ETHYL GASOLINE CORPORATION

CHRYSLER BUILDING
135 EAST 42ND STREET

NEW YORK

GRAHAM EDGAR
DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

July 10, 1935.

Dr. Robert A. Kehoe
University of Cincinnati
College of Medicine
Cincinnati
Ohio

My dear Kehoe:

Since talking with you this morning, I have re-read carefully the recent article from the American Medical Journal and also the Normal Lead and other papers.

I note that in the article in the American Medical Association there is no attempt to point out or explain the discrepancy between the earlier results which are referred to and those given in the particular paper. I don't doubt that you may be right in your explanation of this discrepancy but no explanation seems altogether reasonable. Your average of 0.012 by the chemical method and 0.038 by the spectrographic method seem unbelievably low as compared with all previous data.

It hardly seems credible to me that accidental contamination could have occurred in such a large number of cases ~~as~~ in previous data. Has there been any drop in the use of lead for sprays on fruit in the last few years? It is at least disturbing to find results about one-fifth of the former results as an average. Furthermore, if the recent figures of 0.012 are correct then the Mexican-Indian data in which apparently all precautions against contamination were taken seem out of line as far as urinary lead is concerned although not as far as fecal lead.

Looking at the data on Page 316 of the Normal Lead reprints, it seems incredible that the results from medical students down to tetraethyl lead workers could be due to contamination of sample. I cannot help feeling somewhat uncertain about the whole picture at present.

Thanks very much for your courtesy in calling me in the matter. I wish that we had the opportunity of discussing it at some length.

Very truly yours,

Graham Edgar

Graham Edgar.

GE/LRJ