

CC Mr. H. W. Fisher
Dr. R. A. Kehoe ✓
Mr. O. B. Lewis
Mr. A. P. Stover

February 23, 1940

Mr. O. V. Tracy
Standard Oil Development Company
26 Broadway
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Tracy:

Our Safety Division has received the following report concerning practices on handling Ethyl Fluid at the Hydro Engineering and Chemical Company laboratory at the Baton Rouge refinery.

"While at the Standard refinery I made it a point to inspect the hood of the Hydro Engineering and Chemical Company, where Fluid is handled for experimental purposes. It has been some time since I have been able to inspect this hood, due to the fact that on my past quarterly inspection report visits, Dr. Brown, who is in charge of this department, would not grant permission for me to inspect this hood. Dr. Brown had never refused me, in so many words, but would be unable to make an appointment with me, thus making it impossible for me to gain access to this hood. This week however I worked through a different channel, and was able to inspect this hood, in company with Mr. Tregre, who handles the Fluid. The three partly used cans of Fluid on hand were in the compartment under the hood, as were some ten empty cans. There was definitely a trace of Fluid as you entered the room. I had the partly filled cans placed in the hood, with instructions that they should always be kept in the hood, and the empty cans buried in some four foot of ground, at a point where they would not be disturbed, burning was out of the question due to refinery regulations."

As you know, we feel it definitely our responsibility to see that Ethyl Fluid is properly handled at any place strictly in accordance with the rules and regulations of our Medical Department and apparently, from the above report, there is some infraction of these rules.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Stover at Baton Rouge with the suggestion that he go in to see Cecil Brown who undoubtedly would be willing to cooperate in this matter. Meanwhile, a letter to Dr. Brown either from you or Mr. Fisher would be helpful toward the end of having this matter receive proper attention.

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Mr. O. V. Tracy

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If you would care to, please write Mr. Stover directly on this matter outlining to ~~me~~ what steps you would suggest as to the procedure for him to use.

Very truly yours,

J. H. Schaefer