

April 13, 1927.

Mr. E. W. Webb,
c/o The Ethyl Gasoline Corp.,
25 Broadway,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Webb:

I am enclosing herewith a copy of my physical examination and recommendations up to the present in the case of Mr. Claude Ross. I also enclose information as to the present situation of Mr. [REDACTED]

The record on Mr. [REDACTED] will serve to give my point of view and to furnish the facts in the case so far as they are known in the present. I expect to be in Dayton on Thursday and Friday of the coming week at which time I shall interview the physicians who have been caring for Mr. Ross in an attempt to get a statement from them as to what they feel should be done for him.

Looking at the matter entirely from the point of view of a physician dealing with a patient who is sick, at least mentally, I feel that the worst thing that could be done for Mr. [REDACTED] would be to carry him on under the present conditions or to make a settlement of a sum of money sufficient to maintain him for some time. If he is to recover from what I regard as a serious condition humanly speaking, it will be from encouragement and the necessity of doing something for himself. Just so long as he is lead to believe that he is seriously ill, that he is unable to work, and that he will never recover, he will continue in the state of apathy and melancholia which he now shows. I am not certain that he will be cured by the proper treatment. I am reasonably certain that nothing can be done for him unless he can be lead to attempt something for himself. I feel, therefore, that a final settlement in his case of a cash sum would be inadvisable at this time, even though it might be found to be necessary at a later time.

I am not attempting to consider this matter at all from the legal side, but I am assuming, as I know I may, that the purely legal aspects of the matter are not as important as the human and fair considerations.

Mr. E. W. Webb.

April 13, 1927

I shall keep you informed from time to time as to the course of events in our attempt to straighten out this matter.

Very truly yours,

RAS:OD

KE 0021002

[REDACTED]

KE 0021003

N 24452 01

Name

Age 31

Date March 31, 1927.

History Born at Goshen Ohio.

Farmed until 16 years of age. Schooled through 1st year High School. Employed at Peters Cartridge Co. Kings Mills 4 or 5 years off and on during summers while going to school. Army service at 18 years of age from 1913 to 1920. Enlisted in infantry. Transferred to Machine gun corps. At outbreak of war went into Officers Training Corps at Ft. Myer. Here 7 months. Non-commissioned officer. Not commissioned. Went into ordinance department in personell work, traing chauffeurs at Augusta, Ga. Was here until end of war. After war, was stationed in Charleston, W. Va. as foreman in charge of ammunition storage. On being discharged was employed at General Motors Research Corp. as auto mechanic 5 or 6 mo. Test driver 4 mo. Cylinder work on air cooled cylinders 7 to 8 mo. Then transferred to General Motors Chemical Co. making Ethyl Fluid and filling containers.

Worked thus from March 18 to March 26, 1924. Considerable exposure, inhalation and skin contact. No warning as to dangers.

Illness - beginning March 26.

Was not conscious of being ill, but went home and behaved like a drunken man. Had altercation with wife, with police. Came to Cincinnati next day. Became ill on street, taken into Veterans Bureau. Physician there wished to send him to hospital. Went home, however, very ill, and Dr. O. C. Henderson of 1002 W. 3rd St. Dayton, Ohio was called. Was put to bed. Was very weak, lost use of legs. Legs were cold and numb and tingling, with shooting pains in head and legs and around heart. Slept poorly waking with start. Appetite was fairly good. Twitching of muscles and jerking of arms or legs.

Was at home until April 11, at which time he was in hos-

[REDACTED]

pital. Hospital records show restlessness, sleeplessness part of time, normal temperature, slow pulse.

Returned home after some weeks but was in bed 13 weeks. Continued to be weak and easily excitable and unable to work. Returned to work at Ethyl Gasoline Plant in September 1924, and was made doorman. At this time my questioning showed him to be complaining of weakness, shortness of breath, pains in chest, legs and joints, and especially the head in front and transferred to back. Metallic taste in mouth and drowsiness. Since this time his condition has shown little change.

Present Complaints.

Drawing pains in forehead and down back of head and neck. Joints are dry and ache, especially in wet or cold weather. Sleeping poorly, awaking often with a start, muscles twitch and jerk, both asleep and awake. Condition worse after exercise. Arms and legs and even back get cold, numb and tingling.

Has no sexual desire and is impotent a large part of the time. Often no desire for 3 to 4 weeks at a time.

Eyes give trouble at times, and hair is falling out.

Family History. Insignificant except for history of insanity back some time.

Previous history of illness. - Nothing significant. Denies gc and lues.

Physical Examination.

Patient examined by me early in 1925. Condition at that time no different from present except that color is improved, temperature now normal, (then 97.6) and pulse and blood pressure are now higher, (then 52 and 100/60 respectively).

