

ETHYL GASOLINE CORPORATION

CHRYSLER BUILDING
405 LEXINGTON AVENUE

NEW YORK Nov. 19, 1940

INTER-OFFICE
CORRESPONDENCE

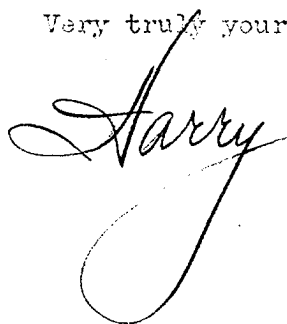
Dr. Willard Machle

Dear Bill:

Attached hereto is a memorandum covering the contact of Mr. Flaa at the Detroit Testing Laboratory.

This has served its purpose with us, but I thought you might be interested in reading it.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Harry", with a long, sweeping underline.

MR

RE 0022555

MEMORANDUM:

Detroit Testing Laboratory Contact

On September 6, 1940, it was necessary for the Dixie Fuel Terminal Company, located on Zug Island in Detroit, Michigan, to call in the Chicago Bridge & Iron Company to repair their tank #8 which had burst open due to a faulty safety pressure valve. This tank has a capacity of 55,000 barrels and has been used to store Koolmotor, Cities Service Oil Company's leaded regular gasoline.

When the tank had been steamed for four days, the Detroit Testing Laboratory was called to check on the combustible gas content to find out whether or not the tank was safe to enter and complete the necessary repairs. Mr. A. H. Mazeika, assistant to Mr. C. E. Greenlaw, manager of the Detroit Testing Laboratory, reported to make the necessary tests and attempted to enter the tank without using a mask or gloves, but was stopped by our Mr. Penrose, who informed him of the hazards. After learning of the danger, Mr. Mazeika did use the mask and gloves but seemed quite reluctant and treated the matter very lightly.

After hearing about the above incident, I called at the Detroit Testing Laboratory where, in the absence of Mr. Greenlaw, I contacted Mr. Mazeika, his assistant who incidentally does all of the testing, and explained further the hazards associated with the entrance of a tank which had stored a leaded gasoline. Mr. Mazeika, after hearing the complete story, realized his ignorance in the matter and promised to take the necessary precautions in making future tests.

On receipt of Mr. Kaley's letter, I had intended to call back at the Laboratory but felt that it would be better if someone such as our Mr. Earl Bartholomew, would call on the owner, Dr. Putnam, and explain our Safety Program and request his cooperation. To complete this contact, Mr. Bartholomew had Mr. Julian Frey call Dr. Putnam, who was very cooperative and promised that in the future his men would work with us in every detail.

Signed

I. E. Flaa
I. E. Flaa

IEF:hb
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