

June 8, 1925.

Dr. J. A. Britton,
International Harvester Company,
606 South Michigan Avenue,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Dr. Britton:

I will see if I can find you some actual examinations, but it seems to me that much more convincing evidence of the possibility of danger will be provided if you find considerable quantities of lead in the excreta of the men who are working in the manner you describe. If you find substantial amounts of lead in the urine and feces of the individuals around these pots, it is very good evidence that they are exposed to the possibility of lead absorption, and every one will be compelled to believe that sooner or later some one of these men is coming down with substantial symptoms of lead poisoning. If I were in your position I should be more interested in direct evidence of this type gained from my own surroundings than in warnings received through other individuals where possibly the working conditions are perfectly defined.

In Alice Hamilton's new book there is a certain amount of material on lead tempering but it does not consider the sort of protection which your engineers contend your company provides. I fear that will invariably be the case and advise you strongly to settle the question on the basis of whether or not lead is going

through these workmen.

Sincerely yours,

Cecil K. Drinker, M.D.

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