

May 19, 1934

State of Illinois
Industrial Commission
205 W. Wacker Street
Chicago, Illinois

Gentlemen:

Your letter of May 16th addressed to the Ethyl Gasoline Corporation of New York has been referred to me for reply.

I and my associates in this laboratory have made a detailed study of the possible hazards from lead relating to the sale and distribution of gasolines containing lead. I can best answer your letter by sending you under separate cover reprints of published articles from this laboratory.

For your further information, I should like to briefly describe additional experimental observations which have just been completed, and which will soon be published. We have selected a number of subjects who have had no previous exposure to lead compounds, and have studied their lead metabolism in the laboratory over a period of months. At the end of this control period, these persons have been introduced into positions which are representative for gasoline filling station employees, and for garage mechanics, and during this employment for a period of months we have followed their lead metabolism in the same manner employed during the control period. The results of these observations indicate quite clearly that the lead exposure associated with the handling of leaded gasoline is so slight as not to be detected. We can not escape the conclusion that these occupations do not involve significant exposure to lead compounds.

Very truly yours,

RAK:IS

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.

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