

ETHYL GASOLINE CORPORATION

25 BROADWAY

NEW YORK January 2, 1929.

INTER-OFFICE
CORRESPONDENCE

A

Dr. R. A. Kehoe,

Dear Dr. Kehoe:

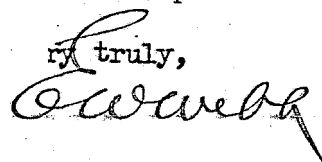
Enclosed is copy of letter from Mr. William H. Hartigan, Chief of the Kansas City Station, Food, Drug and Insecticide Administration, in reference to his brother whom he claims, as you will note, seems to be suffering from the after effects of Red Crown Ethyl Gasoline poisoning.

Naturally all claims of this nature are entitled to our prompt attention, but obviously, from the very nature of Mr. Hartigan's position, it behooves us to immediately do everything we possibly can to ascertain the facts.

Also enclosed is copy of letter I am sending to Mr. Fellingham of the Standard of Indiana, with whom you have been in communication regarding other matters.

Kindly note that we are leaving the handling of this subject to you and Mr. Fellingham, with whom I would like to suggest you get in telephone communication in order to avoid the delay consequent upon exchange of correspondence.

Yours truly,



A:H

Copy to Mr. Fellingham

CERTIFICATE OF INDUSTRIAL OR OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE

COPY

NAME OF PATIENT

ADDRESS: Street and No. 8205 Force, City or Village Cleveland, Ohio.

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS

Sex	Age	Color	Country of birth
M	26	W	U.S.

Single, married, widowed or divorced (write the word) Married

Occupation

(a) Present trade, profession or work

pipe fitter

Particular kind of work in such trade, etc.

installing and removing gasoline pumps.Date of entering present occupation April, 1930Employer's name Sun Oil Co.,Address Cleveland, Ohio.

Business (kind of goods made or work done)

Operating gasoline stations

(b) Previous occupations:

Name of occupation	Entered (year)	Left (year)
<u>Steam fitter</u>	<u>1922</u>	<u>1930</u>

Previous illnesses, if any, due to occupation:

Disease or illness	Year
<u>none</u>	

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DISEASE

Diagnosis of present illness Poisoning from ethyl gas - paralysis
Chief symptoms and conditions

Duration

Date first symptoms appeared Nov. 10, 1930Complicating Diseases (such as alcoholism, syphilis, tuberculosis, etc.) none

What in your opinion caused this affliction?

exposure to ethyl gas

Additional facts

Date of diagnosis Dec. 8, 1930(Signed) S.C. Lind, M.D.801 Medical Arts Bldg.,192 (Address) Cleveland, Ohio.

WRITE PLAINLY WITH INK—THIS IS A PERMANENT RECORD

N. B.—Every item of information should be carefully supplied. The exact statement of OCCUPATION is very important. Physicians should state DIAGNOSIS in plain terms. See instructions on back of certificate.

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH COLUMBUS

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING OUT CERTIFICATE

Present Occupation. *Precise* statement of occupation is very important so that the relative healthfulness of various pursuits may be known. It is necessary to know both general trade or profession (for example, *printer*) and also the particular kind of work or branch of the trade (as *hand compositor* or *linotype operator*.)

Date of entering present occupation is important to determine how long the worker may have been exposed to the hazard before contracting the disease.

Employer's name, address and business are necessary to ascertain distribution of occupational diseases by industries, many trades (e. g., machinists) being common to different industries.

Previous Occupations need to be known, if possible, because present illness may be due to a former rather than present occupation. Give simply the name of each distinct occupation which the

patient may have followed, with the year he entered and the year he left.

Previous Illnesses. This refers either to previous attacks of present disease, or to any other disease, *due to occupation*. All that is required is the name of each such disease or illness with the year in which it occurred.

Medical Certificate. Only the last two items specified for this require any explanation. In making these reports it is necessary to consider the possible influence of factors other than occupation as causes of the disease. For this reason any *complicating diseases* should be noted, such, for example, as alcoholism or syphilis in connection with arteriosclerosis in cases of lead or other metal poisoning. The possible effect of other factors, such as poor hygienic conditions in the home, or other personal conditions, must be considered, and when discoverable should be noted under *additional facts*.

