March 31, 1948

Mr. A. M. Chenault,
Ethyl Corporation,
977 West Sixth Street,
Los Angeles, (14) Calif.

Dear Mume:

I send you herewith two copies of the report of the analytical results obtained on the scale from the side plates of a tank as referred to in your letter of February 25.

The essential point in this is that the scale contains 0.2% of inorganic lead. As you see, organic lead compounds are present in only insignificant quantity. The situation, therefore, is substantially the same as though these plates had been coated with a paint of extremely low lead concentration. Unless these plates were to be scraped or brushed under conditions that would give rise to considerable quantities of dust in a substantially unventilated place, there would be no risk of lead absorption in handling them. On the other hand, if the rust were thick, burning operations might give rise to appreciable lead concentrations, if carried out in a poorly ventilated area. On the whole the practical risk of dealing with these plates is insignificant.

I should appreciate having information as to the probable length of time that had elapsed since these plates had been in contact with gasoline, since this information would give us a valuable clue to the length of time required for the complete decomposition of organic lead compounds in scale.

It was a great pleasure to see you and the others in both Los Angeles and San Bernardino. I did not feel that I did much to help you, but it was certainly pleasant to have a chance to sit down with a group of you.

With best regards to yourself and your associates,

Sincerely yours,

Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.

RAK cf

C.C.: Mr. E. O. Jones

Dictated but not read.

Enc.

Material:	Scale from Side Plates
Source:	Standard Oil Company, El Segundo, California (cf. Chenault's letter dated February 25, 1948)
Submitted:	March 4, 1948
Required:	Determination of lead compounds present

Results

Per Cent Lead as Lead Tetraethyl	<0.00001
Per Cent Lead as Triethyl Lead	0.0003
Per Cent Lead as Diethyl Lead Halides	0.0017
Per Cent Lead as Di- and Triethyl Lead Halides and Carbonates	0.00045
Per Cent Lead as Inorganic Lead	0.225

Reported: 3-24-48