

October 28, 1936

Mr. Allen C. Tully
368 Collins Street
Melbourne, C. 1
Australia

Dear Mr. Tully:

We have recently had some difficulties in this country in connection with the neglect of our regulations for cleaning tanks which have been used for mixing and storing leaded gasoline. I have no doubt you will receive information from the New York office as to what is happening in this connection. For your information I think it well to point out that we are inaugurating a thorough investigation of this entire problem. Our feeling is that we shall have to determine exactly where the greatest dangers are in connection with tank cleaning and at such points we shall have to take the matter under our own supervision in order to avoid difficulties. The problem is a big one and we are attempting to set up an organization to care for it here. The nature of the organization will have to depend on the size and character of the problem. For the present we have organized a Safety Committee with Oscar Lewis as chairman in the New York office, and with representatives in each one of the districts in this country. These men are assisting us in obtaining the information which we need on the storage tank problem and we are studying the matter experimentally in an effort to answer a number of questions which are not now entirely clear. Eventually we may have to take over this whole question in all parts of the world. However I do not think we shall be in position to do that until we have obtained the information of which we are now in search. Within the next several months we hope to know the answers in the matter well enough to know what we ourselves will have to do in order to control the dangers. Until that time we doubt the advisability of doing more outside of this country than merely seeing that the regulations which have been issued are brought to the attention of the distributors of leaded gasoline, so that precautions may be taken where such tanks are to be cleaned.

I have written Dr. Fairley on the subject and I have asked him to discuss with you this entire problem. I have also pointed out that I would transmit information to him from time to time as it becomes available, and I believe

Mr. Tully

you should take such steps as can be carried out to assure yourselves that all of the distributors in your territory are reminded of the existence of regulations to this end, and of the necessity of taking precautions in this type of work. I should be glad to know what steps you do take in the matter and I should like to hear from you or Dr. Fairley, or both of you, if you have any ideas of how this might best be controlled in your part of the world.

Very truly yours,

RAK:ls

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.

cc Mr. Lewis

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