

February 4, 1933

Mr. [REDACTED]
G. and M. Service Company
3330 North Broad Street
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Mr. Guthart:

Your letter of January 18th addressed to the Ethyl Gasoline Corporation has been referred to me for further reply.

For some years I and my associates had occasion to see a number of cases of skin irritation as the result of handling various kinds of gasoline. Our experience leads us to conclude that there is no demonstrable difference between the irritating effect of Ethyl Gasoline and that of the corresponding gasoline base without the Ethyl Fluid ingredients. Gasoline is injurious to the skin and certain persons are particularly sensitive to one or more of the substances which are contained in various grades of gasoline. Usually the severe conditions are the result of infection of a skin which has been irritated from contact with gasoline. The gasoline extracts the oil from the skin, leaves it dry and cracked and then infection of various sorts develops on this surface. In a few of these cases, the entire injury is due to the gasoline and in these instances the individuals are sensitive to skin tests such as you have apparently been subjected. The treatment of such conditions is difficult and may sometimes require the complete cessation of exposure to the gasoline.

It would be impossible for me at this distance to decide anything about the character of your particular condition, but I would suggest that the most satisfactory course is for you to see a competent dermatologist for advice and since you live in Philadelphia, this should be very easy. However, if I can be of any further service to you, I shall be glad to do so.

Very truly yours,

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