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BIG HORN GARAGE

CHRYSLER - PLYMOUTH

N. T. Brown & P. B. McKiernan
Proprietors

THERMOPOLIS, WYOMING
December 3, 1945

Mr. Ed Storey
District Manager, Standard Oil Company
Cheyenne, Wyoming

Dear Sir:

As you know we have been handling Standard Gasoline for a long time.

I am a member of the Town Council of Thermopolis and one of the employees of the Town has filed a compensation suit against the Town claiming that he lost his sight through use of leaded gasoline. He was employed at the Town pumping plant and used standard gasoline, that is to say that medium priced gasoline in a compressor which started the pumping plant. This was in September, 1942, that he claims to have inhaled or get the lead poisoning through absorption. Some Doctor at Mayos claims that he could have got lead poisoning in this way.

Now the Town is defending this suit and it seems to me that it is just as important for the Standard as it is to the town that it be proven that lead poisoning cannot be had by the use of gasoline, otherwise the company might be liable for inherent danger in their product.

I have been engaged in the garage business many years and regularly washed my hands about twice a day in this gasoline to remove grease, oil, etc., and have never had any ill effects. I think there are thousands of others who have done the same thing. Now what I would like at the earliest possible time is analysis showing that there is insufficient lead in this gas to cause lead poisoning also opinion of your highest expert showing that it is a physical impossibility for anyone to contract lead poisoning from this gasoline by inhaling or absorption. The gas used was in 1942-1943 which I believe contained less lead and more octain than at present. He handled about 5 gallons each two weeks.

It seems to me that it would be a very dangerous precedent for the company to have it established in court that gasoline would cause lead poisoning.

Please write me at your earliest convenience.

Yours very truly,

P. B. McKiernan

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