

September 8, 1930

Commissioner of Motor Vehicles,
State of Connecticut,
Hartford, Conn.

Dear Sir:

It has just been reported to me in an entirely accidental and hearsay fashion that you have knowledge of certain cases of lead poisoning from the handling of leaded gasoline in the state of Connecticut. I should ordinarily disregard information which originates in the manner in which this has come to my attention, but in this instance the public health significance of the matter prompts me to write you.

During the past five years this laboratory has attempted to discover whether or not there are any public health hazards in the sale and distribution of Ethyl Gasoline. We have attempted numerous investigations but our principal interest has been in the observations of exposed persons, in an effort to discover any evidences of lead poisoning as the result of this business. We have been cooperating with the United States Public Health Service in investigating all suspected cases in this country and in Canada. It may interest you to know that we have never discovered a bona fide case of lead poisoning among any of the handlers of Ethyl Gasoline. It is for this reason that I am especially interested in the information which has come to your attention, for I am particularly anxious that nothing that occurs may be permitted to escape our attention. I should appreciate it very much therefore, if you would provide me with such information as will make it possible for me to investigate carefully the instances which you are reputed to have cited. On the other hand, if you have been misquoted, or if the source of my information is as valueless as hearsay evidence usually is, I should appreciate knowing that such is the case.

Allow me to thank you in advance for the courtesy of a reply, for which I am enclosing a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Very truly yours,

RAK:EJ