

Docteur Florent Coste
Professeur Agrégé à la Faculté de Médecine
Médecin des Hôpitaux

11, rue Cardinet

Paris, November 17th, 1936

Dr. W.A. Machle
University of Cincinnati
College of Medicine
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Machle,

I thank you very much for your letter.
I was very sorry too not to have been able to meet Dr. Machle
during his trip in France.

I did not write you about my visits to
the plants because up to now everything went on in the most
satisfactory way and we have never had to regret nor even to
suspect any intoxication. Should any doubtful incident occur,
I will advise you immediately.

As I told you before, the only difficulty
we meet with in France is the frequency of ethylic saturation
which obliges us to accept from time to time a worker who does
not satisfy all health requirements. I make every effort to
have these doubtful men replaced as rapidly as possible with
more qualified workmen. I believe that just now the staff
employed on Ethyl mixing plants is sufficient.

I already learned from you and from
Machle's General Report about the seriousness of the dangers
involved in the cleaning of storage tanks having contained
Ethyl gasoline. I hold as a principle, each time I visit a
plant, to call especially the attention of the superintendent
to the very particular precautions which should be observed
when such cleanings are carried out. As a matter of fact, I
think that (outside of the Standard at Port-Jérôme maybe ?)
no process of this kind has been carried out up to now.
I will therefore continue to call the attention of plant
superintendants on this point and if necessary, should some

cleaning of that sort be decided, I will try to be present when it is carried out. Mr. Thomsen has had a separate pamphlet prepared, outlining the precautions to be observed when cleaning storage tanks; he will circulate them to the refinery and plant superintendents concerned.

I have those of your articles which you are lacking, i.e., 1° the articles on Normal Lead of Journal of Industrial Hygiene, September 1933, and 2° the first part (only) of your articles entitled "An Appraisal of the Lead Hazards associated with the Distribution and Use of Gasoline containing Tetraethyl Lead", but I would be very glad to keep them.

In fact, I find it extremely useful to have on hand all your publications, for this may enable me to answer certain objections and critics. You will remember that it is thanks to Dr. Machle's General Report which I could hand on the spot to the reporter of the Conseil Supérieur d'Hygiène, that we have obtained the increase in proportion of Tetraethyl Lead in gasoline which would certainly have been refused to us otherwise.

In consequence, I would ask you to keep these articles for a few more weeks in order to have some extracts or copies taken which I will keep on hand. I will return them to you immediately after.

I avail myself of this opportunity to thank you very much indeed for sending me your publications, which are of the greatest interest and can be very useful to me. Should you have by chance a separate print of your last article in Journal of American Medical Association, I would be very glad to receive it. I thank you in advance for sending me the book you refer to.

I will certainly let you know from time to time about our activities.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

F. Corti

KE 0013349