

ETHYL GASOLINE CORPORATION

CANADIAN OFFICE
302 BAY STREET
TORONTO 2, CANADA

INTER-OFFICE
CORRESPONDENCE

IN REPLY PLEASE REFER TO

Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 14, 1932

Dr. Robt. A. Kehoe,
College of Medicine,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Kehoe:

I have just returned from an interview with Dr. A. W. Hunter, Coroners Physician for the City of Vancouver, who had requested all the information he could get with reference deaths occurring from carbon monoxide poisoning wherein Ethyl gasoline was concerned.

The Dr. stated that at this time of the year and under present conditions, he is called upon to perform autopsies on many cases of this kind and last week he had one particular case wherein the appearance of the body was entirely different from the usual appearance in cases of this kind. Examination of the blood though showed conclusively the action of carbon monoxide. The inference was made by another physician, who had discovered that the gasoline in the car was Ethyl gasoline, that this gasoline might have had something to do with it. Dr. Hunter however, being familiar with the action of lead and supported by the blood analysis did not accept the inference but not knowing the makeup of lead tetra ethyl, has made further inquiry about same.

As the case in question had been known to be more or less mental with suicidal tendencies for the past two years, another young Dr. called in when the woman was found in the garage overcome apparently by gas, resuscitated her and she had every indication of recovering. Heart action was strong and apparently she had not been too far gone. When he returned from telephoning for an ambulance she was dead. The husband reported that the woman vomited a black substance when he carried her into the house and the Dr. noticed a black smudge about the mouth. Going out into the garage he discovered an empty bottle on the floor labeled "Black Leaf Forty". Informing Dr. Hunter of this, he made an analysis of stomach contents and urine, in both of which he found nicotine sulphate, which he thinks might have had some bearing on the unusual appearance of the body.

I have given Dr. Hunter the information we have at hand on this but same is rather limited and possibly you have more and later data you could give him that would be appreciated. This question is liable to be raised often in view of the fact that all gasolines now being sold in B. C. with one exception, are lead treated. His address is Room 1022, Medical-Dental Bldg., Vancouver, B. C.

Very truly yours,

W. Boyl

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