

March 10, 1941

Mr. R. H. Ebbets
International Petroleum Company
Talara, Peru
South America

Dear Mr. Ebbets:

Under separate cover I am sending you, as I promised, reprints describing the methods of analysis for lead which we are using, together with two booklets which present in a rather comprehensive way the information on methods of collecting dust samples. I think you will gather from these that this is a rather complicated problem and, perhaps, a considerable amount of work will have to be done before you can assure yourself that you are obtaining adequate information with respect to the potential exposure in your can manufacturing plant. It is not quite as complicated as it seems. However, it is a question in my mind as to how much money you want to spend on this problem. Perhaps I can give you a few suggestions which will enable you to decide which means of approach to the problem you wish to use.

In dealing with finely divided lead fume, as you will need to do in your plant, the electrostatic precipitation of the contents of the air will be your most efficient method. Accordingly, if you feel that you will have ample use for the equipment there or elsewhere, enough to justify the expense, I believe that your problem will be very greatly simplified by the purchase of the equipment supplied for this purpose by the Mine Safety Appliances Company.

(See attached sheet for Catalog No. and Prices)

It is possible that you will be able to set up apparatus out of your present laboratory facilities which will work in the same way, and which will not involve the purchase of this special equipment. Otherwise you will find their equipment very convenient and useful in this type of work. We use it all the time in our plant studies, and we prefer it to the impinger method of collection since it is much more efficient in dealing with finely divided material. In any case this is the best information I can give you and I believe that out of it you will be able to decide what is

advisable to do. If I can be of any further assistance to you, do not hesitate to call upon me.

I realize that I am being very tardy in writing to you, but actually I have been waiting to obtain copies of the two bulletins. Otherwise I should have written to you long ago, not only for the purpose of sending you the information, but chiefly for the purpose of expressing my appreciation of the pleasant time we had together in Talara and of the hospitality so graciously extended to me by yourself and Mrs. Ebbets. Altogether it was one of the most pleasant experiences in my entire trip and I sincerely hope that I shall have an opportunity to meet you both again, and to visit with you. Perhaps we can even find a cocktail which may be nearly as good as your Pisco Sour.

With kindest personal regards, and sincere good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

RAK:is

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.