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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA



EARL F. ROSE, M. D.
DEPUTY CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER
TIDEWATER DIVISION
427 EAST CHARLOTTE STREET
NORFOLK 10, VIRGINIA

RAMON A. MORANO, M. SC.
TOXICOLOGIST
M. T. HURLEY
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

June 7, 1963

Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.
University of Cincinnati
Department of Preventive Medicine
and Industrial Health
The Kettering Laboratory
College of Medicine - Eden Avenue
Cincinnati 19, Ohio

Dear Dr. Kehoe:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your publications on lead metabolism and to express my sincere appreciation not only for the reprints but for the opportunity of meeting you. Needless to say, the discussion was most stimulating to me personally.

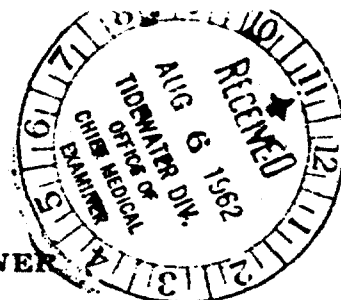
I hope that you understand my position with respect to any analysis on which I am called to perform. I have no vested interest in any group and in this case certainly not in a position of making a diagnosis of lead intoxication. I am however, interested in obtaining accurate results and giving a proper interpretation to those results.

With regard to the survey, I will agree to carry out a limited number of analyses but cannot participate in an extended number simply because time is not available for such a project. I am sure you can appreciate my position in this respect. While this survey is of no interest to the Commonwealth as such and in view of the few analyses which I anticipate, no fees would be necessary.

I would like to send along to you the history and laboratory findings (the Medical Examiner has not yet filed this report) of a two years old, colored male, who had a history of eating painted plaster and expired June 5, 1963 as a result of encephalopathic plumbism. The post-mortem examination was performed in this office and the pathology found was consistent with lead intoxication. It is interesting to note, however, that an ante-mortem peripheral blood smear showed no basophilic stippling. The other laboratory findings are as follows:

6/3/63	Entered hospital with convulsions and a long history of eating painted plaster.
6/4/63	X-rays - Positive heavy metal line (lead).
	Cerebrospinal fluid protein - 80 mgs % No C.S.F. pressure performed.
	BUN - 14 mgs %
	Hemoglobin - 8.2 Gms.

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☒ Resident

☐ Non-resident

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION BY MEDICAL EXAMINER

DECEDENT [REDACTED] AGE: 18 mo SEX: female RACE: negro

ADDRESS 200 West 27th Street, Norfolk M W S D OCCUPATION: _____

TYPE OF DEATH: In prison ☐ Suspicious ☐ Unusual ☐

Sudden in apparent health:

Instantaneous without obvious cause ☐

After unexplained coma ☐

After unexplained rapidly fatal illness ☐

Unattended by a physician:

Found dead without obvious cause ☐

Unattended during fatal illness ☐

Stillbirth attended by midwife ☐

Violent or Unnatural ☒

Means: Lead poisoning

	LAST SEEN ALIVE	INJURY OR ILLNESS	DEATH	MEDICAL EXAMINER NOTIFIED	VIEW OF BODY	POLICE NOTIFIED
DATE	8/1/62		8/1/62	8/1/62	8/2/62	
TIME	8:20 P.M.		8:20 P.M.	10:45 P.M.	9:00 A.M.	

IF MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING

DRIVER ☐

PASSENGER ☐

PEDESTRIAN ☐

NOTIFICATION BY: Dr. H. G. White ADDRESS King's Daughters Hospital

	LOCATION	CITY OR COUNTY	TYPE OF PREMISES (E. G., HOSPITAL, HOTEL, HIGHWAY, ETC.)
INJURY OR ONSET OF ILLNESS	200 W. 27th Street	Norfolk	Dwelling
DEATH	King's Daughters Hosp	Norfolk	
VIEWING OF BODY BY MEDICAL EXAMINER	Norfolk General Hospital	Norfolk	

DESCRIPTION OF BODY	NOSE	MOUTH	EARS	NON FATAL WOUNDS	RIGOR	LIVOR
CLOTHED ☐ UNCLOTHED ☒	BLOOD 0	0	0	ABRASION ☐ BURN ☐	JAW ☐ ARMS ☐	COLOR _____
PARTLY CLOTHED ☐ HAIR <u>black</u>	FROTH 0	0	0	CONTUSION ☐ STAB ☐	NECK ☐ CHEST ☐	ANTERIOR ☐ POSTERIOR ☐
BEARD _____ MUSTACHE _____	OTHER (Sand, dirt, water, etc.) 0	0	0	GUNSHOT ☐ INCISED ☐	BACK ☐ ABDOMEN ☐	LATERAL ☐
CIRCUMCISED ☐ PUPILS: R <u>2+</u> L <u>2+</u>				LACERATION ☐	LEGS ☐ <u>complete</u>	REGIONAL _____
EYES: Color <u>brown</u> OPACITIES, ETC.				FRACTURE ☐		
	WEIGHT <u>25 lbs</u>	LENGTH <u>34"</u>		DISTRIBUTION: SCALP ☐ FACE ☐ NECK ☐ CHEST ☐		
	BODY HEAT: <u>cold</u>			BACK ☐ ABDOMEN ☐ ARMS ☐ LEGS ☐		

