

Lead Industries Association

420 LEXINGTON AVENUE

NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

CLINTON H. CRANE, PRESIDENT
K. C. BROWNELL, VICE PRESIDENT
F. W. ROCKWELL, VICE PRESIDENT

ROBERT LINDLEY ZIEGFELD, SECRETARY AND TREASURER

MANFRED BOWDITCH
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH AND SAFETY

October 11, 1950

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D., Director
Kettering Lab. of Applied Physiology
University of Cincinnati
College of Medicine
Eden Avenue
Cincinnati 19, Ohio

Dear Bob:

This is with reference to the subject of my letter of February 12, 1949, addressed to you as a member of the A.P.H.A. Committee on Lead Poisoning, and your prompt and helpful response thereto.

You may remember that I told you that the safety of the practice of coating the interiors of steel water storage tanks with the so-called "Type IV" (red lead-phenolic resin) paint, as specified by the Federal Specifications Board and the American Water Works Association, had been called into question, and that, in view of the half-century-old and nearly universal use of red lead paints for this purpose, with no known epidemiological evidence of ill effects, I felt that data from sound scientific experiments were the only proper basis for resolution of the matter. I further said that, since no such data had apparently ever been compiled, it was our purpose to instigate experiments to that end, and I asked for your views as to this, which you kindly gave me.

It seems obvious that actual field tests involving a tank or tanks painted with the paint in question must afford vastly more conclusive evidence than laboratory experiments of any sort. Especially as the adverse opinion above referred to had emanated from a source in the federal government, it had been our hope to interest a competent scientific agency of that government in carrying out such field tests. Failing in this after several months' effort, we turned to Dr. H. B. Elkins as a recognized authority in this field and we now have from him the analysis reports which are summarized in my enclosure.



KE 0014756

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.

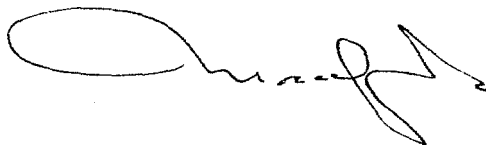
-2-

October 11, 1950

While further tests of this and other types of lead paint are planned, these results seem quite effectively to dispose of the suggestion of any likely hazard to health in the use of this paint for the purpose in question.

If you wish additional information concerning these tests, I hope that you will let me know.

Sincerely yours,



enc.
mb/sd

KE 0014757

LEAD INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

420 Lexington Avenue

New York 17, N. Y.

MANFRED BOWDITCH
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH AND SAFETY

Results of analyses for lead in samples of water from 125,000-gallon standpipe at Wrentham, Mass., painted interiorly with TT-P-88a, TYPE IV PAINT, as reported by Dr. H. B. Elkins, Chief of Laboratory, Division of Occupational Hygiene, Mass. Department of Labor and Industries.

Sample No.	Date Collected	Source and Status	Lead, Mg./Liter	
			CaC ₂ O ₄ Method	Evaporation Method
FW 1	5/18/50	Water before entry to standpipe	0.000	0.000
FW 2	5/18/50	Water from standpipe before painting	0.000	0.000
FW 3	7/17/50	Wash water after painting	0.000	0.000
FW 4	7/18/50	Wash water after painting	0.002	0.002
FW 5	7/19/50	Wash water after painting	0.000	0.001
FW 6	7/24/50	Second filling	0.002	0.000
FW 7	7/31/50	Static one week	0.000	0.000
FW 8	8/3/50	On line 8 days	0.018 0.015	0.002
FW 9	8/31/50	On line 21 days	0.000	
FW 10	9/25/50	On line one month, 25 days	0.001	

NOTE: The generally accepted safe limit for lead in potable water is 0.1 mg./L. Dr. Elkins estimates the average error in analysis to be 0.002 mg./L. Having satisfied himself as to the greater accuracy of the calcium oxalate method, the evaporation method was not used in analysing samples FW 9 and FW 10.

10/5/50

KE 0014758