

COPY

July 23, 1951

Randolph K. Byers, M. D.
Longwood Medical Building
319 Longwood Avenue
Boston 15, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Byers:

Reference: [REDACTED]

Hyde Park, Massachusetts
Father: [REDACTED]

A visit was made to the home of [REDACTED], and Mrs [REDACTED] was interviewed.

It appears that approximately one year ago, at the age of one, little [REDACTED] began to chew on furniture about the house. Her favorite objects were her crib, a leg of the kitchen table and the legs of the dining-room chair. For the past few months, she had been eating plaster taken from a hole in the living-room wall. During the past four weeks, she was repeatedly found eating old paint flakes which had peeled off a painted brick wall on the porch.

Mrs. [REDACTED] informed me she had brought into the Children's Hospital a leg from the kitchen table and a leg from the dining-room chair for lead analysis of the painted surface. The crib [REDACTED] had chewed on was relatively new and not painted. The wood had been stained and then varnished. I have forwarded to Miss Taylor at the Children's Hospital samples of the plaster and of the paint on the porch wall.

Because of my own interest in the porphyrias, I asked a few questions in this vein. The only thing Mrs. [REDACTED] could add was that [REDACTED] disliked the sun and when placed in the sunlight would always go to a shaded area and remain there. There did not appear to be any history of pink discoloration of the teeth or nails or skin lesions. Mrs. [REDACTED] did not give any information regarding the color of [REDACTED] urine.

When you have the time, I would appreciate learning whether any porphyrin studies were carried out during [REDACTED] illness or on the post-mortem tissues.

Sincerely yours,

Clarence C. Maloof, M. D.

CCM:BL
CC: Mr. Bowditch

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