

GEORGE A. MARTIN

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George A. Martin, Present of the Sherwin-Williams Co., gained his first business experience in Chicago at the age of fifteen, after completing a grade school education, as a messenger in the stockyards.

His first knowledge of paint came when he was promoted to the Purchasing Department where one of his duties was to buy paint for refrigerator cars. Leaving this work, he organized a small company locally which is said to have been the first to manufacture railway paints exclusively.

It was at this time that Mr. Martin originated the plan for standardizing the colors of paint on all of the equipment of a railroad which later came into common practice in industrial concerns as well.

In 1888 Sherwin-Williams purchased the Calumet Paint Company and in 1891 Mr. Martin was induced to leave his own company to take charge of the Sherwin-Williams Calumet Plant and manage the Western District which was developed into one of the largest in the company.

He held this position until 1905 when he was transferred to Cleveland in charge of the Auxiliaries Department which under his management came to include lead zinc and copper mines, smelters, linseed oil plants, power plants and tin can plants.

In 1916 he became Vice President and General Manager of Manufacturing and in June 1921 was made Vice President and General Manager of the entire business.

His election to the presidency came in November, 1922. For years Mr. Martin has been noted as the most popular man in the organization.

Mr. Martin is an outdoor sport enthusiast and a golfer of note.

He has a host of friends in Chicago.