

July 8, 1963

Miss G. C. Finch
2250, S.E. 1st Street
Orange City, Florida

Dear Miss Finch:

In prompt answer to your letter of July 5, I find no evidence in your description of your father's occupation or of his present physical condition to suggest that lead has entered into it in any significant manner. (So far as arsenic is concerned, a relationship is out of the question altogether). First of all, despite the common view of the matter, lead poisoning among painters, under conditions that have prevailed in the USA for some time, is a rare occurrence. Moreover, if your father absorbed unusual quantities of lead during the period of his work as a painter, he would have eliminated it by this time.

In addition to these points, the obvious vascular disease from which your father is suffering is by no means unusual, and it could not be linked to the absorption of lead in any reasonable manner.

Despite what I have said above, if the physician who is concerned with your father's care is impressed with the possibility or the likelihood that some toxic material has contributed to his patient's illness, I shall be glad to hear from him, and will give him any pertinent information that I may have.

Very truly yours,

Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.

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