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Tetra Ethyl Lead Plant
August 27, 1931.

Dr. W. E. Deuel:

A series of air tests conducted in "G" Plant show that the hazard of lead exposure remains about the same as at the time of the last report. The only notable exception is the fourth floor of the main building which shows little or no lead was present during the test which was conducted over a period of 48 hours. This is indeed gratifying and is attributed largely to careful operating. The exposure on the first and fifth floors is apparently not very extensive, being confined in the first case to the pumps; and in the second, to the charging heads, all of which are adequately ventilated, since it is necessary to go into the air duct itself to detect the presence of lead. The still floor exposure is as usual the greatest in the main building, being due apparently to relatively high concentrations persisting for a short time. The greatest single source of trouble in this respect seems to be manhole covers which sometimes leak during the start of the distillation. This problem is receiving special attention, and it is certain that the hazard can be eliminated.

The alloy building still is the greatest source of general lead exposure in the plant. There are few places, if any, in the entire building that can show consistently negative lead tests. This is due to the presence of dust almost everywhere, as has been stated in previous reports. Progress toward reducing this hazard has been made over a long period of time, and further progress can be accomplished by extensive, as well as intensive, house-keeping. A new type of alloy grinder feed has been installed, but it was not in operation at the time of this series of air tests. The next group of air samples will include a comprehensive study of conditions in the vicinity of this new device.

In general, it is felt that the equipment and the ventilating system is quite adequate, and that future progress lies in adhering rigidly to the principles of careful operation and good housekeeping.

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1 liter per min. Note: Air passed thru apparatus at approximately 6" from floor unless noted otherwise.

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