

ETHYL GASOLINE CORPORATION

DAYTON DIVISION

MUTUAL HOME BUILDING

DAYTON, OHIO

H.A. MACK
DIVISION MANAGER

ALAN C. TULLY
ASSISTANT DIVISION MANAGER

INTER-OFFICE
CORRESPONDENCE

December 1, 1941.

Mr. Les Roberts.

Dear Les:

At the meeting in Charlottesville, Virginia, Dr. Willard Machle, Russell Schell and you discussed Don Crane's book for blenders and asked that we submit a report giving our opinion on the value and need of this book.

While we had only a brief opportunity to look at the outline which you presented, all of us obtained the impression that Mr. Crane's book was very complete, or, that it would be when the subject matter was filled in.

We have discussed this book at some length with our Safety Engineers and they are inclined to agree with Dr. Machle in his statement that more information for blenders would be helpful but to us the problem is to get the blenders to use and read the information that we want them to have and one of our first impressions of Mr. Crane's book is that it is so complete and hence so voluminous that we doubt if the average blender would get what we really wanted him to from the list of the subject matter.

In general we do not approve of the idea of giving a blender a book as complete as Mr. Crane's because much is contained therein that the blender would have no need for. If this book is as complete as it seems it would probably be found in the Refinery Superintendent's office or in the laboratory rather than in the lead plant.

We feel that information to blenders would be read more often and understood more easily by means of revised charts which would have plenty of pictures to help the blender understand exactly what we want him to know.

We feel that it is a good idea to give more complete information to the Refinery Superintendent or possibly the man in charge of the lead plant who would be responsible for it and the blenders under him but we have preferred doing this in the past by means of safety meetings with these same people. If a booklet were put out it should include a discussion on unloading and on operational difficulties and remedies. Some things, in our opinion, should not be revealed to refinery men either by charts or in books. Instead refinery personnels should be encouraged to call on us for service when their problem gets out of the minor stage.

A list of points our Safety Engineers check while making quarterly

N22474

inspections should be included in the information given to blenders since they would then always have a guide towards safer operation and better housekeeping. These should be in chart form and placed on the wall of the blending plant and not in a book which might never be opened by a blender or which might be lost as easily as any book.

We think that all the information necessary for a blender to have could be included in revised charts which would cover mixing plant operation, medical regulations, emergency information similar to that in section five of the Safety Manual, points on good housekeeping of the plant which are covered in section eight page three, section ten of the Safety Manual and the main idea of bulletin W-462 and section eleven. There are obviously certain omissions which should be made from this list of material, such as the omission on check for glycerine blanket and other similar items.

It is felt that, if our management thinks it worth the expense, a special book might be included for men in the laboratory, wherein section nine should cover this from a safety standpoint. In this booklet might be included knock engine information.

A separate booklet for the refinery management might cover such things as price list and plant operation and laboratory information. Section thirteen of the Safety Manual should be covered and complete information given on such things as mixing and inventory statements.

It is our thought that good pictures in all of these special booklets would help much more than simply trying to get across our story with plain writing.

Tank cleaning to our way of thinking should not be included in information given to a blender although this, if desired, could be passed on to the Refinery Superintendent. Here again we feel that pictures might be used much more effectively than mere writing and, of course, this is one of the things we had in mind when we prepared the tank cleaning book which was presented at Charlottesville.

Summarizing all of the above, we are opposed to Mr. Crane's book as it was presented at Charlottesville, since, as outlined, it would contain entirely too much information to be used and properly assimilated by the average blender. We think that some of this information is material that an average blender has no business having and we also think that the day probably will come when we might not want this much information lying around in every refinery in the country. Mr. Crane is to be complimented on his effort but as far as we are concerned we would much rather see additional information passed on to the blender in revised charts which can be referred to quickly, easily understood and nailed tight in one spot where it can always be seen at the point where it probably would be most needed.

Very truly yours,


H. L. MACK.