

November 29, 1950

Air Mail

Mr. C. L. Risso-Gill,
The Associated Ethyl Company Ltd.,
Avda Pte. Roque Saenz Pena, 710,
Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Dear Charlie:

It has really been a long time since I have written to you, and I feel very much as though I should get in touch with you for personal, as well as business reasons. As you are probably aware, I was in London and various other places, in the interests of Associated Ethyl, this summer, and therefore there are certain reasons for communicating with you. In addition, the last year has seen the entrance of Ethyl Corporation into some competitive activity in Venezuela, and prior to that the Du Pont organization has entered into the picture in more than one place. Consequently, I feel the necessity of exchanging information. Since I act in an advisory capacity in all of these relationships, including the Du Pont situation, I have more than passing interest, quite apart from my sustained interest in the entire problem from an hygienic point of view. Moreover, it may take some time to get the medical situation of Associated Ethyl straightened out in the final form, and meanwhile it is advisable for me to know what goes on. Quite apart from all of these matters, it is much too long since we have seen and talked with each other.

When I was in England Ray Noble handed me a copy of your letter concerning the Spanish translation of "An Appraisal of the Lead Hazard Associated with the Distribution and Use of Gasoline containing Tetraethyl Lead (II) The Occupational Lead Exposure of Filling Station Attendants and Garage Mechanics." I should have replied to this long ago, but, as you may well imagine, I have been swamped ever since my return, and am only now getting around to cleaning up the odds and ends of correspondence.

Under separate cover I am sending you a sheaf of the booklets of this translation. Incidentally I have copies of all of the translations, including thirty-odd copies of the translations in Argentine of Part I of this subject. Of all the other booklets, I have appreciable numbers.

With the entrance of Ethyl Corporation into Venezuela, it became necessary for us to supply placards, booklets of regulations, etc. Insofar as it is possible to do so, I believe that the regulations and placards employed by Ethyl Corporation in South America should be identical or at least substantially identically, with those issued by Associated Ethyl and Du Pont. Otherwise there will certainly be difficulties of an official type. I am not sure that I have copies of the instructions of various kinds issued by Associated

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Ethyl in Spanish, and therefore I would appreciate having some small supply of these, for my own records, and also for use in the connection indicated above. We will have to change the regulations and placard so as to suit the situation of Ethyl Corporation, but otherwise I see no reason why they should not be the same. Any comments or advice, which you may care to give me on this whole situation, will be helpful, since I am sure you realize that all of the difficulties are occasioned by this strange situation. You need not hesitate to address me personally concerning any matters that come to your attention, and as a matter of fact, it would probably be just as well if your comments did come to me personally and unofficially, since otherwise there are sundry complications in the matter. As you will appreciate, I shall not proceed in any manner that would be calculated to embarrass you or Associated Ethyl in any manner. On the other hand, I have to know what is going on, since otherwise I cannot take the steps that are necessary to ward off difficulty.

Under present circumstances it would also be desirable for me to know what you are doing in the matter of medical consultants in South America. As you are aware, we recently brought Dr. Ottolina into the picture, since in the rush of matters in Venezuela, Doctor Kitzmiller had no choice but to call upon someone whom he knew to do what was necessary. I understand that your arrangements in Venezuela are quite different, since the time of Doctor Ottolina. Mr. Baldwin told me something of the situation. Naturally I am concerned to know how things work out under the present arrangement, since we might retain Ottolina on our behalf, if it is necessary or desirable. On the other hand, we might use of the same physician engaged on retainer by Associated Ethyl, and in this way not only save certain expense, but more importantly achieve a uniform arrangement with respect to the medical care of mixing personnel.

As you are well aware I was well acquainted with the entire situation in South America and the Caribbean Islands some time ago, but following my relinquishment of responsibility to Doctor Davison, my information has slipped appreciably. Now that Davison is not to continue in his post, our arrangements are somewhat uncertain at the moment, and therefore I shall have to take a hand in all that comes up by way of matters of medical policy, and therefore I should know the facts as completely as possible. A report from you along this line would be very helpful. If there is any question of authorization from London to this end, I am sure that it will be achieved. (You may not be aware of the Davison situation, and therefore it would be just as well if you make no reference to it in correspondence or otherwise, at the present time. On the other hand, you may be well aware of it.)

My trip to England, as usual, was a very pleasant occasion. Some aspects of the situation were a bit grim, but the pleasantness of the renewal of relationships and friendships, from my viewpoint, quite overcame any difficulties of any kind. Lucile, Katy and I were able to effect a reunion, and we had a very good time together. Among

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other things a brief trip to Ireland was a very pleasant experience.

When you have the time and inclination it would be nice to hear from you about yourself and your family. Lucile and I often think of you, and we have missed seeing you and hearing from you.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.

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