



THE LOWE BROTHERS COMPANY

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E. W. FASIG
GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT

January 23, 1942.

Dr. Robert Kehoe,
Kettering Laboratory of Applied Physiology,
University of Cincinnati,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Kehoe:

The following quotation is taken from the January issue of "THE
SAFE FOREMAN":

"Think of freshly applied paint on a wall giving off
fumes. This may contain lead and in the fumes some
of the lead is traveling through the air. Without
ventilation to keep the air fresh the lead can reach
the lungs and thus settle in the body."

I wrote to R. H. Porter the editor of the publication in which I
questioned the statement that fumes from paint will contain lead even
though the paint itself contains relatively high concentrations of
lead pigment.

In a letter from Mr. Porter today he stated that he took the
matter up with a chemist by the name of R. C. Lassen. Mr. Lassen as-
sured him that "recent tests have shown that people sleeping in a room
freshly painted with paint which contains lead will have some lead in
their bodies. He says the amount is enough to measure."

The question of whether or not lead may be found in fumes from
drying paint becomes quite an important one to us. I need not call
your attention to the errors that are made in the diagnosing of lead
poisoning because of the unfamiliarity of many doctors to the true
facts. If you will, I should like for you to inform me whether or
not Mr. Lassen's statement is true.

An experiment to prove this point would certainly have to be
carried on by an individual who is familiar with details of technical
research. I certainly would not accept as final conclusions of this
kind from most doctors of medicine and ordinary chemists. I still
doubt the statement that the fumes contain lead compounds.

Your information on this will be very much appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

THE LOWE BROTHERS COMPANY

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