

Dayton, Ohio

December 24, 1938.

Re: Weekly Letter

*P. A. Under
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has need to report to Dr. Sager*

Mr. H. A. Mack.

Dear Mr. Mack,

At the request of Dr. Kehoe I went to Newark, Ohio and called on Mr. E. P. Burk, Division Manager of the Pure Oil Company. Mr. Burk had written Dr. Kehoe requesting that he have one of our doctors examine several of their men who felt that the handling of leaded gasoline was affecting their health.

I spent considerable time with Mr. Burk explaining the research work our company has done and is doing with regard to lead absorption and I am sure convinced him the trouble the men are experiencing is not caused by lead. I am attaching to this letter a complete report of this contact and have mailed direct to Dr. Kehoe the report.

I also called at the Heath refinery of the Pure Oil Company and discussed with Mr. Hostettler, Assistant Superintendent and Mr. Sutton in charge of blending the installing of a new unloading line. Mr. Hostettler informed me he had included this in their 1939 budget and hoped to order the material shortly after January 1st.

They have been using a combination gauge on tank cars during the gasoline wash operation and Mr. Sutton said he found on last car unloaded #EBAX - 630 that it took longer than an hour to remove the last gasoline wash. I will check into this at the first opportunity.

While at this plant I also saw two of the blenders and secured spot samples of urine as requested by Dr. Schradin. These I have sent to Dr. Schradin at our Cincinnati laboratory.

Considerable portion of my time this week was spent in the office working on reports and office detail.

Yours very truly,

N. D. Siebenthaler

N. D. Siebenthaler

WDS:b

M. D. K.

KE 22123

Dayton, Ohio

December 24, 1938

Dr. R. H. Kehoe.

Dear Dr. Kehoe:

I called on Mr. E. P. Burk, Division Manager of the Pure Oil Company, Newark, Ohio regarding the two men he requested you have one of our doctors examine. The circumstances behind this request are briefly as follows:

About 18 months ago a truck driver was removing a bowl from a visible pump being assisted by Mr. F. Schenk a salesman. In some manner about a pint of Ethyl gasoline remaining in the bottom of the glass bowl spilled over the head of the truck driver, who at the time had a boil on his neck. Some three months later the man died from what cause I could not learn.

However, Mr. Schenk who was assisting with the work at the time of the spill wiped the gasoline from the man's face and neck and some weeks later he, Mr. Schenk broke out with several boils. From that time until six months ago he had a total of 158 boils and was off duty approximately seven months. He was treated by several doctors in Newark, Ohio the last one treating with a serum which cured Mr. Schenk of the boils but left him in a weak condition. After taking a month's vacation he returned to work but in several days developed a paralysis of the legs and was unable to walk.

A Dr. E. Stedem of Columbus was called on the case and after treating Mr. Schenk six weeks had him walking with the aid of a back brace. Dr. Stedem gave Mr. Schenk the impression his trouble was caused by his contact with leaded gasoline and the case has been filed with the Ohio Industrial Commission for compensation.

In view of the above Mr. Burk stated all of the employees of the bulk plant are attributing any ills to leaded gasoline and he now has two tank wagon drivers, one with a skin rash on his wrist, the other no rash but not feeling well who are attributing their trouble to leaded gasoline. After briefly going over our research work with regard to possible lead absorption from leaded gasoline with Mr. Burk he is convinced that none of the trouble has been from that source. However, as he put it, he is up against it and wishes advice from a medical authority as to how to allay the apparent fear the men now have.

If I can be of any further assistance in this matter I will be glad to have you call on me.

Yours very truly,

N. D. Siebenthaler

NDS:b

N. D. Siebenthaler