

MONSANTO CHEMICAL COMPANY

St. Louis 4, Missouri

October 7, 1949

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STATE HEALTH DEPT.
Bureau of Industrial Hygiene

Mr. Paul D. Halley
Acting Director & Industrial Hygienist
State of West Virginia Department of Health
Charleston 5, West Virginia

Dear Mr. Halley:

Mr. Durland has written me concerning your plans to have tests carried out at the Mellon Institute. Our department will certainly be happy to cooperate with you in any manner. As you may know, however, we are sending some of the workers to the Kettering Laboratory at the University of Cincinnati for rather extensive clinical testing, and do not feel prepared to spend any more money in laboratory testing.

I am not sure whether the state is going to defray the expense of carrying out these tests, or whether you are recommending that we do so. I know you realize that we have done everything we can to try to get at the bottom of this affair, but inasmuch as we cannot reproduce the occurrence chemically, I am of the opinion that while the expenditure of money for further laboratory tests on the part of Monsanto might be of importance scientifically, it would not give us any practical return from the viewpoint of treating these injured employees or forestalling such an event in the future.

It might very well be that I have a completely confused idea of what your plans are. I am quite familiar with Dr. Smyth and the Mellon Laboratory, and I am sure their group is very capable. Monsanto's connection, however, is with Dr. Kehoe's group at Kettering, and we are working with them.

We have no objection to having any agency work on this problem, but I don't think we are prepared at present to authorize any further financial expenditure on our part.

Very truly yours

R. Emmet Kelly, M.D.
Medical Director

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