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February 22, 1963

J. E. Eckerle, M.D.
Reynolds Metals Company
2827 Hale Avenue
Louisville 1, Kentucky

Dear Doctor Eckerle:

Mr. Cholak handed me your letter of January 30th concerning a program for the detection of the occurrence of lead poisoning among your Company's employees - or rather I should suspect, for reasons which I shall indicate later, for the detection of the existence of an hazard, since this is a medical problem in which the analytical work, although the most skillful part of it is still only the hand-maiden, so to speak.

Since you are to be here next week, the medical (physiological) principles on which such a program is based will be much more apparent after than before the Symposium. I shall be glad to talk with you at that time, so as to know the scope of your problem, and to be able to advise you more fully than I can now. Since any such program tends to be costly it should be adapted to fit your needs in the most effective and yet most economical manner.

I should suppose that the industrial process about which you are concerned is familiar to me, but in case it is somewhat unusual, you should be prepared to describe it fully to me. This should serve in lieu of a personal inspection of the premises, operations and manual procedures. The understanding of the type of the hazard is more important, perhaps, to its control than to its identification and measurement. However, the scope of one's observations of the people, as well as the expense involved, depends upon the degree of uniformity of the exposure, the number of people involved, and, therefore, the amount of information that is required to cover the situation. This is why this is always a medical problem.

I shall look forward to seeing you in Cincinnati next week.

Cordially yours,

Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.

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