

October 31, 1940

Mr. J. E. Boudreau

Dear Jim:

The subject matter of the attached circular letter was called to our attention by Dr. Machle.

Would you kindly let us have a full report on this situation and what was determined during Mr. Flaa's contact on the Detroit Testing Laboratory.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "H. H. Kelley".

MR
Enc.

cc - Dr. Machle

RE 0022557

Copy for DR. MICHAEL

ETHYL GASOLINE CORPORATION

CHRYSLER BUILDING
405 LEXINGTON AVENUE

NEW-31

NEW YORK October 31, 1940

TO ALL DIVISION MANAGERS

Gentlemen:

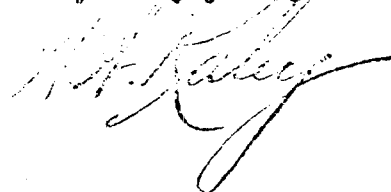
Information has reached us that certain oil companies employ testing laboratories to establish conditions in their tanks before entering them for cleaning. This usually takes the form of determining whether the tank is gas-free.

Recently, one company called in the Detroit Testing Laboratory to make certain analyses. They used a combustible gas indicator and made certain other tests, the exact nature of which we do not know, and when asked about the condition of the tank they assured the management that it was safe for men to enter. The management then asked specifically about the lead hazard and the representative of the Detroit Testing Laboratory assured the manager that the lead hazard was insignificant and the men could go ahead and clean without precautions.

Upon receipt of this information, Mr. Boudreau had one of his men call on the Detroit Testing Laboratory and explain the matter to them. However, it seems that if such information is being given by the various testing laboratories and this is the procedure at any other points, it certainly would be a good idea for our people to contact these testing laboratories and explain precautionary measures to be taken in the entrance of tanks which have contained leaded gasoline.

Therefore, if you have any such major testing laboratories in your division, please have someone inquire as to whether they carry on this type of work and, if so, make sure that they thoroughly understand the nature of the lead hazard.

Very truly yours,



MR

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