

REPORT -----

HUMBLE OIL CO., HOUSTON, TEXAS

COMPLAINT:

Possible lead poisoning

PAST HISTORY:

Employed since July '22, working on a tug for six years, then transferred to wharf handling tug lines. He has been blending ethyl gasoline, doing all of the mixing and taking the usual precautions of wearing gas mask and entire outfit. He states that in August, 1929, when opening part of a drum of ethyl fluid, some splashed on him and he breathed some of the vapors. At that time his throat burned but otherwise was well. He also states that in July, 1930, he was hit on the head by a cable and rendered unconscious for a short time. Hospital records of this instance do not give an account of his being unconscious and he was discharged after initial visit as O. K. Hospital records of previous illness show: Rheumatism - March 9-12, 1929
Dengue Fever - August 25 - September 1, 1909

PRESENT ILLNESS:

Began September 22, 1930, which was the last day he worked. That night he awoke with a severe pain in his right shoulder. He stated he perspired profusely. His shoulder became red, swollen, and tender on palpation. The pain continued for five days during which time he made no attempt to move his arm (rt.) or shoulder. Then as acute shoulder began to subside, he states he realized he did not have normal use of his shoulder muscles. During this time he was at home

under the care of Dr. Stein, the Company physician at the plant. A diagnosis of Rheumatic Arthritis was made at the time. On examination at that time he was found to have an apical abscess of upper lateral incisor draining through a sinus in the gum. This tooth was pulled and he had relief from pain. It was thought at the time that this was a typical case of arthritis with the foci of infection in abscessed teeth. Later with the development of muscle weakness, possibility of lead poisoning was considered. Dr. Aves, Medical Director of the Company saw him on November 4, and at that time he had no pain and very little tenderness in his shoulder, but apparently had lost use of right deltoid and had a weakness of other muscle group of arm and forearm. He also seemed to have a generalized weakness, difficulty in walking, and perspired very freely. He has had no G. I. symptoms, headache, tremor, or ataxia. Insomnia as has been present for a number of years. He did not improve and was seen by us November 14, with essentially the same symptoms.

EXPOSURE TO LEAD:

Last mix was on August 29, 1930, and mix previous to that was July 29, 1930; the mixes being about one time each month. He took the usual precautions. The entire mixing operations took about two hours with approximately thirty minutes mixing ethyl fluid. Until recently he had been using parts of drums.

1st P4
alt 0
sig 0
ack chine

ETHYL GASOLINE CORPORATION

Humble oil Co
Houston Texas.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

Case No. _____ Name _____ Date 11-14-30
Height 5'9" Weight (stripped) 188 Temperature 98.8
General Appearance In hospital clothes appearing sick - able to walk about
Nutrition Fairly good - pendulous abdomen Muscular Development Fair
Skin Clear - normal color Posture Erect shoulders flattened over deltoid
Eyes Pupils equal react to l.h.a. Vision Good
Nose Septum dev. much to rt. - m. m. red. Sense of Smell Good
Ear D - 3 OK Audition Good
Mouth Teeth dirty - two recently filled - gums show pyorrhea no loss line
Throat E normal
Lymph Glands No adenopathy
Chest-Respiration 18 Pulse 90 Blood Pressure 128/96 left: 76
Chest Measurements at Nipple Line Heart Measurements R.S.D. 5 3 1/2 x 10 cm
Heart - rate & rhythm normal - sounds distinct but fairly good no murmurs
Chest - clear on f + a.
Abdomen Pendulous - no pain or tenderness - Liver & spleen not palp.
Pelvis Eng. rings intact - no scar or lacerations
Lower Extremities Muscles ok - no pain or tenderness over joints.
Central Nervous System - (Reflexes, signs, tremors, sensation) K-j. ++ Biceps ++
Achilles + Crem. & abd. obtained Romberg neg.
Muscular Strength - Right Hand 70 (no 3) Left Hand 110 (no 3)

I HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE BEEN ADVISED BY _____
REPRESENTING THE ETHYL GASOLINE CORPORATION, THAT ETHYL FLUID IS A POISON AND FURTHER THAT
I HAVE RECEIVED FROM HIM INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION RELATIVE TO THE DANGERS AND RISKS
ASSOCIATED WITH THE HANDLING OF SAID FLUID.

Employee.

Witness:

X-RAY REPORTS OF DR. W. G. McDEED:

TEETH:

No areas of increased density suggesting apical abscess; seem Pyorrhea present all teeth.

RIGHT SHOULDER:

No evidence of fracture or dislocation - slight increase of density of bone at superior part of enter tubercular sulcus - indicative of arthritis.

TEMPERATURE:

Recently there was a slight increase to 99.2 on November 8; to 99 on November 10; normal on November 11 and 12.

EXAMINATION - UPPER EXTREMITIES

Right & Left Pectorals - good and equal

Right & Left Trapezus - good and equal

Right & Left Latissimus - good and equal

Right & Left Triceps - slightly weaker on right

Right & Left Biceps - slightly weaker on right

Deltoid - left good - right flattened and weak - could elevate arm
to about angle of forty-five degrees.

Could rotate shoulders - no joint tenderness or pain.