ETHYL GASOLINE CORPORATION

CHRYSLER BUILDING
405 LEXINGTON AVENUE

SAFETY COMMITTEE
O. B. LEWIS
CHAIRMAN

NEW YORK November 3, 1937

Dr. R. A. Kehoe
Kettering Laboratory of Applied Physiology
College of Medicine
Eden Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Kehoe:

I was recently speaking with one of the safety engineers of Socony Vacuum, who was very particular that his name not be mentioned, in regard to an incident which I will repeat here.

He states that in 1931 or 1932, two men were cleaning their Inwood, Long Island leaded storage tank. Air line equipment was used until the tank was comparatively clean, when sawdust was used to dry the remaining moisture from the floor. The men went in without masks to shovel the sawdust out. They became sick and after about a week of sleeplessness and loss of apetite their Dr. A. E. Hoag reported that they had lead poisoning. They were so sure of this they paid the men extra compensation above what they would normally be allowed under the Workmen's Compensation Act. The two men recovered after about three weeks. You probably have Dr. Hoag's address, but he is located at 777 West End Avenue, New York City.

For some reason, Socony seemed anxious to keep this case entirely secret. I am wondering how many similar cases of illness may have occurred that, as far as I know, have never been brought to our attention. It is possible you do have information on this case, in which event there is probably nothing more to be done.

Very truly yours,

O. B. Lewis

W:GCL
cc: Dr. G. Edgar
Mr. John Schaefer
Mr. H. W. Kaley

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