

July 18, 1946

Dr. R. A. Kehoe
Kettering Laboratory of Applied Physiology
University of Cincinnati
Eden Avenue
Cincinnati 19, Ohio

Dear Dr. Kehoe:

Very many thanks for your letter of July 12 and the very helpful pointers contained therein.

I have in mind at present the problem of sending large quantities of Fluid in drums to the Persian Gulf. The large number of leaking drums and the short useful life of drums force me to believe that some improvement may be gained through the use of the larger containers.

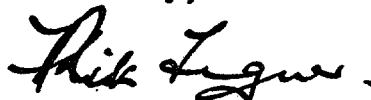
I very much doubt whether we could have these large containers fabricated in the United Kingdom just at present, but I wish to examine the details which would be involved should we consider the advantages worth while. Before making any decisions, I shall, of course, send you all the information so that you may be in a position to judge of the methods proposed.

I appreciate your comments relating to the cleaning of weigh tank installations and fear that this is a problem we must tackle right away, since a limited number of our customers wish to use drum to weigh tank installations. I sincerely hope that your premise that the glycerine blanket obviates the fire hazard proves correct and would be grateful if you would keep me posted on your future findings.

Please tell Mrs. Kehoe not to bother to reply to my letter. The thought is much appreciated.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,



F. M. S. TEGNER

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July 12, 1946

Mr. F. M. S. Tegner,
c/o Mr. O. B. Lewis,
Ethyl Corporation,
Chrysler Building,
New York City 17.

Dear Rick:

In connection with your letter of July 3, I can certainly see the advantage in the use of bulk blending methods at a number of the points at which large quantities of Fluid and gasoline must be handled. Moreover, I should think that the technical problems involved in the transport and filling and emptying of storage tanks, could be solved without too much difficulty. For example, I see no reason to suppose that Ethyl Fluid could not be introduced into a tank of considerable size, which then could be picked up by a suitable crane and deposited in the proper place on the deck of a cargo vessel, especially a tanker. By the same means this tank could be removed from the vessel, placed upon a suitable conveyance, and moved to the mixing plant at which point it could be emptied into the weight tank. It is even possible that a special tank ship or ships could be developed for this purpose, but I should think that these would be so small as to be impracticable except where the distance to be covered was rather small.

I have only one reservation of any significance in connection with the use of facilities of this type in far away places at the present time. The cleaning of these weigh tanks is a very ugly job. I am not sure that you have seen one of these in the process of being cleaned, but if you have, you will recognize that it is no job for a novice, even with the best of equipment. I trust that we shall be able to perfect the methods of cleaning these tanks, and I am even more hopeful that the means will be developed that will make it possible to avoid the necessity of cleaning them. If we can prevent the decomposition of tetraethyl lead in the Fluid to a sufficient extent, these tanks will not require cleaning. If I were in your place, I would not be disposed to encourage the use of this system of blending until you are well satisfied that this aspect of the problem can be handled satisfactorily.

There is one other aspect of this problem that deserves consideration by you and your associates. Recently in the course of cleaning a series of these tanks we have had two fires. Neither of them has given rise to serious results, but the potentialities of this situation from the point of view of the presence in sludge

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Mr. F. M. S. Tegner - (2) - July 12, 1946

of spontaneously flammable material are so serious as to justify our most careful consideration at this time. On account of these difficulties I have done everything I could to encourage the most thoroughgoing investigation of this entire problem. It is our present opinion that this situation will not recur in the case of weigh tanks that have been installed and put into use since the days of blanketing with glycerine. If I were sure of that fact, I would not even mention this phase of the subject. On the other hand, all of us must take into account the fact that certain characteristics of the decomposition products of tetraethyl lead must be regarded with great caution. We do not want to set up situations which will give rise to new difficulties for your group, who must in the nature of things, work against serious obstacles. I have no doubt that these problems can be solved, Frankly I should prefer to see that they are pretty well solved before you become too much involved in them.

Thanks very much for your personal note. Mrs. Kehoe has not had a chance to reply for the reason that she did not even see your note to her until a day or two ago. I mentioned the receipt of it to her, but did not recognize that it was addressed to her until your second note to me came. I should like to assure you for both of us that it was a real pleasure to have you with us. I shall be in New York on the 24th, if the Co-ordination Meeting is not postponed. I should hope that I might see you at that time.

Sincerely yours,

Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.

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July 3, 1946

Dr. R. A. Kehoe
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Eden Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio

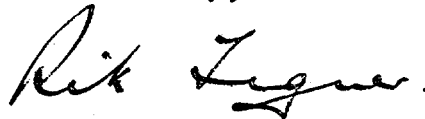
Dear Dr. Kehoe:

Undoubtedly some of Associated Ethyl's customers, for example those in the Persian Gulf, Caribbean, and Dutch East Indies, would prefer to use bulk blending methods than continue with drum blending, and I can foresee the possible advantages of shipping Fluid to such refineries in bulk at some future date.

I should very much appreciate receiving your initial reaction to this idea, before starting any work on planning containers in which Fluid could be satisfactorily shipped, unloading facilities, etc. Naturally, any developments, which we may conceive in this connection, would be submitted to you for approval before being introduced.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,



F. M. S. TEGNER

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