August 25,1936

Mr. W. G. Violette
Vice President
Standard Oil Company
Louisville, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Violette:

Our attention has just been called to an illness which has developed in six employees of the Standard Oil Company of Kentucky at the Savannah, Georgia, refinery. We have not seen these men but from the information furnished by the physician in charge, we feel undoubtedly that the men have had a moderate degree of lead intoxication. The cleaning of tanks which had been used for the storage of Ethyl Gasoline was undoubtedly responsible for these illnesses. According to our information, our requirements for this procedure were totally disregarded. We should, therefore, like to impress on you the importance of following these regulations. These regulations are precisely stated in the booklet published in 1935 governing all leaded gasoline procedures. You will note particularly that it is essential that the tanks be wet when cleaned (this is to avoid dust contamination of the air), and also that masks be worn, and that preferably these be of the air pressure type. We understand that none of these regulations were followed, and the result is what may be expected at any time tanks are cleaned without recognising the necessity for the proper procedure. We wonder, therefore, if you will investigate this matter in all the refineries under your supervision and see that the situation is promptly corrected.

Very truly yours,

LWS:le

Lester W. Sanders, M.D.

Cc Mr. H. Mack
O. Lewis
G. Warren