

December 16, 1939

Personal and Confidential

Mr. John Schaefer
Ethyl Gasoline Corporation
Chrysler Building
New York City
New York

Dear John:-

I tried to call you on Friday but missed you, and I am writing this so it will reach you on Monday.

You will be very much interested in knowing that after having made a careful study of the air analyses and the data on the excreta of workmen for both the Deepwater and the Baton Rouge plants, we have come to the conclusion that there is no point in making the changes in the Deepwater plant which have been recommended with the idea of improving hygienic conditions. The information which we dug out is very important and very clear in its implications, and it is quite apparent to us that the still enclosures at Baton Rouge have not materially influenced the lead absorption of workmen on that floor. It is equally apparent that the lead exposure of alloy workers in the Baton Rouge plant is as great as that in the Deepwater Plant. There may be reasons for making these changes from an operating standpoint, but there is no evidence at the present time which would justify a change from a hygienic point of view.

We are taking up these matters in detail with Drs. Gehrman and Evans, and with Stecker and anyone else he may choose to call in on the discussion. Before discussing it with them, we would appreciate it if you would keep the information here presented as confidential. I pass it on to you promptly and before our conference with the DuPont people for the reason that I know you will be under some pressure to authorize the mechanical and structural changes which have been recommended. This should not be done until this matter has been thoroughly thrashed out.

No doubt you will hear of our report from Mr. Stecker, and in any case we will keep you fully informed as to the outcome of our discussion. On the other hand I felt you should have this information at

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once for your own guidance.

Sincerely yours,

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Robert A . Kehoe, M.D.