

March 7, 1940

Dr. Henri Giroire
2 Rue Scribe
Nantes (Loire Inferieur)
France

Dear Doctor Giroire:

After a considerable delay occasioned by the pressure of a great deal of work, we have completed the analyses on the samples of urine which you sent me quite some time ago. I enclose herewith the results of our analyses which I think you will find of considerable interest. In sending these to you, I should like to warn you against a too radical interpretation of a single analytical result. For example there are two results in this series which are in excess of a tenth of a milligram per liter. It may be that the two workers, Remy and Tribouillois, were excreting lead at this level for a considerable period of time. On the other hand it may be that through some unusual or accidental circumstance, they experienced an unusual degree of exposure on the day on which these samples were taken. It is even possible that these samples were somewhat contaminated in the process of collection. It would not be wise, therefore, to draw too definite a conclusion from these results without checking them carefully. This is especially true since most of the other results are low and are generally indicative of little or no exposure to lead.

On the whole I think we can well be pleased at these results, since they reveal that the lead exposure of this occupation in this group as a whole is very well controlled.

I realize that the difficulties of this occupation constitute a comparatively small and relatively unimportant proportion of the dangers to which France and French workmen are now exposed. I realize also the difficulties of correspondence between us at this time. On the other hand if you have the time or opportunity, and if you have any information concerning the activities of this plant which are worthy of transmission, I should be glad to hear from you.

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Meanwhile I wish to express
my kindest regards and my very best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

RAK:is

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.