

August 21, 1933

Mr. A. E. Mittnacht
Ethyl Gasoline Corporation
Chrysler Building
New York City
New York

Dear Mr. Mittnacht:

In reply to your letter of August 18th relative to the case of Glendon A. Schubert of Schubert's Auto Body Service Company at Tupper Lake, New York, I am enclosing copy of my letter to him together with his original letter.

Very truly yours,

RAK:IS

Robert A. Kahoe, M.D.

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C O P Y

SCHUBERT's

Auto Body Service

Foot of Wawbeek Ave.

New York - Tupper Lake

August 16, 1933

Ethyl Gasoline Corporation
New York, New York

Gentlemen:

What are early symptoms of lead poisoning from ethyl gasoline? I'm afraid local doctors would have no idea and so appeal to you.

For about 5 weeks I've been getting Essoline from a nearby station for shop use. I've been sandpapering lacquer with it, cleaning up with it, and, smoking a great deal hand rolled cigarettes, I've been getting plenty of it in me through the mouth. The attendant at this station certainly knew there was lead in Essolene, but I didn't. The Colonial advertising says that Essolene is their answer to gasoline, but no mention have I seen of any lead content. The pump carries the usual warning as to lead content, but putting lead in any but Ethyl gasoline at a premium price is quite recent on the market and I'm sure I, nor any purchaser, could be called negligent not to notice the lead warning sign on a pump delivering regular market price gasoline. The color of Essolene means nothing for you yourself advertise Ethyl. The attendant knew I was buying this gasoline in a 5 gal. can for shop use, for I made mention of that, but he never warned me the gasoline contained lead and he certainly should have, printed warning on pump or no.

For the past three weeks at least I have been increasingly listless and tired out all the time. I haven't been so rushed with work that I'd be all tired out. I've made a careful study for a very long time of the effect different foods have upon me and for sometime have confined my diet to what with the least intake and the best outgo gives me not merely sustenance but pep and energy without putting on weight. I am careful to get plenty of sleep. I have not felt in I do not know when as I have recently.

Last week on two nights I retired about ten o'clock, and sitting on the edge of the bed to pull off my shoes lay back to rest "just a minute". One night I slept thus, fully clothed, legs down over the edge of the bed, all night. The

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second night I slept thus until almost 4:00 A.M. when I awoke and undressed. I am completely all in at night and not much better in the morning or during the day. After those two nights I increased my usual 8 to 9 hours sleep to between 10 and 12 for every night.

Large pimples, almost like small boils, have broken out on my back and I haven't had any like that, nor hardly any at all, in years. I'm intelligent enough, I hope, to know that something else might be wrong, but if this awful lassitude and the breaking out of the skin would indicate lead poisoning, I want to know and want to know what the treatment should be, etc. If lead poisoning manifests itself other ways, I want to know that, too. It is bad enough to trust your health to an ordinary doctor even in matters with which he has had experience, but it would be worse than folly to go to an ordinary doctor with a suspected case of lead poisoning. I doubt if many of them ever even heard of it. So will you not advise me by early mail?

Very truly yours,

Signed: Glendon A. Schubert

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