

September 10, 1938

Mr. J. H. Schaefer
Ethyl Gasoline Corporation
Chrysler Building
New York City
New York

Dear John:-

During the period in which I was in Italy, I had a conference with the physician in charge of hygienic matters in the Ministry of Corporations. In the course of our conversation I promised to supply him with as complete information as is possible on the subject of the recommended means of control of the hazards associated with the manufacture and distribution of Ethyl Fluid and its blending with gasoline. Accordingly I prepared a memorandum, a copy of which I am enclosing, for your information and for such use as you may wish to make of it. This memorandum is being translated into Italian and will be sent to Dr. Didonna with a letter from me and with a further letter from Bevan, together with certain enclosures of our regulations. In discussing the matter further Bevan and I came to the conclusion that it would be of the utmost usefulness in solving the present difficult situation in Italy if we could provide Dr. Didonna with drawings representing characteristic types of equipment in the various parts of the lead plant. I do not think it would be necessary or wise to supply him with detailed drawings of a lead plant such as are furnished for the purpose of building such plants. However it seems to me it would be possible to make certain drawings which would convey the idea of the type of equipment which had to be used in relation to hygienic consideration, accompanying these drawings by such skeleton specifications as would indicate the necessities of safety in relation to such articles. I wonder if it would be possible for you to prepare or have prepared such drawings which Dr. Didonna could use as the basic requirements for the general purposes of constructing lead manufacturing plants.

The purpose of this memorandum and of the drawings to which I refer is to make certain that any further lead plants which are constructed in Italy should correspond fairly closely to our type of plant and will, therefore, give proper consideration to questions of safety. It seems quite apparent that there will be manufacturing plants in Italy other than those built under our supervision. If this is to be the case, I think we should do everything in our power to see that such plants are properly built. It is

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It is conceivable that the ultimate effect of putting proper information and specification in the hands of the Ministry of Corporations in Italy will be that other manufacturing companies will be discouraged because of what might be regarded by them as the excessive cost of constructing plants along the lines required by the Ministry. This, of course, from my point of view would be merely incidental result, but if it should turn out that this is the result, it would not be too great a misfortune. I wish, therefore, that you would give this matter your fullest consideration and if you would let me know whether you consider the preparation of such drawings and specifications as feasible and desirable. In this connection you may wish to discuss the matter with Mr. Webb. I have not raised the question with him nor shall I do so until I have received your response.

Very truly yours,

RAK:s

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.