

*Report to Dr. Sayen
5-1939*

Wm

ETHYL GASOLINE CORPORATION

CHRYSLER BUILDING
405 LEXINGTON AVENUE

SAFETY COMMITTEE

O. B. LEWIS
CHAIRMAN

NEW YORK

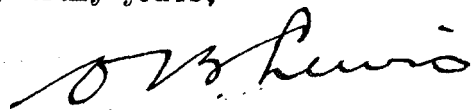
November 24, 1937

Dr. R. A. Kehoe
Kettering Laboratory of Applied Physiology
College of Medicine
Eden Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Kehoe:

Attached is copy of a letter from Mr. M. A. Taylor
on an alleged lead poisoning case, which you may wish to
have as a matter of record.

Very truly yours,



W:GCL
Enclosure

KE 0012082

Boston, Mass
November 22, 1937

R. J. C. Taylor
Ethyl Gasoline Corp.
Chrysler Building
New York

Attention: Mr. O. B. Lewis

Dear Oscar:

For your information we wish to quote from Mr. Richardson's weekly letter dated November 13th.

"On Friday, when I contacted the Socony office in Hartford, Jud Logan said that a Dr. MacKensie had called inquiring as to the amount of lead per gallon in Ethyl gasoline. As Jud did not know exactly, he referred this doctor to me. Later I contacted Mr. Mitchell of Colonial Beacon, in Hartford, who advised that there was a law suit pending against one of their accounts for lead poisoning.

"The Laurel Oil Co. (Colonial Beacon jobbers, Jim McIntyre, President) has supplies for some two years, the New Method Laundry, the largest in Hartford, Essolene. One of the mechanics in the New Method Laundry has been sick, and is claiming that it is lead poisoning contracted from leaded gasoline.

"I contacted the president of the laundry, Mr. Garry Williams, who told me that this employee first claimed that his illness was from a spray that they use in cleaning suede jackets. Dr. Grey of the State Medical Department inspected the laundry and okayed it from this angle. Then the employee claimed that it was from the gasoline which he had used possibly five times in polishing brass on some of the machines. Since that time he has left the employ of the New Method Laundry, and is now suing them for compensation.

"At Mr. Williams suggestion, I contacted, over the phone, from his office, Mr. Hine, the insurance adjuster. Mr. Hine described the case, and asked that I contact the doctor involved, a Dr. Wentworth.

"Dr. Wentworth stated that the man had had some treatment before he (Dr. Wentworth) was called in on the case. Among other things, the man's urine was tested at the Connecticut State College at Storrs, as well as his excreta. These showed lead concentrations of 0.67 mgs. and 2.0 mgs per liter. The doctor could not recall off hand which had the greater concentration. Dr. Wentworth stated that he was familiar with Dr. Kehoe's work in this direction and was using him as an authority.

"The case was to come to trial on Tuesday, November 16th, but it has been postponed indefinitely, probably two or three weeks. The insurance company, for whom Mr. Hine is the adjuster, is the Century Indemnity Company of Hartford.

"Mr. McIntyre and Mr. Williams both stated that the pump from which the gasoline is dispensed is marked with a lead plate.

"The Laurel Oil Company has not had this business exclusively. According to Mr. Williams they have bought other lead treated gasolines and also benzol treated gasolines."

This letter came into the office in our absence. Mr. H. K. Ball discussed the matter over the telephone with Bob Richardson and advised him not to make any statements at all on the case but to refer the adjuster to our New York Office.

Both Henry and I feel that the case has no merit, as the man has had little or no exposure to gasoline.

KE 0012083