

ETHYL GASOLINE CORPORATION

CHRYSLER BUILDING
405 LEXINGTON AVENUE

SAFETY DIVISION

NEW YORK February 23, 1940

ROBERT A. KEHOE, M.D.
CHAIRMAN

OSCAR B. LEWIS
MANAGER

RUSSELL SCHELL
ASSISTANT MANAGER

Dr. R. A. Kehoe

Dear Dr. Kehoe:

Mr. Shepard of Socony Vacuum called me up this morning and discussed the Proportioneer installation at E. St. Louis. He stated his people were very well satisfied with its operation and estimates were being made up to put in this type equipment at other points. I told him that this was not in accordance with our agreement but he said he wished to discuss the matter anyway and would like to have your views on the subject.

A quotation from Mr. Crane's letter of February 17th will bring you up to date with our plans for checking this installation at E. St. Louis:

"With Mr. Thomas I called at the Socony Vacuum plant in E. St. Louis with the intention of picking the first group of samples in connection with the proportioneer installation. The plant was running but their new Houdray plant was down making it impossible to pick samples that would be of any value. Mr. Dorion also asked that we wait at least one more week before starting our sampling program as they were having some difficulty in keeping the output of their new refinery unit at a steady flow and that the production was exceeding their expectation which would necessitate certain changes in the proportioneer equipment.

"The entire gearing of the poise drive mechanism is such that the capacity of the proportioneer is 3 cc per gallon at a maximum flow of 300 gallons per minute at the venturi nozzle. For greater flows than 300 GPM it is impossible to retract the poise sufficient to keep the beam in balance. They now find that the new Houdray plant is going beyond the maximum yield anticipated and that they will have a flow from their treating plant ranging up to 450 GPM. This means that they will be forced to install sprocket wheels in the poise drive linkage of a high gear ratio in

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Dr. R. A. Kehoe

-2-

February 23, 1940

order to retract the poise faster. It throws off their present calibrations and charts for the control of the variable speed changer dial.

"After going over the plant in detail Mr. Thomas and myself agreed on the procedure to be followed and the making of samples etc. We have made arrangements to meet in E. St. Louis on March 4th to pick the first group of samples. After that we will alternate every two weeks in securing them."

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "O. V. Lewis".

W:GCL

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