

LHM:JHMc

January 13, 1932.

The Eagle-Picher Lead Company,
(Attention Mr. D. O. Hubbard),
Temple Bar Building,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

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J. A. S.

Subject: Lead Poisoning.

Gentlemen:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of January 7th, inclosing a copy of your letter of the same date to Capt. Williams of the Bureau of Construction and Repair, Navy Department.

The action of the Navy in regard to the use of lead paints is entirely handled by the Navy Department and is a matter with which the Bureau of Standards is not even indirectly concerned.

In regard to the quotations from U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Bulletin No. 20, "Hygiene of the Painters' Trade", we would say that we have had this publication in the files of our Paint Laboratory since shortly after it was issued in 1913. The question of toxicity of the various compounds of lead is one which we would refer to the medical authorities of the Government, since it is question upon which we are not competent to render an opinion. However, we would call your attention to the following paragraphs from the summary of Bureau of Labor Statistics Bulletin No. 120:

"The dangerous pigments are the different salts of lead, the basic carbonate, red lead and orange mineral, the chromate, and the basic sulphate.

"Experiments with the basic carbonate and the basic sulphate show that the former is much more soluble in human gastric juice than the latter and causes more rapid and severe poisoning in animals."

RECEIVED

Respectfully,

1835 JAN - 13 - 1932
J. J. Briggs, Acting Director.

Copy to:

Capt. Williams.

Lyman J. Briggs, Acting Director.

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P.H.W.

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