

July 1, 1936

Mr. F. M. S. Tegner
Ethyl Export Corporation
Thames House, Millbank
London, S. W. 1
England

Dear Mr. Tegner:

In view of the information in your letter of June 10th, I feel that we are entirely justified in concluding that drums used for the transportation of leaded gasoline in the manner described will be entirely satisfactory for a variety of other uses, if cleansed in such a way as to remove excessive quantities of gasoline. Any food material which is put into such drums will suffer more from the gasoline than it will from lead, and since gasoline is such an unpleasant material in anything which may be used as food, it would seem that we may safely assume that it would be almost completely removed from these drums. If this is the case, there will be no danger from lead absorption.

There is one possibility I can see for difficulty in that if a barrel of gasoline were laid down in some remote point to be used over a period of months for filling lamps and for furnishing other small supplies of gasoline, there might be an appreciable decomposition during this prolonged period which would result in the accumulation of triethyl lead salts in the bottom of the drums. Under these circumstances a food material, such as palm oil, would have in it sediments of lead incompletely dissolved in the oil, and thus occurring in relatively high concentrations in the dregs. Such a condition might be productive of difficulty. The circumstances which I have described would not be expected to occur frequently, if at all, and are perhaps of no great consequence.

With kindest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

RAK:ls

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.

KE 0007024