

mind that no iron-clad rules can be laid down prescribing exactly what events constitute accidents and what do not. An event that is an accident at one time may not be at another. For instance, being struck by lightning may be an accident. But if a man was to intentionally do that which would likely cause lightning to strike him, and he was struck by it, the occurrence could hardly be called an accident. The same rule applies to nearly every conceivable set of facts—they may or they may not amount to an accident.

*Must be a specific event.*—To constitute an accident, a happening must be capable of being described as having occurred on a particular date; it must be an event, as distinguished from a gradual growth the commencement of which is uncertain: *Marsshall v. East Holywell Coal Co.*, 93 L.T. Rep. 360, 21 T.L. Rep. 494, 7 W.C. Cas. 19. Thus, the contraction of lead poisoning from the continual use of red and white lead, by absorbing it through the pores, or inhaling the poison into the lungs, or by eating food to which small particles have adhered, is not an accident, as the development of the disease is a gradual process, generally taking considerable time: *Steel v. Cammell, etc., Co.*, 93 L.T. Rep. 357, (1905) 2 K.B. 232, 21 T.L. Rep. 490, 74 L.J. K.B. 610, 53 Wkly. Rep. 612, 7 W.C. Cas. 19. So, an abscess in the knee gradually developed by kneeling while at work, is not due to an accident: *Gorley v. Backworth Collieries*, 93 T.L. Rep. 360, 21 T.L. Rep. 494, 7 W.C. Cas. 19.

In *Martin v. Manchester Corporation*, 106 L.T. Rep. 741, 28 T.L. Rep. 344, 76 J.P. 251, it was held that in order for an injured workman to recover compensation on the theory that the injury was due to an accident, he must satisfy the court that there was a particular time, place, and circumstance in which the injury happened. In that case the workman was employed as a porter at a scarlet fever hospital, and among his duties was that of cleaning out the mortuary. He had an attack of influenza and returned to work on March 22, 1912. On April 1, and for several days prior thereto he was out and in the fever ward, and on April 1 he cleaned out the mortuary. There was