

THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Cincinnati 29, Ohio

Elland Ave. and Bethesda

June 1, 1955

Mr. Manfred Bowditch
Lead Industries Association
420 Lexington Avenue
New York 17, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Bowditch:

I was most interested to receive your letter and enclosures concerning the Chinese baby that Dr. Byers and Dr. Maloof studied. From the data as given I do not find sufficient evidence to be absolutely sure of the diagnosis of lead poisoning. However, this does not prevent one from searching for possible sources of lead. The two main sources, of course, would be assimilation of lead either through the respiratory tract or the intestinal tract. It is hard for me to believe that the baby could get sufficient lead from the mother's milk without the mother having marked evidence of lead absorption. Therefore I feel that one ought to look more towards a common source of exposure, in particular a respiratory exposure. However, the data as given do not give me any clue and I am sure that Dr. Maloof has made an extensive search in this direction. Therefore I am afraid that I cannot really help out in this case.

Sincerely,

/s/ Hugo Dunlap Smith

Hugo Dunlap Smith, M. D.

HDS/bp