

## MINES BUREAU HIT BY HEALTH SERVICE FOR PARTIAL O. K. OF ETHYL GASOLINE

Cumming's Office Disapproves  
Report Whose Authors Plead  
Was Simply Preliminary,  
Although It Resulted in  
Marketing Fluid

INQUIRY BY GOVERNMENT  
MAY FOLLOW CONFERENCE

Manufacturers Had Potential  
Influence Over Original  
Tests, Assert Critics

From The World's Bureau  
Special Despatch to The World  
WASHINGTON, May 2.—The  
United States Public Health Service  
may make an independent investiga-  
tion into the use of tetraethyl gaso-  
line following the general conference  
called here for May 20 by Surgeon  
General Hugh S. Cumming.

The question whether its use is a  
menace to public health has been  
recognized as so important that the  
Surgeon General has determined  
upon a thorough canvass of compe-  
tent expert opinion first, and then, if  
it proves advisable, an independent  
study of the gasoline and its effects  
upon the human system.

### Criticism Causes Action

So much criticism has come from  
disinterested sources—notably from  
Prof. Yandell Henderson of Yale—of  
the alleged inadequacy of tests so far  
made by the Bureau of Mines and of  
the manner in which the Standard  
Oil of New Jersey, the General Mo-  
tors Corporation and the Ethyl Gaso-  
line Corporation have been identified  
with the Bureau of Mines investiga-  
tion, that the Public Health Service  
considers it imperative to make an  
inquiry along entirely independent  
lines.

The chief criticism has been that  
these companies, being the ones  
commercially interested in having  
the new product pronounced harm-  
less, have potentially, if not directly,  
influenced the investigations so far.

The tests by the Bureau of Mines  
have been made "in co-operation  
with the General Motors Research  
Corporation," according to the bu-  
reau's published reports.

### Health Service Critical

While Bureau of Mines officials are  
emphatic in saying their report pub-  
lished last November was inconclu-  
sive and never was intended to be  
taken as final, officials of the Public  
Health Service are equally emphatic

## MINES BUREAU HIT IN ETHYL GAS CASE

(Continued From First Page.)

of Mines finding as premature and  
insufficient; Dr. Alice Hamilton, bac-  
teriologist, assistant professor of in-  
dustrial medicine at Harvard Medi-  
cal School; Prof. C. E. A. Winslow  
of Yale Medical School, Dr. William  
Henry Howell, physiologist of the  
School of Hygiene at Johns Hop-  
kins; Prof. Lowmearheart of the Uni-  
versity of Wisconsin, Dr. Marshall  
of Johns Hopkins, Prof. Reid Hunt,  
pharmacologist of Harvard Medical  
School; Dr. Haven Emerson of New  
York, former President of the Board  
of Health and Health Commissioners  
of New York; Dr. William H. Park,  
bacteriologist of New York; Prof.  
Yandell Henderson of Yale, Dr. Will-  
iam A. Pusey of Chicago, President  
of the American Medical Associa-  
tion.

The Public Health Service has also  
requested the American Automobile  
Association, the National Safety  
Council and the American Federation  
of Labor to send representatives. In-  
vitations are being issued to State  
and City Boards of Health.

Representatives of the Ethyl Gaso-  
line Corporation, of the Standard Oil  
and of General Motors are to be asked  
to present their side of the case.

Dr. Cumming said to-day the pur-  
pose was to make this session as  
comprehensive as possible, in order  
that all aspects of the problem may  
be brought out and all the facts ascer-  
tained.

### Columbia Ethyl Gas Report Finished, but Not Given Out

Although experts of Columbia Uni-  
versity are reliably reported to have  
completed their investigation of tetra-  
ethyl lead gasoline, their formal re-  
port will not be issued "for some  
days," Frank D. Fackenthal, Secre-  
tary of the university, said yesterday.

Previously The World had learned  
from authoritative sources the report  
was being typed Friday, and it was  
said then it would be turned over to  
the Ethyl Gasoline Corporation and to  
administrative officials of the univer-  
sity yesterday.

Mr. Fackenthal intimated the report  
would be made public in full by the  
university. "We do not keep our  
scientific work secret," he said, "and  
when the report is ready for release  
you may expect it to be made known  
generally."

He said he had been informed by  
Dr. Horatio B. Williams, head of the  
Department of Physiology of the  
College of Physicians and Surgeons,  
the report would not be ready "for  
some days." He added he was un-  
able to make this more specific.

As exclusively revealed in The  
World, this report is expected to  
disagree in important respects with  
the claim of Ethyl Gasoline Corpora-  
tion that its product is entirely safe  
in public use. The information pub-  
lished by The World has been ques-  
tioned by Dr. Williams, in whose  
department the investigation has been  
made, but he has not denied the  
report will be unfavorable.

The Ethyl Gasoline Corporation  
has been very reticent in the past  
in calling a general conference on  
the subject to consider the question of the  
product to public health, and that it  
has requested Columbia to send a  
representative to the conference.  
No information could be  
obtained as to whether the company