

CC Mr. C. W. Bond

ETHYL CORPORATION

MANUFACTURING AND TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT

J. H. SCHAEFER,
GENERAL MANAGER.

PLEASE ADDRESS REPLY
TO: CHRYSLER BUILDING
405 LEXINGTON AVE., NEW YORK CITY

December 29, 1942

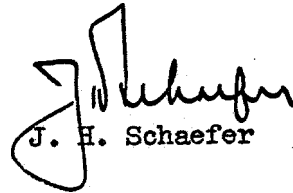
Dr. R. A. Kehoe
College of Medicine
University of Cincinnati
Eden & Bethesda Avenues
Cincinnati, Ohio

Dear Dr. Kehoe:

I appreciate very much your letter of December 22 regarding the report that I sent you under cover of my letter of December 15.

We await your further comments after you have had an opportunity to develop this subject.

Very truly yours,


J. H. Schaefer

3-2

KE 0001014

December 22, 1942

Mr. John Schaefer,
Ethyl Corporation,
Chrysler Building,
New York City.

Dear John:

I have your letter of December 15, together with copy of Mr. Bond's memorandum. To some degree, I share your opinions and those of Mr. Bond, concerning studies of this kind. As a matter of fact, it is extremely difficult to devise any methods whereby precise information can be obtained in a study of this type. I have no direct knowledge of the manner in which this work was done, and I was not consulted about it when it was started. This is not surprising, since almost any doctor in charge of such a group of men might be expected to make some observations of this type, if he was quite certain that it could be done without any risk to the men, and particularly, if he was sure that their morale would be somewhat improved thereby. The problem of the common cold is one of the most difficult ones to deal with in industry or anywhere else, and the willingness of the management and physicians to make a study of such a problem is something which is likely to be appreciated by the men. I imagine that the cost of this series of observations was negligible. In fact, I imagine that the vitamins were contributed for the purpose. In any case, I know that du Pont is using certain vitamins more or less routinely and that these are being purchased at very low cost. In all probability, Dr. Gehrman and Dr. Foulger are responsible for these measures, and if it is their opinion that they are generally beneficial, we should have to have very good reasons before undertaking to oppose their recommendations. I shall look into this entire matter on my next visit to Wilmington, when I shall see both Dr. Gehrman and Dr. Foulger. I shall also discuss the matter with Dr. Evans, at the Dye works plant, and Dr. Sanford, at the Baton Rouge plant, and will report to you anything of consequence that develops.

Incidentally, and for your own information I should be very greatly surprised if we were to find subsequently that the vitamins have a specific usefulness in preventing or curing common colds, except in the case of persons with definite vitamin deficiencies.

KE 0001015

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J. H. SCHAEFER,
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December 15, 1942

Dr. R. A. Kehoe
College of Medicine
University of Cincinnati
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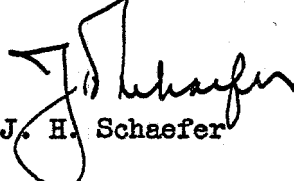
Dear Dr. Kehoe:

I am enclosing herewith copy of a memorandum of December 4 received from Mr. C. W. Bond concerning the results of the vitamin study made at the Baton Rouge Plant.

I rather agree with Mr. Bond's opinion that the system used in conducting the tests is not very trustworthy to produce accurate data.

Among other things, I wonder on what authority such tests are undertaken. Of course, you know Ethyl foots all the bills for anything in this nature and we had never been contacted as to the advisability of such an undertaking. I thought perhaps you might have had some knowledge of this. If not, you may care to do something about it.

Very truly yours,


J. H. Schaefer

3-2

KE

0001016

December 4, 1942

Memorandum to:

Mr. J. H. Schaefer

In accordance with your memorandum of December 1 I am attaching hereto copy of a report originating in the du Pont hospital concerning the results of the vitamin therapy study conducted from January 1, 1942 - May 1, 1942.

You will note that the results of this test are very inconclusive and it is my personal opinion that the system used in conducting the test did not permit accumulation of too accurate data. I am sorry for the delay in forwarding this report to you but it required some time to locate a copy.

C. W. BOND

CWB:es
Encl.

KE 0001017

RESULTS OF VITAMIN STUDY

About January 1, 1942, a program was started and carried on until May 1, 1942, to study the effects of multiple vitamins on the incidence and duration of colds. The Organic Chemicals Department and Ethyl Corporation employees cooperated in this study. 470 employees returned their questionnaires at the end of the period, the groups consisting of 235 who had received multiple vitamin capsules, manufactured by a reputable pharmaceutical company, and the remaining 235 who received no special medication.

The results were, as follows:

Group A - those taking vitamins

Group B - those not taking vitamins

	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>
Average colds per person	1.28	1.07
Average days duration of each cold	6.67	7.83
Total number days lost due to colds	73	89.5
Total number "lost time" cases	18	17
Severity (based on days lost per case.)	4.05	5.26
Frequency per cent of colds (based on number of lost time cases compared with total in group)	0.310	0.380
Frequency per cent other conditions than colds	0.863	0.970

Vitamin Study

It would appear from this particular study that vitamins have little effect on the incidence, duration or severity of colds. There are several factors which may, however, have influenced our results.

1. This study was not begun until January, which is during a usual peak cold period in this community, thereby not permitting any time for building up a possible reserve.
2. In the group taking vitamins were a number who had marked susceptibility to colds.

It was noted on the questionnaires that the group taking vitamins felt better, subjectively, than the other group.