

M. S. Arrington
Hattiesburg Miss

May 20, 1931

Mr. W. V. Hartmann, V. P.,
Gulf Refining Company,
Frick Building Annex,
Pittsburg, Pa.

Dear Mr. Hartmann:

Your letter of May 8 to Mr. Taylor of the Ethyl Gasoline Corporation enclosing a copy of a letter received from your service station superintendent at Hattiesburg, Mississippi, has been referred to me for reply.

The condition described in the letter is one which I do not believe requires investigation by a physician. It is quite clear from the story that there was no possible opportunity for the customer in question to have absorbed any appreciable quantity of lead as result of his experience. The actual quantity of lead contained in the gasoline which might have been taken into his mouth in blowing out a gasoline line, is of no consequence. Furthermore tetraethyl lead does not volatilize out of gasoline in any measurable quantity, therefore it would have been impossible under the conditions for this individual to have been exposed to the fumes of tetraethyl lead. It is possible that he may have absorbed some gasoline, or that he may have swallowed some, although it would not be a usual experience. Just what produced his symptoms it is difficult to say. They may have been imaginary, they may have been the result of exertion, they may have been produced by a variety of things. In any case it was utterly impossible that it could have been a paralysis referable in any way whatever to lead absorption.

In general, it is the purpose of myself and my assistants to investigate any and all claims of injury which have arisen as result of the handling or use of Ethyl Gasoline. Occasionally it occurs that a complaint is so bizarre that we cannot from a medical point of view regard it as worthy of investigation. In this particular instance, unless some situation should arise which would change the picture, I cannot regard this complaint as one which would justify the time and expense which would be required for personal investigation.

If there is any further development in the case I should be obliged if you would inform me.

Very truly yours,

ETHYL GASOLINE CORPORATION

CHRYSLER BUILDING
135 EAST 42ND STREET

NEW YORK May 11, 1931.

INTER-OFFICE
CORRESPONDENCE

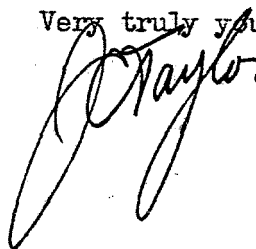
Dr. Robert A. Kehoe,
University of Cincinnati,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Kehoe:

I am attaching an original letter just
received from Mr. W. V. Hartmann, Vice-President of
the Gulf Refining Company, and copy of my reply.

We should appreciate your handling this
directly.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R. Taylor", written over the typed phrase "Very truly yours,".

D:B

ETHYL GASOLINE CORPORATION

CHRYSLER BUILDING
135 EAST 42ND STREET

J. C. TAYLOR
SALES MANAGER

NEW YORK May 11, 1931.

Mr. W. V. Hartmann, Vice-President,
Gulf Refining Company,
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Dear Mr. Hartmann:

We acknowledge r of yo of May
8th.

We are referring it directly to our Medical
Department with the suggest that shoe write you
t has been investigated.

Very truly yours,

L:ED