AN ACT—To Require the Reporting of Occupational Diseases—(As amended February 4, 1920)

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio:

Report of
occupational
diseases by
physicians

SECTION 1243-1. Every physician in this state attending on or called in to visit a patient whom he believes to be suffering from poisoning from lead, phosphorus, arsenic, brass, wood alcohol, mercury or their compounds, or from anthrax or from compressed air illness and such other occupational diseases and ailments as the state department of health shall require to be reported, shall within forty-eight hours from the time of first attending such patient send to the state commissioner of health a report stating:

When and to
whom to be
made

- (a) Name, address and occupation of patient. (b) Name, address and business of employer.
(c) Nature of disease. (d) Such other information as may be reasonably required by the state department of health.

The reports herein required shall be made on, or in conformity with, the standard schedule blanks hereinafter provided for. The mailing of the report, within the time required, in a stamped envelope addressed to the office of the state commissioner of health, shall be a compliance with this section.

Blanks for
report

SECTION 1243-2. The state department of health shall prepare and furnish, free of cost, to the physicians included in the preceding section, standard schedule blanks for the reports required under this act. The form and contents of such blanks shall be determined by the state department of health.

Such reports
not evidence

SECTION 1243-3. Reports made under this act shall not be evidence of the facts therein stated in any action arising out of the disease therein reported.

Copy of re-
port to be
transmitted
to proper
official

SECTION 1243-4. It shall furthermore be the duty of the state department of health to transmit a copy of all such reports of occupational disease to the proper official having charge of factory inspection.

Penalty

SECTION 1243-5. Whoever being a physician practicing in the state of Ohio, neglects or refuses to make and transmit to the state commissioner of health any report provided for in section 1243-1 of the General Code shall be fined not to exceed one hundred dollars or imprisoned for not to exceed ninety days, or both, but no person shall be imprisoned under this section for a first offense and the prosecution shall always be as and for a first offense unless the affidavit upon which the prosecution is instituted contains the allegation that the offense is a second or repeated offense.

NOTE—In addition to the diseases or disabilities provided for in Section 1243-1 of the above law, the regulations passed by the Public Health Council on February 27, 1920, provide in Regulation 2 for the reporting of "any disease or disability contracted as a result of the nature of the person's employment, including the following diseases or disabilities and not excluding others:

Anilin poisoning	Bisulphide of carbon poisoning	Naptha poisoning
Benzine (gasoline) poisoning	Carbon monoxide poisoning	Natural gas poisoning
Benzol poisoning	Dinitrobenzene poisoning	Turpentine poisoning

January 2, 1929.

Mr. William H. Hartigan, Chief,
Kansas City Station,
Food, Drug and Insecticide Administration,
Kansas City, Missouri.

Dear Sir:

We have your letter of December 28th in reference to the condition of your brother.

We have sent a copy to Dr. Robert A. Kehoe of the University of Cincinnati, who has made a special study of lead poisoning and who is our Chief Medical Advisor, with the request that he shall get in communication with you.

I am sure that you will immediately hear from him.

Appreciating your having brought this matter to our direct attention,

Yours very truly,

President

A:H

January 2, 1929.

Mr. Robert J. Fellingham, General Attorney,
Standard Oil Company (Indiana),
810 S. Michigan Avenue,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Fellingham:

Enclosed is copy of letter we
have received from Mr. William H. Hartigan, chief of
the Kansas City Station of the Food, Drug and Insecticide
Administration, and copy of our reply, and also that of
a letter we are sending to Dr. Kehoe.

The handling of the situation will
be left in the hands of yourself and Dr. Kehoe.

Yours very truly,

A:H
Copy to Dr. Kehoe

January 3, 1928

Mr. E. W. Webb,
Ethyl Gasoline Corp.,
25 Broadway,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Webb:

In accordance with the suggestion in your letter of January 2 I called up Mr. Fellingham in Chicago and talked with him about the matter. At his suggestion, with which I agreed, I have written to Mr. Hartigan in order to open up the case in such a way that we could look into it. I enclose herewith a copy of my letter. I will follow up the matter and keep you informed. However, I might say that it seems unlikely to me that this will occasion any difficulty. I should not be surprised if my letter settled the matter.

Very truly yours,

RAK:EJ
Encl.

January 3, 1928

Mr. Wm. H. Hartigan, Chief,
Kansas City Station,
Food, Drug and Insecticide Administration,
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Sir:

I have had referred to me by the Ethyl Gasoline Corporation your letter of December 28 in regard to the illness of your brother.

