

March 18, 1944

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Dr. W. B. Hutchinson,
Willard Storage Battery Company,
246 East 131st Street,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Hutchinson:

I am sending you herewith reports on [redacted] and [redacted] the former being the result on a sample of blood and the latter on a sample of urine. I am not quite sure why a blood sample was sent in one instance and a urine sample in another. It would seem the better part of wisdom if blood and urine had been obtained on each man, since we should then have been able to check one against the other so as to give some check on the factor of possible contamination in the process of collection. Moreover, we have had no letter or any other information on [redacted]

I would assume from the scanty information available on [redacted] that the results on the urine in his case is a reasonable expression of his probable lead exposure. It would appear that his exposure has been sufficient to justify the diagnosis of lead intoxication if the clinical picture suggests that conclusion.

In the case of [redacted], we have no information, except the analytical result on the blood. This is just at the border line of normal results, and it could indicate slight and hygienically insignificant lead exposure or none at all of occupational origin. The lack of information on the urine makes me somewhat guarded in the interpretation of this result, chiefly because I have no way of telling the nature of this man's presumable lead exposure or when it was brought to an end, if indeed it has been discontinued.

This brings me to the main reason for writing a letter rather than simply sending you the reports together with an invoice to cover the cost of our work. Without being nastily critical, I think I should point out to you that our work on your patients is not giving us any useful information. I wish to do everything I can, and particularly at this time, I should like to put our services at the disposal of industry for the sake of protecting their workmen in every way that is possible. However, our function is not being properly fulfilled when we carry out lead analyses for a fee, and I have no intention of continuing

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services of that kind for anyone anywhere.

Just to bring you up to date on the status of this work, let me say that we have had no clinical information worthy of the name, on [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and on the two men on whom reports are given herewith. For this reason it is not only impossible for us to give you our best advice, but we are being placed in the position of carrying on clinical diagnostic work, which it is not our intention to do. I realize the difficulty of getting records and information together and into the mail in these trying times. I can assure you it is just as difficult for us to keep our records and data straight and to report them properly and promptly. Therefore, without any wish to be disagreeable, I must insist that it will be necessary for us to have adequate clinical information on all of the cases that come to our attention through your hands, or we shall have to discontinue any service on your behalf. We responded to the communication from Mr. B. E. Spratt, by sending out the necessary containers for the collection of urine samples some days ago. We shall not continue this policy further, unless our requirements are satisfactorily dealt with in the future. Moreover, we are in the habit of dealing in these matters with physicians, and with all due respect to Mr. Spratt, whom I have no wish to offend and whom I take to be a layman, I cannot consider clinical information of the type he recently forwarded on Roy Lee as either being worth his time or ours.

I trust you will not think I am going out of my way to be disagreeable, but I am afraid we are too busy with immediately urgent matters to carry on work of this sort which cannot give the results that are necessary in order to make our efforts of maximum usefulness.

Cordially yours,

Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.

RAK ef

Enc.

C. C. Mr. B. E. Spratt,
Willard Storage Battery Company,
246 East 131st Street,
Cleveland, Ohio.

KE 0018919

[REDACTED]

Sample of blood received from the Willard Storage Battery Company, Cleveland, Ohio, for lead analysis.

Blood

Analysis Number = 44A-1172

	<u>Spectrographic</u>	<u>Dithizone</u>
Grams	6.6	7.7
Mg. Pb/100 g.	0.045	0.05

Sample Received: 3-13-44

Sample Reported: 3-15-44


Sample of urine received from the Willard Storage Battery
Company, Cleveland, Ohio, for lead analysis.

Urine

Analysis Number = 44A-1171

Volume = 73 ml.

Mg. Pb/Liter = 0.22

Sample Received: 3-13-44

Sample Reported: 3-15-44