

LIBERTY MUTUAL
INSURANCE COMPANY
HOME OFFICE, BOSTON

PARA SQUARE BUILDING
BOSTON, MASS.

February 19, 1935.

Dr. A. J. Lanza,
Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.,
Metropolitan Building,
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Lanza:

I was pleased to note in the February 9 issue of the American Medical Association Journal, a comment on the publication entitled "Asbestosis" by Lanza-McConnell-Fehnel. I think you know that Mr. Beyer, Mr. Gurney and I are much interested in this question since we have had some severe experience from it including a number of death cases, three of which went to autopsy by Dr. Timothy Leary of Boston. Dr. Leary has not had time as yet to publish any of his pathological findings and (between ourselves) I have been endeavoring for some time to get hold of part of this autopsy material to send to Dr. Gardner in whose hands it would seem to be most useful.

In the meantime, if you already have any reprint copies of your paper, we should be very glad to receive a few copies of it. I note, however, the paper is about to be issued as a Public Health Report.

On another matter: I have been the Chairman of a Sub-Committee of the American Mutual Alliance which recommended financial support to Saranac Laboratory on their basic study in silicosis. As you know, we obtained a grant of \$5,000 a year for a period of three years (our original recommendation was double this amount), the National Bureau made a similar grant and I am advised that Metropolitan Life renewed their own grant.

At the last meeting of this Sub-Committee, we were unanimous in the feeling that any findings from the Saranac Laboratory resulting from the Mutual Alliance grant should be simultaneously released to all three of the supporting organizations. We are now making an official recommendation to our managers to this effect and urge that the National Bureau and Metropolitan Life be officially requested to take similar action.

With kind regards, I remain,

Very truly yours,


S. E. Whiting
Assistant Chief Engineer.

SEW:MP

MEMORANDUM

February 25, 1935

DR. LANZA:

I have read this letter from Mr. Whiting with interest, and quite agree that the results of these findings which we are all financing should naturally be released simultaneously to the supporting organizations. However, I do not know what he means by notifying the managers to this effect. This is not anything that our managers would be familiar with or particularly interested in, except perhaps in a very general way. It presumably might be called to their attention in connection with some general statement that may be issued, if the results of these studies appear in printed form.

Perhaps I do not understand what he has in mind.

Third Vice-President