

PRO/108

Britannic House,
Finsbury Circus,
LONDON, E.C.2.

18th April 1945.

Dear Fossett,

Lead Poisoning.

I had a letter in hand to you, covering some additional data on the urine contents of operators engaged in the filling sheds at Abadan, when your letter of the 17th instant arrived, covering Dr. Kehoe's reply on the previous set of clinical figures that we sent you.

You will notice from the attached data, which has been extracted from a recent Abadan memorandum that, despite rigid precautions to prevent contamination, abnormally high lead contents are still being reported on urine samples.

Abadan are concerned to account for these results, which are occurring with undue frequency, and are about to investigate other possible sources of lead exposure connected with the handling of the "terne" plate used in the manufacture of the 4 gallon containers.

This proposal is in line with Dr. Kehoe's suggestion that, if contamination can be excluded as a reason for the high figures, then the inference must be that dangerous conditions of lead exposure are still persisting somewhere in the plants where the men are working. In this connection it should of course be emphasised that none of the men in question has shewn the slightest symptoms of lead intoxication. Nevertheless the existing system for the control of the lead hazard instituted by Abadan cannot be considered entirely satisfactory while one of the main checks, namely the lead content of the urine of the workers, continues to give anomalous results.

I shall be forwarding Dr. Kehoe's letter to Abadan at an early date and will let you have their comments in due course.

Meantime when next you communicate with Dr. Kehoe will you please convey to him our keen appreciation of his help in this and allied subjects and assure him that we are only too pleased to co-operate with him in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) C.A. Harrison.

H. Fossett Esq.,
The Associated Ethyl Company Limited,
Artillery House, Artillery Row,
LONDON. S.W.1.