

June 17, 1940

Dr. Carlos Ottolina
Municipal A Reducto 64
Caracas, Venezuela
South America

Dear Doctor Ottolina:

In reply to your letter of June 6th concerning the use at mixing plants of men who are engaged in the handling of caustic soda and lead oxide, I wish to call your attention to Paragraph 5 on Page 3 of the "Informacion General Para Medicos Consultores de la Ethyl Export Corporation" with which I supplied you quite some time ago. You will find here a specific account of this group of employees whom we have not wished to include among the mixing personnel. The lead exposure of these workmen is unpredictable and in some instances no precautions are taken. This may or may not be true in the case of the men at the Caripito plant, but we do not like to take chances on this type of exposure. We are able to assure ourselves that if the men work carefully with the right kind of equipment, no cases of poisoning will develop in connection with the mixing operations. We can not be sure of this at all in connection with the other refinery operations that involve exposure to lead and, therefore, we wish to have no confusing source of lead exposure.

May I suggest that you examine carefully the memorandum of instructions which I sent you, since many, if not most of the questions which arise in connection with the plants, are answered therein.

Very truly yours,

RAK:is

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.