From the history of your brother's illness which was presented in your letter, it would seem that his illness is due, probably, to some cause other than exposure to Ethyl Gasoline. It is true that there is little or nothing in medical literature on the subject of illnesses arising from Ethyl Gasoline. The reason for this is that cases of injury have apparently not occurred. Co-operating with the United States Public Health Service I and my associates have investigated the condition of men working in garages and filling stations handling Ethyl Gasoline continuously over a period of years. With the exception of a few instances of irritation to the skin such as occurs in the case of any irritating substance like gasoline, we have been quite unable to find injury resulting from the handling of Ethyl Gasoline. A number of complaints of injury have arisen in various parts of the country which we have made it our business also to investigate. None of these has given us reason to attribute ill effects to Ethyl Gasoline over and above such effects as are known to be produced by gasoline. Ordinary gasolines are irritating to the skin and produce drying and cracking which is very frequently followed by skin infection. When a covered portion of the body is wet with gasoline and kept wet, blistering very commonly results; and when the skin comes away from these blisters infections from the ordinary bacteria of the skin and also from mold-like parasites often result. From the point of view of lead (tetraethyl lead), which is the only ingredient of Ethyl Gasoline which would differentiate it from ordinary gasolines, there has been no indication of injury. Furthermore, experimentation with animals and observations on a large number of men give no reason for believing that lead is absorbed in appreciable quantity through the skin out of Ethyl Gasoline.

In view of these facts, which you will be able to have substantiated if you so desire through the United States Public Health Service, it would seem very unlikely that a single exposure of one's hands to Ethyl Gasoline could give rise to any constitutional symptoms. It is not surprising that there should have been some skin irritation, and blistering, but it seems likely that such illness as

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your brother has had in addition to this must have arisen from some other cause. However, it is our purpose to investigate any and all such cases as that of your brother and I should be very glad to make such arrangements as are possible whereby I or one of my assistants might have an opportunity to examine your brother and to discuss the case with his physicians. I should be glad to have you or his physician write me as to how and when this may be done.

Very truly yours,

RAK:EJ

Copy sent to Dr. Leake
4-19-32

C O P Y

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food, Drug, and Insecticide Administration

Kansas City Station
400 Post Office Building

Kansas City, Mo.
December 28th, 1928.

Ethyl Gasoline Corporation,
New York, N.Y.

Gentlemen:

After having experience with food infections and food intoxications, I have had an appeal from my brother who seems to be suffering from the after effects of poisoning from Red Crown Ethyl Gasoline.

About December 20th, 1925, he was driving a Ford Coupe during a cold spell, the car stalled on a hill and he attempted to get it running again by adjusting the carburetor. In this manner his hands became covered with the ethyl gasoline. Not being successful in getting the car to run he put his hands in a pair of woolen mittens and helped push the car to a nearby garage. From there he proceeded home and washed his hands with soap and water. However, about three days later both hands broke out with small blisters, some of the blisters being large enough to appear as burns. He then consulted Dr. Hilen Wallace, St. Joseph, Missouri, and carried out the treatment prescribed by Dr. Wallace.

Previous to this infection he enjoyed normal health and during the war was in the United States Navy. Since this accident his health has never been normal. From time to time a rash will break out on different parts of his body and he suffers from stomach and intestinal disturbances indicating hyperacidity. At times the bloating of the stomach causes pressure around the heart. He also has a sensation of hot flashes followed by chilly sensations. Both hands at times feel numb and he describes his feelings as though someone had hit him on the crazy bone. He further suffers from loss of sleep and a nervous condition at the time of these attacks, which are of irregular occurrence and irregular in duration. As time alapses there does not seem to be any decrease in the abnormal conditions. The patient has gone thru several X-Ray examinations but this does not develop any assistance in the diagnosis.

The chemical literature which we have in our library does not give any line upon the composition of ethyl lead, nor am I able to find medical literature covering similar cases of poisoning. Therefore I am appealing to you for any assistance you may be able to offer to overcome this infection. Will you please give me the names and addresses of any physicians whom you consider authority on this type of poisoning.

Yours respectfully,

(Signed) Wm. H. Hartigan

WM. H. HARTIGAN, Chief,

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