LEAD INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION
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NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

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STATE AND TERRITORIAL WARNING LABELING LAWS

The following inquiry has been sent to health and labor departments of all states and territories:

"For the information of our membership, which includes many manufacturing companies engaged in interstate commerce, we are seeking to acquaint ourselves with all statutes or regulations of the several states which require warning labeling of products which may be hazardous to health from the viewpoint of toxicity. We are, of course, principally interested in lead products, including lead paints, and we are not concerned with drugs or pharmaceuticals."

Replies have been received as follows:

Alabama Economic Poisons law, covering insecticides, etc.

Letter from Director, Division of Industrial Hygiene: "As far as I know, the state of Alabama has no laws regarding the labeling of any products with reference to their toxicity. I personally am interested in seeing warning labels of some type on lead paints, since there are a considerable number of cases of lead poisoning among children and are not correctly diagnosed by the attending physician. If warning labels of some sort helped to diminish a number of these cases I would be very much in favor of it."

Alaska No warning labeling laws.

Arizona Economic Poisons law.

Arkansas No warning labeling laws.

Letter from Director, Division of Industrial Hygiene: "We would like to inform you that we have received information concerning apparent epidemics of lead poisoning among children which have occurred in the Baltimore City area. We intend to inform all our state and county health workers, and our physicians, to bring to the attention of the public the potential hazard of using lead base paints on children's furniture and toys, and on the interior of homes. You may be interested to know that our State Plumbing Code permits the use of lead piping for water distribution lines."

California General Industrial Safety Orders issued by the Division of Industrial Safety of the Department of Industrial Relations require warning labeling of 114 substances or groups of substances, of which

Iowa Economic Poisons law.

"Paints and Oils" law: Listing of ingredients on labels is the chief factor, with prevention of adulteration as primary aim.

Kansas No warning labeling laws.

Kentucky No warning labeling laws.

Health Department recommends the use of warning labels in accordance with the recommendations of the Manufacturing Chemists' Association.

Louisiana Labeling of tetraethyl lead is done through agreement between manufacturer and U. S. Public Health Service. No warning labeling laws.

Maine Economic Poisons law.

Maryland No warning labeling laws.

Massachusetts Warning labeling laws and regulations applicable only to benzol, carbon tetrachloride, DDT, methyl alcohol, and "dangerous caustic or corrosive substances in packages for household use."

Michigan Health Department: "When the necessity arises we follow the requirements of the Interstate Commerce Commission and the Manufacturing Chemists' Association."

Minnesota Economic Poisons law.

Paint labeling law aimed at proper listing of ingredients and prevention of adulteration.

Mississippi No warning labeling laws.

Missouri No warning labeling laws.

Montana Economic Poisons law.

Nebraska Economic Poisons law.

Nevada No warning labeling laws.

Letter from Labor Commissioner: "However, we would appreciate your cooperation in suggesting to your membership that they place a warning label on their products to be shipped in to Nevada, even though we do not have a statute requiring it. Nevada has an Occupational Diseases Act, but unfortunately we do not have statutes which help to prevent occupational diseases. Therefore, if the manufacturing companies would cooperate with us voluntarily it would certainly be appreciated.

New Hampshire No warning labeling laws.

New Jersey Economic Poisons law.

New Mexico No warning labeling laws.

New York No warning labeling laws.

North Carolina Economic Poisons law.

North Dakota Economic Poisons law.

Ohio General Code Section 6333 of laws administered by the Department of Agriculture requires that paint labels shall "show the name or names of any substance or substances used in quantities sufficient to be dangerous or injurious to human life or health whether through absorption, contact, or inhalation."

Oklahoma Economic Poisons law.

Oregon Economic Poisons law.

Pennsylvania No warning labeling laws.

Puerto Rico Economic Poisons law.

Rhode Island No warning labeling laws.

South Carolina No warning labeling laws.

South Dakota No warning labeling laws.

Tennessee Economic Poisons law.

Texas No warning labeling laws.

Utah Economic Poisons law.

Vermont Economic Poisons law.

Virgin Islands (No reply received.)

Virginia Economic Poisons law.

Paint law requires proper labeling as to ingredients, etc., but no provision for warning labeling.

Washington No warning labeling laws.

West Virginia No warning labeling laws.

Letter from Associate Director, Department of Health: "We do not in West Virginia have any requirements for warning labeling of products which may be hazardous to health, although I would be ready to agree with you that such labeling would be desirable. This matter has at various times been considered both by

our own Department and the Department of Labor, but no definite action has ever been taken by either Department, due, I would say, primarily to the staff limitations of our individual departments."

Wisconsin No warning labeling laws.

Wyoming "Pure Print Law." Labeling provisions are for protection of purchaser in regard to quality; no warning labeling requirements.

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It will be observed that, apart from the Connecticut regulations noted, the only jurisdictions thus far requiring warning labeling of the types with which we are principally concerned are California, Hawaii, Illinois, and Ohio.

The references to childhood lead poisoning in the letters from state officials in Alabama, Arkansas, and Georgia are of interest.

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