

ETHYL GASOLINE CORPORATION

25 BROADWAY

INTER-OFFICE
CORRESPONDENCE

NEW YORK

Penns Grove, N.J.,
April 6, 1927.Dr. Robert Kehoe,
College of Medicine,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Kehoe,

I would like to bring to your attention a couple of points that have been on my mind for quite sometime in conjunction with the working conditions here at the tetra-ethyl lead plant.

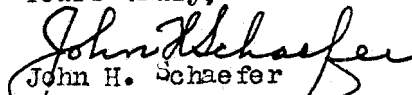
In the first place I am very much dissatisfied and somewhat discouraged over the present laboratory facilities. Of course you have a very good conception of the size of the present control laboratory. Five men are working in this small room doing work, which in my mind present a greater potentiality relative to health hazards than any other work on the whole tetra-ethyl lead area. The present facilities are wholly inadequate, the ventilating system is poor, the plumbing (drains) is almost a folly, and the congestion is surely too great.

At the present time, duPonts are contemplating enlargement of the present laboratory and the installation of proper ventilation and plumbing. From my information on the improvements, everything is in order and of correct design. But this laboratory project has been crawling along at ever so slow a pace. Perhaps some action might accelerate the present rate to one whereby something might be realized before the summer sets in; I believe you could help things along so am writing you accordingly.

One other matter, which I trust you will take as an unofficial report, is the great increase in the number of stipules found in men working in certain sections of the tetra-ethyl lead area. Upon the present information secured, there are about 40 cases showing stipules; approximately 20 cases are from the Smelter and 20 from those employed as mechanics, pipe fitters, etc. I wonder if stipules are indicative of any alarm for lead poisoning (either inorganic or organic)? If not, all's well; but if stipules can be correctly translated into potential cases of lead poisoning, should not something be done? My impression is that many here at the plant put no significance in the presence of stipules. What do you think?

As I mentioned in the foregoing this letter is simply an unofficial report and should be considered in this light.

Yours truly,


John H. Schaefer

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