

ELSTON L. BELKNAP, M. D.
231 WEST WISCONSIN AVENUE
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

Sept. 30, 1939

Dr. Robert Kehoe
Kettering Laboratories
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Re: [REDACTED]
vs: Mautz Paint & Varnish Co. -Madison, Wis.

Bill to go to Hardware Mutual Casualty Co.
110 E. Main St.
Madison, Wis.

Dear Dr. Kehoe:

I called your laboratory yesterday afternoon in desperation hoping to ask you if you would be good enough to do a blood lead on an insurance case which had come up suddenly. In your absence, one of your associates was good enough to send on the special needle and tubes for collecting blood and urine. They arrived by air mail this morning and I have collected the samples.

If, when these arrive, you do not feel it advisable to have your laboratory determine the blood and urine lead, I would be glad if you would send them to any commercial laboratory in whom you have confidence for this type of work. I, of course, would much prefer your own laboratory performing the test. If that does not fit in with your established policy, I will be glad to agree to any other method of approach that you suggest. I am enclosing a copy of the brief summary of this case which I also sent with the specimens. This is another case of Dr. Kozelka's suggesting to a physician that a man might have lead poisoning merely on the basis of what he considers abnormal laboratory findings. If he had not put so much stress on the blood lead in this particular case, I would have been tempted to fight it out on the basis of urine lead values alone together with our other negative clinical findings.

I took particular care to collect the blood myself following minutely the printed instructions which your associate sent to us. I am inclined to doubt that Dr. Kozelka took similar precautions.

Your associate tells me that you have had these needles made yourself. I wonder if similar needles are obtainable on the market or just how we might go about obtaining them. If this Ph.D. Kozelka is going to continue making such claims, we may be forced to doing blood leads in self-protection even though I believe with you that the urine lead really gives us more information. It may well be, therefore, that we will take advantage of your generous offer and send our chemist down to your laboratory for a week or two of actual work with your methods.

I was glad to receive your letter some time ago say-

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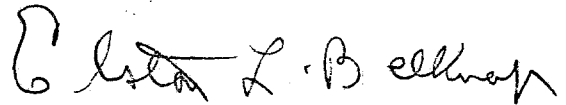
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ing that you had enjoyed the time spent here in Milwaukee including the interlude with my wife and children.

Thanking you for attending to this particular problem in this particular case, and assuring you that I shall endeavor not to impose upon you further in such a sudden manner, I am

Cordially yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Elston L. Belknap". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Elston L. Belknap M.D.

ELB:W

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