

December 10, 1935

Dr. Alfred Friedlander
Dean, College of Medicine
University of Cincinnati
Cincinnati, Ohio

Dear Dr. Friedlander:

In accordance with our telephone conversation of a few days ago, I am writing you as to the attitude taken by the original donors and supporters of this laboratory toward the experimental program referred to in my recent memorandum. In this connection I think it would be well if I state briefly the position of the Ethyl Gasoline Corporation as the chief source of the financial support of the laboratory since its founding. From the nature of the problem in public health which derives from the commercial activities of Ethyl Gasoline Corporation, it has been essential that a very careful study be made of the sources of lead absorption in the American community. This Corporation having been duly advised, has recognized this problem and has financed extensive investigations. It was recognized that the facts elucidated by such investigations would come to be useful in other industries and in other fields. It is only proper that support for certain phases of our general program of investigation should be provided by beneficiaries other than Ethyl Gasoline Corporation. The officials of the latter corporation, without feeling that they have borne an unfair burden in the past, regard it as only natural that contributions toward this work in the future should come from other sources as well as from themselves. They welcome the enlargement of our experimental program and they are pleased by what they regard as the natural development of the work of the laboratory.

It should be understood that very little of the work of this laboratory has involved any direct commercial benefit to Ethyl Gasoline Corporation. It was not their expectation that direct benefit should accrue to them and it was certainly never the point of view of the Director of the Laboratory that there should be such direct benefits. Therefore, there is no implication that the undertaking of new or additional experimental work should in any way conflict with any direct interest which the Ethyl Corporation has had in the activities of the laboratory. I am sure it is the feeling of their executives that while they have obtained useful information for their own purposes, they have also

Dr. Friedlander

done something of a public service in founding and in supporting this laboratory. It is their wish and their expectation that what they have started will continue to maintain itself through its general usefulness to themselves, to other similar groups, and to the community at large.

As to the other original donors, the Frigidaire Corporation and E. I. duPont de Nemours and Company have no privileged relationship to this laboratory. They know they can submit problems for study if they are acceptable to the Director of the laboratory and if they will defray the cost. They regard their agreement with the University as concluded satisfactorily with the completion and inauguration of the laboratory. They call upon us for technical advice from time to time, and in so doing they expect to pay the customary fees. Where such requests are within the proper province of our technical staff, the advice or assistance is given and the fee goes into a cash fund which is at the disposal of the Director of the Laboratory. Any work for them which might involve an extensive experimental study would be brought to the attention of the University authorities through the regular channels.

To be specific, the project which was the subject of my memorandum was discussed in some detail with the officials of the Ethyl Gasoline Corporation, and they have approved it heartily as a proper development of the laboratory's work. I should point out, however, that these officials do not feel that they have any right whatever to decide or to influence the activity of the laboratory except in so far as their financial support is a factor in determining the size of our experimental program.

Sincerely yours,

RAK:13

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.