

MEDICAL REPORT ON ETHYL.

LEAD DUST DANGER IN STREETS.

"GRAVEST CONCERN."

EFFECT ON WORKERS' HEALTH.

Facts of the very gravest importance in connection with the health of the public are revealed in the medical report on ethyl petrol the first section of which we are able to lay before our readers to-day.

This report, which is reproduced in **Page 15**, has been prepared for *The Daily Mail* by Dr. Myer Coplans, D.S.O., O.B.E., a doctor eminent in research work. It is based on his own personal experiments and the very valuable data supplied by the Research Association of British Motor and Allied Manufacturers, who, on behalf of *The Daily Mail*, carried out a highly scientific analysis of exhaust gases from motor engines.

Conclusions arrived at as the result of these investigations, which have occupied over nine weeks and are dealt with in the first section of Dr. Coplans's report, may be summarised as follows:

That lead definitely entered the system of one of the mechanics engaged in work of dismantling the engines used in the *Daily Mail* road trials of ethyl petrol and the stationary engines used in the research work into exhaust gases.

That the periodical medical examinations of the mechanics during their work was not only justified but would also have had to be maintained had their exposure to the action of leaded petrol been continued.

Conditions in narrow streets with tall buildings in the neighbourhood of traffic blocks, or in vehicular tunnels, become a matter of the gravest concern in this densely populated country.

LEAD DUST STICKY.

In industrial enterprises, the removal of lead dust can only be effectively achieved by powerfully driven fans or suction apparatus. In garages, tunnels, or open spaces, this dust, which is of a heavy nature, tends to hang in the atmosphere within the breathing level of man.

It is known that lead dust, being of a sticky nature, will, in the presence of slight moisture, tend to adhere to the surface on which it deposits. From the ground will result surface pollution of water supplies if the dust contains compounds of a water-soluble nature.

In his report Dr. Coplans refers to experiments on animals. *The Daily Mail* wishes to make it clear that in his investigations