

WILLIAM PARR, PH.G., VICE PRESIDENT
TAMPA

HERBERT L. BRYANS, M. D., PRESIDENT
PENSACOLA

MARK F. BOYD, M.D., M.P.H., MEMBER
TALLAHASSEE

ROBERT B. MCIVER, M.D., MEMBER
JACKSONVILLE

J. ERNEST EDWARDS, D. D. S., MEMBER
MIAMI



Florida State Board of Health

WILSON T. SOWDER, M.D., M.P.H., STATE HEALTH OFFICER

C. Kitzmiller

POST OFFICE
BOX 210

JACKSONVILLE 1
November 7, 1949

BUREAU OF PREVENTABLE DISEASES
R. F. SONDAG, M.D.
DIRECTOR

DIVISIONS
VENEREAL DISEASE CONTROL
INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE
CANCER CONTROL

Dr. Robert A. Kehoe, Director
Kettering Laboratory of Applied Physiology
University of Cincinnati
Cincinnati, Ohio

Dear Doctor Kehoe:

May I trouble you for any suggestions you might have in dealing with a problem which is new to us and which has just come up. It relates to the cleaning of tanks in airplane hangars. Eastern Airlines in Miami undertook this job recently after consultation with the Ethyl Corporation of America. As part of the check on the men employed in the job, our laboratory did urine lead determinations. We have no details as to the lengths of exposure and so far the engineers of the Ethyl Corporation have not reported any results of their air samples taken in these tanks. Our results have shown some general increase in lead absorption, the highest being 0.12 mg. per liter.

We have set this up for the future on a rather different basis. From now on we will take samples both before and after the men engage in this job. The tanks are blown out with air for a long period before the men enter and then each man is given a supplied air respirator. Excellent washing facilities are supplied. Because of the small openings and the high temperatures it is not feasible to have the men wear rubber suits. Has any work been done before on this type exposure and if so would you be kind enough to let us know the results? We are particularly anxious to help these people because they have always been cooperative and because their Medical Director, Dr. H. K. Edwards, 1714 Biscayne Boulevard, Miami, is very keenly interested in protecting the health of the employees of this organization. Any information or suggestions will be greatly appreciated. I had hoped to be at the Southern Medical Association meeting in Cincinnati and expected to have a chance to talk over this problem with you. However, that trip had to be canceled, hence I am contacting you by letter.

With best personal good wishes, I am

N9617

Yours very truly,

John M. McDonald

John M. McDonald, M.D., Director
Division of Industrial Hygiene

KE 0006114