VCT N 183

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

GP-409

BESTWALL GYPSUM COMPANY

Paoli December 11, 1957 Paoli Laboratory

Mr. C. G. Shuttleworth ACOUSTICAL PLASTER

J. R. Watt - cw

cc: Messrs. C. E. Abbey - Ardmor
G. F. Grieve - Paoli
H. D. Ohm - St. Louis Sales
L. W. Thompson - St. Louis Sales
L. Dalton - St. Louis Sales
Myron Read - Fort Dodge

On December 9th Mr. Dalton, Mr. Thompson and I were in Evansville, Indiana to observe the application of our new acoustical plaster on a small job in that city.

The acoustical was applied on the ceiling of a restaurant, which was being remodeled. There were 139 sq.yds. of ceiling, all of which received acoustical plaster. The brown coat of gypsum basecoat, using perlite as aggregate, had been applied five days prior and was thoroughly dry.

Welch-Sollman, Inc., Evansville, plastering contractors, did the plastering. Mr. George Sollman was on the job with us when the basecoat acoustical was applied.

Approximately ten gallons water was used per 25 lb. bag of acoustical plaster. Two bags were mixed at a time in a mechanical mixer and each batch was allowed to mix at least ten minutes. The plaster was applied by hand. The two plasterers who applied it had never handled any of this type acoustical plaster before and it took them a little while to get used to the material. After applying about 30 - 40 yards they had become used to it and did a good job. At first it was tried by one man darbying right behind the other who was applying. This did not work satisfactorily as the material had not "taken up" sufficiently. They both then started applying and did not use the darby until the material had been on the ceiling about ten minutes. This worked much better, in fact worked entirely satisfactory. Two men applied the basecoat and darbied it in about three hours. After noon the heat was turned on low and a large 4 ft. diameter exhaust fan in the rear of the building was also turned on. By about 10:00 P.M. the material had firmed up enough that Mr. Sollman thought it would be too dry to trowel easily the next morning if the fan was left on, so he turned it off.

The following morning Mr. Welch, Mr. Thompson and I went out to inspect the job. Much of the water had been taken out due to the heat and the fan yet there were no large fissure cracks. Mr. Welch got two plasterers and they troweled the ceiling to get it smooth enough to receive the finish coat. There were no drop-outs and only two or three small blisters about the size of a dollar which trowelled back into place. The material trowelled easily and the ceiling looked very good. After they finished trowelling the heat and the large fan were turned on again. This is very severe drying conditions but I do not anticipate any trouble. They are rushing the job so the restaurant can be re-opened this weekend. If the basecoat is sufficiently dry they plan to apply the finish today. The finish is to be applied with a small spray gun. Mr. Thompson is to follow the job to completion and give a final report to all

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concerned. Messrs. Welch and Sollman were both pleased with the material. They want to use it on a large job which is to be done shortly after the first of the year. I told them we hoped to have the material on the market shortly after the first of the year, provided we have light reflection and sound absorption tests by then. They must have results of these tests in order to use it on the above mentioned job.

Tuesday afternoon Mr. Thompson and I drove to Owensboro, Kentucky. There we contacted Mr. Carl Schrecker, Schrecker Plaster and Supply Co. who uses considerable Bestwall lath and plaster. He agreed to use some of the acoustical plaster, left over from the Evansville job, after the first of the year. This will give us a check on the ageing qualities of this formula. We went with Mr. Schrecker to the Daviess County Hospital job. He has the plastering contract and Bestwall lath and plaster will be used. They were doing some lathing but had not started plastering.

One thing I neglected to mention was the coverage obtained on the basecoat acoustical applied at Evansville. We got seven yards per 25 lb. bag which would be about twelve yardsper 40 lb. bag. This is considerable more coverage than is obtained with Audicote or Sprayolite. Most plasterers say they get 7 to 8 yards per 40 lb. bag with competitive materials. The material will give better coverage than competitive materials but this is exceptional and I don't think the trade should be told to expect this high a coverage figure. However, I do think they can consistently get 9 - 10 yards per 40 lb. bag 1/2" thick.

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