

*Report to
5-1939*

Powell

ETHYL GASOLINE CORPORATION

CHRYSLER BUILDING
405 LEXINGTON AVENUE

SAFETY COMMITTEE

NEW YORK June 30, 1938

O.B. LEWIS
CHAIRMAN

Dr. W. F. Machle
Kettering Laboratory of Applied Physiology
College of Medicine
Eden Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Machle:

We are quoting below letter received from Jim Baldwin regarding an alleged case of lead poisoning.

"Mr. [REDACTED] of Wooton Road & Runymeade Road, Essex Fells, New Jersey, called me at my home last night on the advice of a Tide Water man to report that he had a case of 'Lead Poisoning'. I called on Mr. [REDACTED] today to investigate.

"Mr. [REDACTED] has an automobile repair shop in the rear of his home. He has an Esso, an Essolene and a Tydol pump. Mr. [REDACTED] is 70 years old but is quite active in the business, helped only by his son-in-law, and has been in this business since 1918.

"18 months ago a small sore spot appeared on his left hand between two fingers which he thought was poison ivy. It did not respond to treatment but gradually spread over his hand and up his arm to his elbow and then to his right hand and arm. Now both hands are covered with heavy hard layers of loose skin with occasional raw sore spots. Both arms to his elbows are a dark red unnatural color. They become very itchy when warm and he says that last week both arms were swollen to nearly twice normal size.

"He has been to two doctors, one of whom told him he could do nothing for him. The other treated him for some time but Mr. [REDACTED] thought that he was not doing any good so he stopped going to him for treatments. He would not give the name of the first doctor but the other one is Dr. Roberts, Park Ave., Caldwell, N. J. According to Mr. [REDACTED] neither doctor told him what his trouble was.

"Last week he showed his hands and arms to a Tide Water tank truck driver and asked if any of their men had ever had any such trouble. The driver told him no and asked what it was. Mr. [REDACTED] replied that he didn't know unless it

KE 0011875

June 30, 1938

was poisoning. Evidently the driver reported to his office because yesterday a Tide Water man called Mr. [REDACTED] and advised him to get in touch with me.

"Mr. [REDACTED] has used Lanolin cream, Vaseline, salt water, olive oil and lime water. Now some one has told him to use as a hand wash a brew made from some kind of a weed which he is doing.

"I suggested that he had evidently become sensitive to gasoline and that there was probably nothing to become alarmed over. I told him I would report his condition to our New York office and in the meantime suggested he stay away from gasolines and naphthas and continue treatment with his doctor."

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the FF* (We would appreciate your giving this case whatever attention you feel it merits.

Very truly yours,

O. V. Lewis

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