

Dr. Willard S. Mackle

Shell Oil Co.

EB mch 203

file

copy sent E.O. Jones letter 1/20

Mr. A. J. Baldwin

Telephone room

New York

J. T. Beckwith

Sharon, Mass.

Shell Oil Co. of Canada
Montreal East, Que.

entered storage tank for cleaning
June 10, 1947

Tank Cleaning Case

Dear Jim:

I arrived here this morning for the continuation of the cleaning of tank No. 43, 55,000 bbl., which H. C. Moseley had observed last week. This tank is used for blending.

As I understand it the crew started hosing the tank from the outside beginning June 2nd, at the same time an air mover was put in operation at one of the side manholes and this device is supposed to have been in continuous operation until yesterday, June 9th. The 3 roof manholes have been open since the work started on this tank. On Friday, June 6th, in the afternoon Bert Hayes entered the tank with H. Cagne to take gas tests with the explosive meter. I was informed that they were in the tank without air line masks for 10 min. approx. J. Skorupa entered the tank for approx. 3 minutes to bring some paper used in testing for Hydrogen Sulphide. He wore no mask.

It appears that there has just been a reorganization of the Safety Dept., Loyd Jenkins who formerly was in charge is now embarking on job training work. His place is being taken by Hayes, who was not thoroughly familiar with the Hazards of Leaded Tanks. I noticed that the men have not been wearing separate or company underwear, which was corrected immediately. I have reviewed the correct tank cleaning practices with the new Safety Dept. and given them copies of the API bulletin on Cleaning Gasoline Tanks. In addition I have left 12 copies of our T/C Precautions written in French, since all of the employees are of French decent.

I have made arrangements with A. Mahoney, Asst. Supt. and also A. O. West, in charge of refined products, to check on any absence from work or signs of illness among the three men in question. And to advise us immediately. Mahoney and West stated that they had been informed that Mr. Moseley stopped the men as they were about to enter the tank unprotected, and that no exposure had occurred.

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