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## PRODUCTION HAZARD IN TETRAETHYL LEAD

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Will Be Investigated, as Well as  
Supposed Danger in Tet-  
raethyl Gasoline

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WASHINGTON, June 23.—Any inference that the special committee appointed by the Surgeon General of the Public Health Service to investigate the consequences of the use of tetraethyl gasoline will not investigate the industrial hazards involved in the production of tetraethyl itself is wrong, Surgeon General Hugh S. Cumming stated to-night, after reading the article by Silas Bent, published in Monday's *NEW YORK TIMES*, on the casualties in the du Pont company's plant at Deep Water, N. J.

Surgeon General Cumming said that while there might be an impression from the resolution passed at the recent meeting in Washington that the committee would not go into this phase of the situation, this was a wrong conclusion. On the other hand, it would conduct its investigation from all angles.

While he had not any idea that the committee would not look carefully into the industrial hazards of producing tetraethyl, Dr. Cumming said, he would conduct an investigation of his own should the committee fail to cover the point.

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war in the production of powder), a congeries of phosgene and chloroform as the toxic benzolatured there.

Frederick W. DeFiebre, a worker 21 years old, was the first to die, on Feb. 21, from poisoning in the new plant. To the Salem Hospital is an ambulance run of but twenty minutes

"Our people themselves did not know about this disease at first, but the physicians quickly learned to cope with it. We began manufacturing tetraethyl lead about three years ago

Thomas Midgley Jr. worked out the formula for tetraethyl lead in the du Pont plants while employed as a chemist by the General Motors, of which the du Ponts own 7,000,000 shares, about one-third. This was three years ago and soon afterward the du Pont began production at the old dye plant at Deep Water. Subsequently officials of General Motors and the Standard Oil of New Jersey organized the Ethyl Gasoline Corporation, in which the du Ponts had no interest save through their holdings of General Motors stock, and began production at the Bayway plant, near Elizabeth, N. J. There was a commercial rivalry between this plant and that at Deep Water, although the Bayway factory was the smaller. The du Ponts employed as many as 200 men in their tetraethyl plant at one time, but its sixteen units never reached full production.

**Clinton White House**

**Health Care**

**Interdepartmental Working Group**