FATAL WOUNDS:

TYPE (GUNSHOT, INCISED, STAB, ETC.)	SIZE	SHAPE	LOCATION	PLANE, LINE OR DIRECTION

Probable cause of death:

Chronic lead poisoning

Manner of death. (Check one only)

Accident ☒ Suicide ☐ Homicide ☐

Natural ☐ Unknown ☐ Pending ☐

DISPOSITION OF CASE:

1. Not a medical examiner case ☐

2. Autopsy authorized ☒

By: Next of kin

Pathologist Norfolk General Hosp.

I hereby declare that after receiving notice of the death described herein I took _____ and made inquiries regarding the cause of death in accordance with Section 19.1-42, Title 19 of the 1950 Code of Virginia and that the information contained herein regarding such death is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

August 2, 1962 Norfolk City

Date

City or County of Appointment

AUG 7 1962

Signature of Medical Examiner

ROBERT A. MORTON, M. D.

YANNEY, REGINA

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MEDICAL AND OTHER PERSONAL HISTORY:

SYMPTOMS AND DISEASE, PAST AND PRESENT:

Addiction to Narcotics ☐	Convulsions ☐	Fever ☐	"Indigestion" ☐	Precordium ☐	Vertigo ☐
Anorexia ☐	Coryza ☐	Habituation: Sedatives ☐	Jaundice ☐	Radiating to Arms ☐	Visual Disturbances ☐
Aphasia ☐	Cyanosis ☐	Alcohol ☐	Nausea ☐	Paralysis ☐	Vomiting ☐
Aphonia ☐	Delirium ☐	Headache ☐	Pain: Abdomen ☐	Skin Rash ☐	Weakness ☐
Chills ☐	Diarrhea ☐	"Head Cold" ☐	Back ☐	Somnolence ☐	Weight Loss ☐
Coma ☐	Dyspnea ☐	Hemorrhage from Body Orifices ☐	Chest ☐	Stiff Neck ☐	Weight Excess ☐
	Edema ☐			Syncope ☐	

OTHER PERSONAL HISTORY: Suicide attempts ☐ Suicide threats ☐ Hobbies, aptitudes or skills with firearms, chemicals etc. ☐ Domestic, premarital or marital conflicts ☐ Financial or business reverses ☐ Social or religious conflicts ☐ Legal difficulties ☐ Criminal record ☐ Unemployment ☐ Fear of disease ☐

CONDUCT BEFORE DEATH: Efforts to prevent help ☐ Efforts to obtain help ☐ Suicide attempt: Admitted ☐ Denied ☐ Refusal to talk ☐ Written declaration of intended suicide ☐ Accusations against others ☐

MEDICAL ATTENTION AND HOSPITAL OR INSTITUTIONAL CARE:

NAME OF PHYSICIAN OR INSTITUTION	ADDRESS	DIAGNOSIS	DATE

PREVIOUS CHEMICAL OR MECHANICAL INJURY:

MANNER OF INJURY	PLACE: CHARACTER OF PREMISES	CHARACTER OF INJURY	DATE

CIRCUMSTANCES OF DEATH:

	NAME	ADDRESS
FOUND DEAD BY	H. G. White, M. D.	King's Daughters Hospital, Norfolk
LAST SEEN ALIVE BY	H. G. White, M. D.	King's Daughters Hospital, Norfolk
WITNESSES TO INJURY OR ILLNESS AND DEATH	James E. Yancey	200 West 27th Street, Norfolk

NARRATIVE SUMMARY OF CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING DEATH: This 18 mo. old colored female child fell down the steps on July 6th, 1962 and struck her head. She was seen at Norfolk General Hospital that day and no significant injuries were detected. About 2 weeks later she became rather sleepy and drowsy but was not seen by a doctor until July 31st when she became semi-conscious, developed vomiting and convulsive seizures. She was admitted to King's Daughters Hospital at 11:15 A.M. on July 31st in a comatose convulsing state. She had multiple burr holes performed because of a suspected subdural hematoma but no evidence of bleeding was found. The blood count showed heavy stippling of the red cells and she was started on treatment for lead poisoning. The patient remained in a poor condition and died at 3:20 P.M. on August 1, 1962. A pre-mortem blood specimen was subsequently reported as showing 0.28 mgs. % of lead. An autopsy was authorized by the father and this showed rather marked cerebral edema. Post-mortem x-ray studies of the bone showed changes consistent with lead poisoning. This child was said to have eaten most anything around the house. The mother stated that one time recently the child ate some type of insect powder but apparently developed no acute symptoms. The mother was unable to find the container of this insecticide.