

May 14, 1947

Mr. D. H. Cooper,
Imperial Oil Limited,
Imperial Oil Building,
Toronto 1, Canada.

Dear Mr. Cooper:

Your letter of April 30 addressed to Mr. Turnley together with its attachments concerning your employee, [REDACTED], has come to my desk. We shall be glad to give this matter our attention, but inasmuch as the members of our medical staff are quite busy at the present time with routine duties, it seems advisable, if possible, to obtain somewhat more information than is available in this case. I cannot but wonder, for example, if we might not be able to obtain from Dr. McKenzie somewhat more definite information concerning the illness of [REDACTED]. Obviously we do not undertake to make diagnoses, or even to criticize diagnoses very seriously at such a distance, but on the other hand, we are not at liberty to take too seriously more or less casual opinions arrived at without careful clinical study of the case. I would assume that some such study must have been made in this case, but if it has not been, we could scarcely be justified in taking the expressed opinion very seriously.

I should appreciate it very much indeed if you would undertake to provide us with fairly complete information concerning the work of Mr. [REDACTED], especially with reference to the conditions of work which have given him any possible exposure to lead compounds. Moreover, if you could obtain for us the information which is available as coming from Dr. McKenzie, it would be helpful. We may very well find that this matter can be handled through correspondence, or that we could assist Dr. McKenzie in obtaining certain additional laboratory information, so as to answer any question which is in his mind.

I am sure you will recognize, that in the course of the years we have made quite a number of wild goose chases in search of information and in following up alleged cases based on hearsay or often more tenuous information. We do not like to repeat these experiences more frequently than is actually necessary.

Very truly yours,

Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.

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