

March 1, 1933

Dr. Graham Edgar
Ethyl Gasoline Corporation
Chrysler Building
New York City
New York

Dear Doctor Edgar:

Replying to your letter of February 23rd concerning the use and sale of "Remo" fluid in bulk, it is my opinion that the Ethyl Gasoline Corporation should not do anything to encourage the use of Remo for cleaning engine parts. In this connection I am writing Mr. Hawley to suggest that I consider it inadvisable for them to use the fluid for this purpose in the Detroit Laboratory. It is my opinion that any material which contains fifty percent xylol is not the most suitable compound for handling in a way that involves considerable skin contact. I do not fear that the absorption of xylol will result in illness. However I do feel reasonably certain that compounds of this kind will produce skin irritation and will result in the development of dermatitis in a certain number of individuals. Our experience in treating animals with this material leads me to regard it as more injurious to the skin than gasoline, and my personal experience with handling it in the preparation of pathologic sections leads me to believe that other materials which are less injurious to the skin should be employed for this purpose.

In this connection, I think Heron is in position to give the Detroit Laboratory some advice on suitable materials for cleaning engine parts. I am not sure that ethylene glycol is satisfactory for the purpose but if it is, it is a much safer material to use than is Remo.

Very truly yours,

RAK:IS