will appear shortly. Maybe I can find answers to all my questions in that volume. If so, will you tell me when it will be available and where it may be procured?

Appreciating your continued cooperation with this Department,

I am

Very truly yours,

Elizabeth B. Bricker

Elizabeth B. Bricker, M.D.
Chief, Hygiene and Sanitation
Section.

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