Well developed, well nourished, healthy looking young man, with good posture and good muscular development. Hair is plentiful on head, sparse on body. Skin of good color. The man shows a general apathy and depression, although he is ready with answers and is apparently willing to give his entire story freely. It is impossible to arouse any enthusiasm or appearance of enthusiasm about any subject.

Temperature 99.2

Pulse 60

Respiration 20

Eyes - React to light and accommodation. Tremor of lids. Sclerae clear and white

Ears - No abnormalities

Nose - Obstruction on left side - reddened mucous membrane on both sides.

Sinuses - Very slight darkness of left frontal region on transillumination with suggestion of darkness on left side of face.

Face - Coarse facial and labial tremor at times. Inconstant and increased with eyes closed.

Throat - Congestion and muscular irritability of pillars. Tonsils are small and chronically inflamed. Posterior pharyngeal wall reddened showing lymphoid hyperplasia. Lymph nodes not obviously abnormal.

Chest - Bulging of right chest anteriorly at costo-chondrial junction from 4th to 7th ribs. Well muscled. Liver dullness at 5th I.S. Diaphragmatic excursion 4.5 R, 5.0 L. Expansion slight.

Breath sounds are increased over entire lower right chest. No adventitious pathologic sounds.

R.S.D. 7.5 R.C.D. 3.0 x 10.5

Apex rate 68-70. Sinus arrhythmia present. On hopping 50 times the apex rate is increased to 84, returning to normal in 1 minute.

Blood pressure sitting 120/70 both brachials. Polygraphic tracing of radiol. Apex and jugular show no abnormalities beyond variation in entire rhythm (sinus arrhythmia).

Abdomen - No abnormalities found.

Gentalia - Normal

Cent.N.S.- Superficial reflexes increased. Tendon reflexes variable - generally feeble but occasionally strong. Romberg negative. No hyperaesthesias. No abnormalities of sensation. Tremors as hitherto noted with also coarse tremor of hands.

White Count - 6000 previously 5600

Red count - 5 million+ previously 5-1/2 million

Haemoglobin - 90 Talg.

Polymorphoneuclears - 66% of total leucocytes.

Urinalysis - Alkaline to M.R.
 Albumin - negative
 Sugar - negative
 Acetone - negative
 Microscopic - negative
 Volume 2835 cc
 Pb. found 0.05
 Pb/ liter 0.018

The findings (or the lack of findings other than suggestive neurological ones) suggest that the total injury in this man's case is of mental sort. Whether or not the mental state is due to poisoning experienced years ago is impossible to determine from the examination. The following procedure might produce information :- (1). An interview with his wife might disclose some facts as to whether he has experienced some change in personality and when this occurred. Whether he had difficulty of a similar kind before. (2). Information might conceivably be obtained from army records or from officers under whom he has served. (3). Information should be obtained as to type of work and behavior while at General Motors Research Corporation.

Treatment:- Because of his total lack of interest and the dependent and boring character of his life, predisposing to melancholia, he should be encouraged to work and attempt to restore himself to normal life. Every encouragement should be given him that he will recover and that his impotence and weakness will disappear. His fear of death and continued invalidism, encouraged by what he has been told, should be combatted.

The matter of disability compensation should not be settled until he has had a period of trial and mental treatment, and under no

 circumstances should he now be given a sum of money as disability payment. This purely from the point of view of his welfare. The Ethyl Gasoline Corporation should hold itself in readiness to compensate him when, and if, it be shown that he has an unconquerable disability.

Interview with wife and physicians indicated in order to obtain understanding and cooperation.

Concerning Mr. [REDACTED]

I have investigated the facts in his case and they are as follows:-

He has received no wages from the Ethyl Gasoline Corporation since April 3, 1925. His wages were discontinued because of an award made by the Ohio Industrial Commission of several hundred dollars. This was for compensation over a period during which his wages had been continued by the Ethyl Gasoline Corporation, and was, therefore, supposed to be paid to the Ethyl Gasoline Corporation. However, [REDACTED] used this money without giving information to the company, and for this reason his wages were temporarily discontinued. Mr. [REDACTED] agreed to this arrangement. More recently a new award has been made by the Industrial Commission at the rate of \$18.75 per week beginning July 22, 1926 and running up to March 1, 1927. The Dayton office has received no information of this from Mr. [REDACTED] but has been so informed by the Ohio Industrial Commission. No movement has been made, therefore, by the Dayton office to reopen Mr. [REDACTED] case with him, and it is my feeling that matters should be allowed to take their own course until such a time as he shall make further claim upon the company. At a time when such claim is made, if it be made, his case should be reopened and he should be given careful examination and some decision arrived at as to what should be the subsequent treatment of his case.