

Lead Industries Association

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December 31, 1957

Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.
Director, Kettering Laboratory
University of Cincinnati
Eden Avenue
Cincinnati 19, Ohio

Dear Bob:

Though I had with me at the Cincinnati meeting on December 17th considerable "ammunition" germane to the discussion, portions of it would have been additionally so embarrassing to some of those present that I refrained from passing them around.

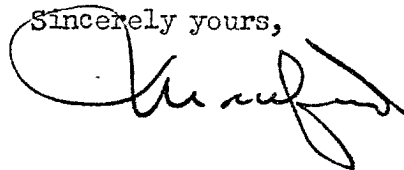
I do, however, feel that you and some others should be cognizant of what we have been up against in this expensive and time-consuming 8-year controversy, and I am therefore sending you herewith a couple of items which I think you have not seen.

Most important of these are the copies of a letter and two enclosures sent by Mr. Fraser to Dr. Elkins on March 3, 1954. In view of the admissions made by Mr. Fraser in this correspondence, amounting to a statement that the paint in only one of the Cincinnati tanks could be identified as red lead and that several were not painted at all, I find it utterly amazing that his report should have been reproduced in 1957, over three years later, with Table 1 (significantly marked "omit" in my enclosure) again included and captioned "seventeen red lead painted water storage tanks."

My other enclosure, a copy of a letter written by Mr. Flanagan to Mr. Keane on September 5th last, illustrates, as did Mr. Doyle's "Information for Ad Hoc Committee," how a misstatement such as that about the Cincinnati tanks lends itself to repetition and consequent misunderstanding.

All in all, this has been about the sorriest experience in my more than 30 years' work in this field. And, in view of my long friendship with such men as Jack Bloomfield, Jim Townsend, Seward Miller, Royd Sayers and Warren Draper, from the last quarter from which it would have been expected.

Sincerely yours,



MB:GP

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Jackson
Mr. Keane

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DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE
Public Health Service
Occupational Health Field Headquarters
1014 Broadway
Cincinnati 2, Ohio

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March 8, 1954

Dr. Hervey B. Elkins
Chief of Laboratory
Mass. Dept. of Labor & Industries
Division of Occupational Hygiene
286 Congress Street
Boston 10, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Elkins:

The program of obtaining repeat samples from the seventeen water storage tanks in the Cincinnati area previously sampled has been quite disappointing. I feel that all but two of these tanks must be rejected as yielding unreliable samples. The attached list of comments on each tank will be self-explanatory. I have examined and climbed upon each of these tanks but only in the cases of Nos. 1 and 3 was I able to see a satisfactory coating of red lead paint on the inside of the tank and to obtain the sample by dipping into the tank. The paint on Tank No. 1 has not been identified but that on Tank No. 3 was identified by both the plant engineer and the manufacturer (National Lead Co.) as "Dutch Boy No. 054" which conforms to the Federal Specification TT 86A as a Type IV paint. Incidentally, I would be glad to send you half gallon aliquots of these samples if you would like to recheck the analyses by the oxalate method.

I am also enclosing a rough draft of the manuscript which I propose as the laboratory section of the paper. If you would like to add a section on your field investigation or intersperse your data in the section on paints, it will be quite agreeable to me. You will probably want to revise the discussion and summary to include the field data. If you can use any of the information that I have deleted from the original paper, please do not hesitate to do so.

I am sorry that I could not be more helpful with the water tank samples, but I hope that you will find that we have sufficient reportable information to be of interest and that we can work out a paper that will be acceptable to all concerned.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ David A. Fraser

David A. Fraser, Chemist
Toxicology Section

Enclosure

KE 0014934

N18571.01

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COMMENTS ON REEXAMINATION OF TANKS LISTED IN TABLE I

- Tank No. 1 - Sample taken. 0.13 mg Pb/l (Last painted - 1947.
(Filled from city water supply
(Water dormant from year to year
- 2 - Water circulated through cooling pans throughout plant - easily contaminated.
- 3 - Sample taken. 0.10 mg Pb/l (Painted 1952 with Nat.
(Red Lead No. 054.
(Filled every two weeks to
(replace evaporation.
(City water used.
- 4 - Tank painted yearly but not using Pb_3O_4 .
- 5 - " " " " " " " "
- 6 - Tank not painted at all.
- 7 - Refused admittance to building.
- 8 - Tank not painted.
- 9 - " " "
- 10 - Pressure tank, water changes hourly.
- 11 - Using paint made by Perry & Derrick, not red lead.
- 12 - " " " " " " " " " "
- 13 - Refused admittance to building.
- 14 - Sample taken but probably from tall unpainted standpipe leading to elevated tank. No other access to tank.
Not reliable sample. 0.00 mg Pb/l.
- 15 - Water from condensers and air scrubber from packing house.
Heavy contamination and treated with corrosion inhibitors.
- 16 - Large city tank lined with asphalt type paint. (Would not be indicative.)
- 17 - " " " " " " " " "

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N18571.02

Table 1. Concentration of lead found in water samples from seventeen red lead painted water storage tanks in the Cincinnati area.

	Volume	Purpose of tank	Water changes	Time since last painted	Cover coat	Source of water	mg Pb/l
1	40,000	sprinkler	no	3 yrs.	no	city	5.815
2	70,000	sprinkler and cooling				well	0.025
3	20,000	sprinkler	no	4 yrs.	no		0.093
4	9,000	air conditioner	no	1 yr.	yes-gray		0.352
5	3,600	air conditioner	no	1 yr.	yes-gray		0.290
6	10,000	sprinkler and toilets	yes	20 yrs.			0.017
7	4,500	sprinkler	no	25-30 yrs.	yes-black	well	0.025
8	6,000	sprinkler	no	11 yrs.		city	0.018
9	6,000	sprinkler	no	11 yrs.		city	0.026
10	1,000	toilets (pressure)	within hour	1½ yrs.	yes-black oil		0.018
11	9,000	toilets etc.	quickly	5 yrs.	yes-ether lac.	city	0.012
12	8,000	toilets etc.	quickly	5 yrs.	yes-ether lac.	city	0.012
13	4,000	sprinkler	no	25-30 yrs.	yes-black	well	4.25
14	65,000	reserve	no	6 yrs.	yes-black asphalt	city	0.028
15	8,400	condenser	weekly		no	city	0.031
16	300,000	reserve and const.press. all purposes	daily(?)	4 yrs.full 3 mo. spot	yes-lubricant	city	0.048
17	500,000	reserve and const.press. all purposes	daily(?)	3 yrs.	yes-lubricant	city	0.033

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