

September 1, 1926.

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

My dear Mr. Webb:

I have looked over the copy of rules and regulations to be provided for jobbers handling Ethyl Gasoline. It seems to me that they are quite satisfactory and although I do not quite see where there is any impropriety in mentioning the exhaust gas matter, it does not seem to be necessary to include it in this list. My one reason for mentioning it in other instructions was to bring out the point that exhaust gas of any automobile is poisonous. That there is no greater danger in breathing exhaust gas from using Ethyl Gasoline (i.e. there is no greater immediate danger) than in any other case. This arose because one or two complaints were made by various persons and by some garage men that they were overcome by fumes from automobiles, in apparent ignorance of carbon monoxide poisoning, they attributed this to the loaded gasoline.

I received your letter in the matter of the suits brought against The Standard Oil Company, and I should be very glad to examine any of these men. It is worth while to point out to you, however, that if there is to be a direct court action in these cases, it is just as well that I should not be drawn into the case. I think it should be pointed out to the attorneys of The Standard Oil Company that my testimony can not be used advantageously, for the questions of responsibility, proper safe-guarding and proper medical supervision are all likely to be brought in these cases. With the feelings which I have about that entire matter, upon which I should be bound to express myself if I fell into the hands of a clever cross examiner, I do not believe that it would be well to have me brought into the matter. If, however, all that is wished of me is my opinion as to the condition of these men at the present time I should be very glad to contribute whatever I can.

I mention the above matter because I should like to know the purposes of the present examination, and I should like to discuss the entire matter with you before going into the thing too deeply. As you know I have very considerable mental reservation about that whole affair, and because of the personalities involved as well as because I do not think that there was any deliberate carelessness on the part of anybody, I should prefer not to be placed in a position of having to express myself.

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I have just written to Mr. Violette of the Standard Oil Company of Kentucky giving him the information which I have obtained from Doctor Kitzmiller and Doctor Cradgington in explaining to him my point of view about the entire matter in a way which I think will satisfy him and conclude the discussion.

I do not know how to get in touch with Mr. Harding. This brings up the point that I have no means of knowing where or how to get in touch with our inspectors, and I should appreciate very much having any of the details of their usual whereabouts which you may have in the New York office. I should like to have their home addresses, and to know something about how to get in touch with them when it is necessary to do so.

Very truly yours,

RAK:OJ

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