

City Council was urged yesterday to pass an ordinance establishing controls over leaded paint to prevent illness and death among children.

The appeal was made by city officials, civic leaders and representatives of the paint industry at a public hearing before City Council's committee on Public Health.

One of the most vigorous backers of the bill was Dr. Norman R. Ingraham, commissioner of health, who said his department's attention had been called to 1,023 cases of lead poisoning in the last 15 years. Of the number, 82 children died and a number of others suffered serious mental retardation.

The bill would prevent the sale of toys coated with paint containing more than 1 percent of lead by weight. It would require house paint to be so labeled if potentially dangerous.

Removal of Paint

Another section of the ordinance would permit the Department of Health to order removal of lead paint from the interior of homes when its presence is determined to be a health hazard.

Dr. Ingraham said his department had, in the absence of legislation, attempted to educate the public to the dangers of lead poisoning for 16 years.

In each case of lead poisoning, landlords and tenants were warned of the hazard. Most children became ill from chewing on painted surfaces, he said.

Despite warnings and attempts by Department representatives to persuade tenants and landlords to take action, the campaign was largely a failure, he said.

Scant Compliance

"After making recommendations for removal of hazardous paint from dwellings in lead poisoning cases, the department succeeded in gaining complete compliance in only 31 percent of the cases, 21 percent by tenants and 10 percent by landlords," Dr. Ingraham said.

Many children were returned from "hospitals after treatment to the same hazardous environment only to become seriously ill again," he added.

"If the department of health is to be expected to have reasonable success in the control of this grave illness which has affected a number of the city's children, killing some and leaving others with permanent crippling brain damage, effective legislation is imperative," he stated.

Others in Support

Others who urged passage of the bill included Councilman

George X. Schwartz, sponsor of the ordinance, who said it would provide another tool to prevent tragedy among children.

Dr. Theodore Ingalls, pediatrician and professor of preventive medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, said he had studied the problem for 25 years, and found it could not be solved by education alone.

Others supporting the ordinance included, Don Flower, director of safety for the Lead Industry Association; Harry Verdier, executive director of the safety council of the Chamber of Commerce of Greater Philadelphia; Dr. David Kornfeld, of the Philadelphia Pediatric Society; Mrs. H. R. Cathart of the

League of Women Voters and Dan Haley and David Steinberg, both of the Point. Varnish and Lacquer Association.

An educational campaign has been underway during these years, but with inadequate results. Dr. Norman R. Ingram, commissioner of health, reported that where recommendations for removal of leaded paint were made in cases of

Usually, children are the victims. In Philadelphia 82 children died and others suffered serious mental retardation as the result of lead poisoning, of which there

Before council is a proposed ordinance dealing with leaded paint. The bill has the backing of health officials and also of paint industry representatives. The danger of lead poisoning was nationally dramatized a few years ago when Clare Boothe Luce, then American Ambassador to Italy, became mysteriously ill, and the maddly was traced to leaded paint on the

preventive medicine, which has saved millions, sometimes works only when backed by legal enforcement. This unfortunate truth applies to control of lead poisoning. City Council was told this week.

Innocent-Looking Peril

N39157

City to Send Tow Cars to

Temple Area
WAB-1075

The bill, supported by university officials, sets up towing zones and is aimed at eliminating all-day parking violations in the area.

A bill prohibiting the use of paint containers loaded on trucks at night was introduced by Councilman Paul H. Englund, St. Louis, Mo., and sponsored by Councilman John A. McManamy, Montgomery, Ala.

The councilmen also passed a bill prohibiting the use of paint containers loaded on trucks at night.

In another action, the councilmen passed a resolution which will put the city on Daylight Saving Time between Sunday, Oct. 30 at 2 A. M., and Sunday, Dec. 30 at 2 A. M.