

January 15, 1940

Mr. O. B. Lewis
Ethyl Gasoline Corporation
Chrysler Building
New York City
New York

Dear Mr. Lewis:-

I have noted the contents of Mr. Dees' letter of January 8th concerning the request for information from Major O. E. Cound of the War Department. I think we should make it a point to pass along to Major Cound, and to anyone else who requires information about the use of leaded gasoline in stoves and lamps, that we do not believe there is any justification for the use of leaded gasoline in equipment of this sort, not because of the danger in the use of such gasoline and its effect upon the lead content of food, but because of the fact that this fuel is not suitable for such use. The distributors of equipment of this type are right in making every effort to prevent the use of leaded gasoline since the equipment will not continue to operate properly if leaded gasoline is used.

It is quite understandable that under certain emergency conditions lead-free gasoline might not be available, and under these conditions, it could be used since otherwise the stove or lamp would be useless. However we should make every effort to have it understood that leaded gasoline was not designed for such use, and that it should not be used for such purposes except under emergency conditions in which no other fuel is available.

The information that the stoves in question are manufactured by Kirk and Blum in Cincinnati will be looked into here, and we will find out from Kirk and Blum the nature of the stove and their recommendations with respect to fuel.

Very truly yours,

RAK:is

cc Mr. Dees

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.