

May 19, 1937

Dr. Graham Edgar
Ethyl Gasoline Corporation
Chrysler Building
New York City
New York

Dear Graham:

In response to your note of May 10th, enclosing a letter from the General Electric Company, I have written a brief notation on the question raised. Rather than to send this notation directly to the General Electric Company, it seems wise to me to return it to you for such use as you may wish to make of it, until you have made sure that I have not made any statement which is either incorrect or misleading. Moreover I prefer not to give out information about the composition of leaded gasoline without referring the matter to you. I return the enclosures in your letter for such use as they may be to you.

Thanks for your later letter concerning "Neoprene" and "Thiokol". We have already obtained some of the gloves coated with "Thiokol" for examination, but we have not tested them and at the moment I am not very impressed by the sturdiness of their fabrication. This, however, is no unsurmountable obstacle and it may well be that properly fabricated gloves may be superior to those in use at the present time. We shall look into the matter.

Very truly yours,

RAK:is

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.

KE 0015428

Gasoline has long been used for a variety of cleaning purposes because of its ability to dissolve oils and greases. Moreover, since gasoline is so readily available, its use for such purposes has tended to increase in spite of the obvious dangers to human life and property which arise from the careless and unwise handling of so highly inflammable a liquid. Consequently it was to be expected that gasoline blended with a minute quantity of Ethyl Fluid (essentially a mixture of tetraethyl lead, and ethylene dibromide) when widely distributed as a motor fuel, should be employed as fuel for lamps and stoves and also as a cleaning agent unless people could be induced to choose other gasolines for such purposes. Accordingly all pumps and containers from which such gasoline has been dispensed have been marked so as to indicate that the product contains tetraethyl lead, and that it is intended for use as a motor fuel only. It is also colored in an attempt to limit its use to that for which it is intended.

There can be no doubt that leaded gasoline has been used for many of the purposes for which any other gasoline would be used, and, so far as can be ascertained, without harmful results to the user. Nevertheless such gasoline has no advantage over cheaper and less volatile gasolines as a cleaning agent, while as a fuel for lamps and stoves its lead and dye content is definite disadvantage in that finely divided particles in the flame tend in time to clog the orifices of the burners. For these purposes, therefore, clear, uncolored gasolines which

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