

KPH:DIF

February 19, 1931

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Mr. George F. Neerath, Business Superintendent,
The Board of Education,
Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Subject: Paint for Interior Walls

Dear Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of February 13, 1931, referring to our letter of May 23, 1930, in answer to your letter of May 13, 1930.

We have read your letter and our letter of May 23, 1930, except to state that any water getting in back of the impervious paint coat may push the paint off the plaster. We note that you desire a three coat job giving a high glass finish without the cost of lead in any of the three coats. We also note that in the past you have obtained high gloss paints, such as facts as cracking, flaking, checking, peeling, fading, loss of gloss and yellowing.

In view of your specifications for a full glass finish and three coat job, we suggest that the finishing coat be a porous interior alkali-proof paint meeting the specifications given in our Circular No. 17, a copy of which was inclosed with our letter of May 23, 1930. For the middle coat, we suggest a flat wall paint meeting the specifications given in our Circular No. 17. For the coat, we suggest (as stated in our letter of May 23, 1930) a thin, gray, varnish, or a good interior varnish thinned with turpentine about one quart of turpentine to the gallon of varnish. A small amount of your middle coat (flat) paint may be added to this varnish mix. Suction or so-called shot spots which may show through this size coat, should be touched up with this sizing coat mixture. This should result in a uniform surface before proceeding with the middle coat paint.

The purpose of the varnish sizing coat is to thoroughly seal the porous plaster. The porosity of plaster varies to a great degree, and it is therefore impossible to give specific directions that will cover every case. Most surfaces, however, will be well sealed with this one varnish sizing coat. We

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again emphasize that this sizing or sealing coat should, when dry, present a uniform surface. Do not put on the middle or flat coat unless this sizing coat shows a uniform surface.

The following brands of flat wall paint (lithopone type) are typical of paints received under our Circular No. 111:

"Flat-Tone" - The Sherwin-Williams Company

"Velumina" - The Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company

"Town & Country" - E. I. DuPont de Nemours & Company

The following brand of gloss wall paint (lithopone type) is typical of paints received under our Circular No. 117:

"Inside Barreled Sunlight" - U. S. Gutta Percha Company

You understand that we do not give out names of brands of paint to private parties, and that this information in your case is only for official use by the State Government of Minnesota. We must not be quoted as recommending any particular brand of paint.

Very truly yours,

E. F. Hickson, Chemist.

