

March 23, 1927.

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

My dear Mr. Webb:

I am inclined to believe that a re-writing of the folder which is given to filling stations for distribution to the public would be of definite advantage. The rules and regulations, together with the precautions as they are furnished to jobbers, constitute a very much more suitable warning, than is to be found in the present booklet. I believe these could be written in much the same fashion as they are written in the booklet, "Information about Ethyl Gasoline". In this way you would be doing away with two objectionable features in the present caution folder.

I do not believe that it is wise, in spite of all of the information that we have obtained to substantiate it, to say that there is no danger whatever in the use of Ethyl Gasoline. It is difficult, it seems to me, to require certain precautions and regulations, and to recognize the necessity of carrying out the investigation as we are doing, unless we admit that it is possible that there may be some slight danger. Otherwise why take the precautions, and why investigate? I should think that this point of view would be perfectly plain to the average man, and it seems a bit foolish, therefore, to introduce the subject by saying there is no danger. The other objection is that the folder states that the Fluid contains only one part to 12600 parts gasoline. This statement is not strictly correct since most of the gasoline contains less than this. My objection to it, however is not this, but is rather due to the fact that the Surgeon General's regulations use the proportion of one in 1300. Dr. Leake has noted this discrepancy and has called attention to it.

From my point of view the handling of this whole matter is done very well in the questions and answers numbers 33 and 34 in the booklet, and I think that very little other than this would be required in the folder. I feel, however, that much could be done by the handlers of Ethyl Gasoline in the way of preventing skin contact. This has been done by the Refiners Oil Company by suggesting just how the gasoline should be handled, and insisting that precautions against spillage be taken. I see no reason for feeling that this cannot be done without arousing a certain fear in the minds of the men who handle it. On the contrary I see every reason to believe that these men in general have very

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little fear and cannot be stimulated to use much care except as the necessity for a lack of wastage and precautions against fire hazards be taken. At any rate it is certainly not advisable for the men who market Ethyl Gasoline to give the impression to their employees that there is no possible danger, and that they need not regard in any way certain precautions which have been suggested.

Very truly yours,

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