



IN such a small private room as this a blue has been sometimes used on walls to help increase its apparent size. But with blue predominating, the atmosphere of the room becomes formal, cold, depressing.

Note: Hospital authorities are exercising more and more care in the selection of the proper colors for decorating interiors. With that in mind this article and others have been written. Previous articles dealt with red, yellow, gray and white. The next will discuss green. They are by M. Rea Paul, consulting colorist of National Lead Company. Extra copies of these articles can be obtained by writing to our nearest branch office.

Cold .. Depressing ... BLUE

BLUE has in the past been used in hospitals because it was thought to have a quieting effect on patients. But there is danger in permitting blue to predominate in finishes for hospital interiors.

Intense blue is more than merely quieting. It is depressing and usually produces a cold atmosphere that helps to create a state of melancholia in the minds of patients exposed to it. Its absorption of the warming, health-encouraging yellow light rays robs it of any power to act as a positive, stimulating influence in aiding the mental and physical recovery of the sick.

Blue a receding color

BLUE, and colors in which blue predominates, such as green-blue and violet-blue, are on the list of "receding" colors—colors which have sometimes been employed because they tend to increase a room's apparent size. But their use even for this reason is not to be recommended, because they are also apt to make the room look empty, formal and cold and, therefore, produce a strongly depressing atmosphere.

From what has just been said it is evident that blue is extremely unsuited for decorating any part of any

The coolest of the colors, tending to create an atmosphere of gloom, blue is avoided as a decoration for hospital walls.

hospital. It creates an atmosphere that is directly the opposite of the cheering, encouraging atmosphere which should permeate a hospital and which is induced by a color such as blue's complement, yellow.

In considering colors, then, for interior decoration, blue should never predominate. What color you will employ deserves careful consideration.

Every room and every hospital should be thought of as a separate problem. Your hospital interiors will present entirely different problems from those of another institution. Among the factors to be considered are the amount of natural illumination in a room, the exposure, (whether it faces north or south, east or west), the dimensions of the room, its height and type of ceiling and the use to which the room is put. One fact, however, is true so far as all hospitals and all colors are concerned. Any color can easily be obtained by tinting paint made of Dutch Boy white-lead and Dutch Boy flating oil with the proper coloring pigments.

Let color specialists help you

YOU can with no expense obtain the cooperation of our Department of Decoration in selecting the proper colors for

any room in your hospital or for the entire building. The staff of this department have made a special study of hospital decoration and the therapeutic value attributed to color. They are working today with hospital administration boards, superintendents and architects on the subject, preparing paint specifications, paint formulas and actual color samples.

More than 200 hospitals throughout the country are successfully using the color treatments recommended by this department. If you wish further information regarding the service which this department can render you, write to the Department of Decoration in care of our nearest branch.



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