

May 23, 1945

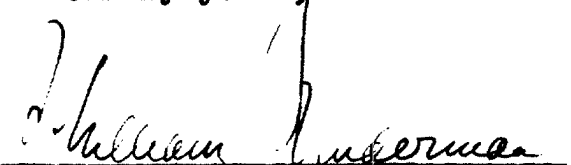
Dr. Robert A. Kehoe
University of Cincinnati
Kettering Lab. of App. Phys.
Eden Avenue
Cincinnati 19, Ohio

Dear Doctor Kehoe:

I am enclosing the resident's abstract of
the history of Lamar Battle together with my check for
\$5.00. I deeply appreciate your help.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,


F. William Sunderman, M.D.

FWS:pl

Enclosure

Lamar Battle is a 41 year old colored painter who was admitted to the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania on May 11, 1945 with the complaints of crampy, epigastric pain, constipation, weakness, frontal headaches, and diminishing vision during the last four and one-half months. Until one year ago, although he worked as a painter, he did not use lead paint. During the last year, he has been employed by the Sun Ship Company at Chester, Pa. and has used lead paint in a spray gun, with a brush, and has also been exposed to dry lead paint dust. He used a mask for the spray gun and also when he worked with the dry dust, but he claims the latter mask was not very good for he often found the dry paint dust in his nostrils.

His past medical history has not been remarkable. He had ~~g~~onorrrhea in 1933 but he has had no serious medical diseases and no operations. His diet has been adequate. There is no family history of any serious disease.

On examination, the positive findings were very few. The blood pressure was 98/70. His pulse, respiration, and temperature were normal. He was well nourished and there was no pallor of the mucous membranes. He is a dark-skinned negro and there are several pigmentation areas on the buccal mucosa but there is no pigmentation characteristic of a lead line on the gums. Tiny lymph nodes were palpable on the cervical, axillary, epitrochlear, and inguinal regions. Examination of the head, lungs, and heart was normal. There was moderate tenderness in the epigastrium. The liver edge was felt at the costal margin. The spleen was not felt. There was diffuse enlargement of the prostate. At first it was thought that there was some weakness of the hands, but examination by the neurologists failed to reveal any neurological defect. Examination of the eyes by the ophthalmologist also failed to reveal any abnormality.

The laboratory findings are as follows:

1. Hemoglobin - 79 percent
2. Red Blood Count - 4.6 million/*cu mm*
3. White Blood Count - 7,100
4. Normal Differential and no stippling.
5. The red blood cells appeared entirely normal on smear.
6. The urine was negative.
7. The spinal fluid was clear with normal pressure, cells, and protein.
8. Negative Kolmer and Kline
9. Negative Colloidal gold
10. Studies of the gastro-intestinal tract are underway.

Clinically, this does not appear to be a case of lead poisoning. The exposure to lead and the symptoms ^{however} seem to warrant a tentative diagnosis at least of plumbism. ¹

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