

Mr. B. B. Turner

Baton Rouge

H. A. Beatty

Detroit

Air Pollution from Automobiles -
A.M.A. Meeting

October 13, 1953

The Automobile Manufacturers Association called a meeting today, at which they will discuss forming a committee to deal with questions and problems arising in connection with air pollution from automobile exhaust gases. This is prompted by recent developments in the Los Angeles area, including a suggestion that installation of the Houdry catalytic oxidizer might be required for all vehicles there. (The Wall Street Journal will carry a story to the effect that this equipment has now been developed to the point of practicality and can be installed on a car for \$50.)

The Asst. Secretary of the A.M.A. phoned Charlie Gambrill today and asked him to attend, and the request was relayed to me. I talked to John Campbell, who is going to represent GM, and he concurred with my feeling that we had better keep Ethyl out of the picture at this stage. Later, if our data or help is needed, requests for it can be made through official channels. So far, our product has not been brought into the picture; the hydrocarbon content of the gas is the subject of concern. Accordingly, I took the responsibility of telling Charlie not to go to the meeting. John Campbell will keep us advised of the developments.

HAB

H. A. Beatty

HAB:lt

cc: Mr. R. A. Kehoe
Mr. J. B. Macauley
Mr. B. Bartholomew
Mr. J. B. Taylor, Jr.

KE 0004278