

COPY

GENERAL MOTORS CHEMICAL COMPANY

Dayton, Ohio.

July 18, 1924.

Doctor Paul Nicholas Leech,
American Medical Association,
535 North Dearborn Street,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of July 11th addressed to Mr. Midgley has been referred to me. You are quite right in assuming that the General Motors Company and the Standard Oil Company would hardly have placed upon the market a substance containing lead without having the possible toxic effects carefully examined. Although no data have been published a comprehensive research on the possible danger to the general public have lead poisoning has been carried on by the Bureau of Mines in cooperation with the Department of Public Health. A preliminary report on this investigation will be available shortly. At present I may say that all indications are that there is no danger of acquiring lead poisoning through even prolonged exposure to the exhaust gases of cars using Ethyl Gas. Poisoning from carbon monoxide would arise long before the concentration of lead would reach a point where even cumulative poisoning is to be feared. Full details of this investigation will be available at a somewhat later date. I should be very glad to give you any further information which may be available.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Graham Edgar,
Graham Edgar,
Director of Research