

Willard Storage Battery Company

MAIN OFFICE AND FACTORY
246-286 E. 131ST ST.

Cleveland, Ohio

March 23, 1943

ADDRESS YOUR REPLY TO

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.
Kettering Laboratory of Physiology
University of Cincinnati,
College of Medicine
Cincinnati, Ohio

Re: [REDACTED]

Dear Dr. Kehoe:-

The above employee started to work for Willard Battery Company, November 30, 1942, in Misc. Assembly department. His previous employment was with the American Window Glass Company, and gave no history of previous illness or operations. Fracture of right collar bone 1928. No history of previous lead exposure or contact to tuberculosis.

His preemployment physical examination shows he weighed - 167 lbs, blood pressure 120/70, pulse 88, vision: R20/20 L20/20-Reading vision: R.75D, L.75D. All teeth of upper jaw extracted and remaining lowers in fair condition. Tonsils are present, heart and lungs are negative, abdomen - negative. Grip: R-100 L-100. Blood smear showed stippled count of one, (based on 50 fields). Blood serology negative.

He had four periodic check-up examinations. The first on Dec. 17, 1942, which showed weight - 173 lbs. Hgb. 85%, stippled cell count of three, teeth graded as poor and grip R-90 L-80. The second check-up on February 26, 1943, showed weight - 180. Stippled cell count of 16 cells to 50 fields, teeth graded as poor, grip: R-115 L-90. No complaints. The third check-up on March 4, 1943 revealed weight:- 180, stippled cell count of 10, teeth poor, grip R-100 L-100. At this time he complained of insomnia and occasional constipation. The fourth check-up on March 16, 1943 revealed same weight of 180 lbs, stippled cell count of 19 cells, teeth poor, grip: R-115 L-91. Teeth were poor with pyorrhea and possible lead line. Subjectively he complained of metallic taste, nausea, some pain in abdomen. Calcium gluconate grs X qid given.

During the time this man worked on this job, he was paid to wear a respirator, which does not mean he wore it all the time. March 17, 1943, he reported and asked for a release from the Willard Battery Company to seek employment elsewhere. This was not given. The same afternoon, he gave history of becoming very weak and faint in the plant and had to go outside for fresh air, and subsequently went home. Later the same day his wife called stating he was sick in bed with pains in the stomach and wanted a doctor to call.



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He entered St. Luke's hospital March 17, 1943 at 9:30 p.m., reporting cramps in abdomen and light headedness, also constipation.

Physical examination at St. Luke's revealed blood pressure of 120/70, pyorrhea of lower teeth, and questionable presence of lead-line. Upper jaw edentulous. Pupils react to light. Heart and lungs normal. Abdomen: no localized tenderness, and only suggestive diffuse tenderness. RBC:5,200,000. WBC:11,450. Hbg. 16.2% Differential count: Polys. 76%, Lymphocytes 18%, Monocytes 5% and Basophiles 1%. No stippled cells found. Two subsequent smears failed to show any stippled cells. His treatment at hospital was Calcium Gluconate grs.X tid p.o, daily intravenous injections of calcium gluconate 10cc of 10% solution. Forced fluid intake, milk, and regular diet. He was discharged from St. Luke's March 23, 1943, asymptomatic, his stay there having been uneventful.

You have by now received the blood and urine specimens on this case, taken during his hospitalization and of course will await with interest to what your findings are. Would also appreciate it, if we could have two specimen sets from your laboratory, so that we will not be caught in an emergency.

Thank you again for your interest and help in our work.

Sincerely yours,
Willard Storage Battery Co.

W. B. Hutchinson M.D.

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