

Tank Incident Number 5

Summary

Tank Number 1 - Standard Oil Company (Kentucky), Savannah, Ga. - August 1936

Little is on record as to tank usage and cleaning details. It is known that the tank was steamed before entry. Material taken from ground outside tank when debris was dumped after cleaning, contained 0.25% organic lead.

Fifteen men are known to have worked in Tank #1. Of the 15, seven were ill enough to be hospitalized and all seven had proved organic lead intoxication. Three of these seven died. Of the remaining 8 men four were reported to have had no symptoms and the remaining 4 had mild symptoms lasting only a few hours to a few days.

Eight other men who had worked in Tank #6 were examined and only one of these eight had any symptoms. This one man had questionable symptoms of anorexia and insomnia.

15 men worked in Tank #1.

7 of these 15 proved to have organic lead intoxication.

3 of the 7 sick men died.

4 of the 15 had mild symptoms not proved to be organic lead intoxication.

4 of the 15 had no symptoms.

Factors responsible:

1. No mask - no prescribed boots and clothing - no baths.
2. Tank had been steamed.
3. Tank may have had a leaky bottom because new steel bottom was installed after cleaning.

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