

July 13, 1928

Mr. H. H. Hewetson,
Beacon Oil Co.,
Everett (Boston), Mass.

Dear Mr. Hewetson:

After reading your letter of July 6 I can well understand that the information I gave you in my previous letter is of very little value since I was thinking entirely of aluminum paints.

It seems to me that the method which you are using in protecting your men against the inhalation of undue amount of aluminum ought to be fairly satisfactory. I do not believe you are likely to run into any difficulties from the aluminum. It is necessary, of course, to see that the masks which you use are kept in very good condition so that they fit properly, but beyond that precaution I do not believe that anything else is necessary. I should be inclined, however, to keep a fairly close watch on these men and to check up rather carefully on any signs or symptoms of illness which they may report, especially so if they continue for a long period of time at this work.

One thing that occurs to me in connection with this sort of work is the possibility of there being some quantity of arsenic in the aluminum. I do not know offhand whether there is any great likelihood of small quantities of arsenic being present, but small quantities if present would undoubtedly cause you a great deal more difficulty than the aluminum. It would probably be a very easy matter for you to obtain information on this point, if indeed you are not already in possession of such information.

I trust you will have no difficulty with this, but in case any difficulty of any kind should arise I will be very glad if you would let me know about it as it would be a matter of some interest and importance to look into.

Very truly yours,

RAK:EJ

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