

September 11, 1942.

Mr. T. J. Sullivan, General Manager,
Gulf Oil Refining Company,
Gulf Building,
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Dear Mr. Sullivan:

This Laboratory is concerned with the investigation of various methods of handling drinking water in emergencies. In view of the fact that it may be necessary to transport such water in drums, tank trucks, and tank cars that have been used for gasoline, we have been investigating means of making such water fit for human consumption. We have reached a point where it is necessary to have direct information from the field, and, therefore, we have been looking about for the means of making some observations on the available equipment. Having experienced some difficulties through governmental avenues, we have resorted to our associates in the Ethyl Corporation, and in company with Mr. Siebenthaler, we have dealt with Mr. A. Niehenke, your superintendent at the Hooven, Ohio refinery. Mr. Niehenke has offered to make available to us a tank car that has been used in leaded gasoline service, provided we can obtain authorization for him to tie up such a car for 24 to 48 hours. We realize fully the seriousness of this at this time, but on the other hand, we believe that this information is urgently needed, and if it is possible we should like to have the opportunity to do the work. We should appreciate it very much indeed, if you would give this matter your consideration, if you would instruct Mr. Niehenke accordingly, and if you would let us know of your decision in the matter.

I think I should point out to you that I have written Mr. McEldowny today, asking for his assistance in enabling us to study some gasoline drums at your local bulk plant. We distinctly do not want to impose upon either of you, nor do we wish to take advantage of our relation to Ethyl Corporation and its customers to ask for unreasonable favors. We realize, however, that in these times it is necessary for us to co-operate as closely as possible in trying to get the answer to some of our problems. Therefore, we are using such means as we can.

Sincerely yours,

Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.