

MEMORANDUM

May 10, 1939

Returned this morning from trip to Birmingham to investigate the available facts in the case of [REDACTED] Warrior, Alabama, and to testify, if advisable, in his damage suit against Standard Oil of Kentucky. Under circumstances was unable to see claimant or his physicians or his attorneys. From available facts, however, am quite certain that claimant has not suffered from lead poisoning as a consequence of drinking water containing leaded gasoline. Hearing of case, however, was postponed until fall session of Federal Court. It appears that in damage suits of this type where the amount involved exceeds \$3000.00, the case may be transferred to the Federal Court. This was done in this case and it will appear at a later date.

There has been no opportunity to examine this patient or to obtain first hand information concerning his injury. My conclusions as to the insignificance of lead absorption in his case is based on the fact that there has at no time appeared any claim of gastro-intestinal symptoms such as those inevitably associated with the ingestion of gasoline. In an earlier period, patient complained of abdominal pain which at that time was associated with vomiting blood and the presence of blood in the stools. This occurred on one occasion in association with a previous history suggestive of gastric ulcer over a period of approximately four years. It seems apparent from the partial report of his physician that this had no relation to any ingestion of gasoline since at no time was there any diarrhoea, toxic enteritis or central nervous system symptoms. Any further pertinent facts will have to be obtained at the time of the hearing of the damage suit.

Signed: Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.
Kettering Laboratory
College of Medicine
Cincinnati, Ohio

KE 0011104

April 15, 1939

Mr. W. E. Smith
Standard Oil Company
Louisville, Ky.

Dear Mr. Smith:-

I have at hand a copy of your letter of April 12th addressed to Mr. E. W. Webb of the Ethyl Gasoline Corporation.

In view of the fact that I have been caring personally for medico-legal matters arising in connection with leaded gasoline, I shall plan to be in Birmingham on May 7th, in accordance with your letter. I should appreciate it if you will see that I am promptly informed if there is any change in the date of this trial.

The problem of supplying your attorneys with suitable information is not an easy one since much of the material which would be of use to them is no longer available. I have no choice in this matter but to send you a volume from our library which represents the compilation of a series of articles which bear on the problem of lead poisoning in relation to leaded gasoline, particularly. I would appreciate it if you would advise the attorneys that this volume can not under any circumstances be submitted in evidence. I shall send it to you under separate cover for forwarding to them, and I shall expect it to be returned to me at the time of my visit to Birmingham.

Very truly yours,

RAK:is

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.

165 0011105