

April 21, 1927.

Mr. E. W. Webb,
The Ethyl Gasoline Corp.,
25 Broadway,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Webb:

Pursuant to my letter of a few days ago concerning Mr. [REDACTED] I had conversation with his physicians, Doctor Brewer and Doctor Henderson, both of whom were quite willing to cooperate with me in doing whatever seems best for Mr. [REDACTED] and it was thought advisable that he be given work to do.

With this idea in mind I asked Mr. Siebenthaler to bring Mr. [REDACTED] to my office to talk matters over today. I explained fully to him the point of view at which we had arrived, and he was agreeable to the arrangement. However, he made a counter proposal which may have a certain merit. In fact it is my feeling that Doctor Henderson believes his proposal to be the more desirable one, and he has discussed it with him. It is as follows:-

Some days ago he, [REDACTED], had a conversation with officials and physicians at the Dayton Soldiers Home in which they are reputed to have said that they would give him employment and at the same time medical observation and care, that he would be given work to do to the extent of his ability to perform work, and that in the event he was unable to progress, they would take care of the outcome whatever it might be. This seemed to ease his mind greatly and to assure him that he would be taken care of. He is very much troubled, however, about the situation of his wife. He said this to me. "I owe money on my house and elsewhere, and this has been a source of great worry. I do not wish to bring suit against the Ethyl Gasoline Corporation, and have avoided all suggestions which have been made to me that this should be done by me in the near future, unless I were willing to permit my case to go on so long as to be legally outlawed. If the Ethyl Gasoline Corporation would settle with me for \$5,000. I would be happy to sign an agreement and to arrange in any way desirable, and would regard this as a complete and final settlement of my case." Mr. [REDACTED] further

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stated that he was willing to settle with the Ethyl Gasoline Corporation for any sum that it was willing to give, but that both he and his physician regarded the \$5,000. as being a fair settlement, and that he would be content and would feel that he had been fairly treated if the matter were handled in this way.

I do not know what you will feel about this, neither do I know what the legal aspect of the situation is. I do know, however, that the man has been worried about financial difficulties, about his own inability to work and make a living, and that these things have contributed considerably to his mental state. In view of his arrangements with the Soldiers Home, a settlement at this time might so ease his financial situation and put an end to his worries to such an extent as to allow his complete mental recovery. After having had this conversation with him, in which he fairly and frankly stated to me his own feeling, I gave him my word that I would present his case, and do what I could for him. I therefore, present all of these facts and statements for what they are worth, and leave them to your consideration. Meantime, I shall be glad to do whatever I can for Mr. Ross in the way of giving him either personal or professional advice. I have, of course, stated to him that I have no authority or power to make any settlement with him. I feel, however, that these statements of his are a definite advance in the progress of complete settlement of his case, and I should appreciate knowing what is your reaction to the entire situation.

I do not know whether it is advisable for him to receive such a settlement. It may only fix more firmly his idea that he is incapacitated. However it may be decidedly to the advantage of the Ethyl Gasoline Corporation to have an immediate end of this affair. No threat or suggestion in the direction of a suit by Mr. [REDACTED] has been made, it is nevertheless likely that he will follow the advice of persons who have talked to him, and file suit in advance of the time which would outlaw such a suit. Frankly I do not know what to advise and so leave the facts to speak for themselves.

Very truly yours,

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