

LEAD INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

Graybar Building, 420 Lexington Avenue

New York, N. Y.

February 15, 1933.

To Members of the Lead Industries Association:

We are enclosing a survey, which we recently made, of State Highway Department Paint Specifications, together with a summary which indicates the favorable position held by the lead pigments in general in these specifications.

However, you will note that some States require very poor paints from the standpoint of durability and protection for certain purposes and that others require aluminum paint for finishing coats. In the former case it is decidedly to the interest of taxpayers to have the specifications altered in favor of more durable paints such as white lead, while in the latter case, as white paints are more visible at night and consequently safer for motorists than aluminum paint, the white paints rather than aluminum paint should be specified for finishing coats on all structures along highways.

We have already endeavored to have some of these specifications changed. For instance, in Idaho, which formerly specified a very poor guard rail paint, containing no lead, through the assistance of our members in that State we have succeeded in having the specification changed so that it now calls for a white lead paint of much greater durability and protective value. In the State of Washington, where the situation is the same as that which formerly prevailed in Idaho, we are now cooperating with our members in that State to have the specifications changed. In Missouri, where aluminum paint is specified for finishing coats on steel structures and is thus a hazard to the motorist, we likewise are endeavoring to have white lead substituted.

As the opportunity presents itself, we will endeavor to have certain specifications in other States changed and may find it expedient to call upon you for assistance. Perhaps a study of the specification in your own State, as covered in the appended survey, will suggest to you some course of action, if the specifications are not already satisfactory.

Very truly yours,

LEAD INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

