

June 3, 1932

Dr. Frank R. Morton
910 S. Michigan Avenue
Standard Oil of Indiana
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Dr. Morton:

I am sending you herewith a report of the lead findings of the excreta of the men who became ill while cleaning a storage tank at your River Rouge plant.

You will note that the findings in the faeces are not particularly high, three of them being definitely within the range of normal findings. On the other hand, the quantity of lead in the urine is uniformly high, the mean for normal individuals being roughly (.03) mgs. per liter. This is exactly what would be expected some days after the inhalation of a considerable quantity of lead. Since our observation of the material in the tank indicated the presence of significant amounts of tri-ethyl lead compounds, this latter evidence may be regarded as conclusive that the men absorbed significant amounts of lead during their work. Thus, I believe there can be no question about the cause of their symptoms.

With a short exposure of this type, it is not to be expected that there will any permanent or delayed effects. Thus, I would expect the men to have recovered completely by this time and to show no further bad consequences from their exposure. On the other hand, this is all the more reason for making sure that situations of this sort do not occur in the future.

I appreciate very much indeed the prompt cooperation of your people in bringing this matter to my attention and enabling us to determine the facts in the case.

With kindest personal regards,

Cordially yours,

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