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EFH:DIF February 19, 1931 V-1/Iopy

Mr. George F. Womrath, Business Superintendent,
The Board of Education,
Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Subject: Paint for Interior Walls

Dear Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of February 14, 1931, referring to our letter of May 28, 1930, in answer to your letter of May 13, 1930.

We regret that we can add little to our letter of May 28, 1930, except to state that any water getting in back of an impervious paint coat may push the paint off the plaster. We note that you desire a three coat job giving a high gloss finish without the use of lead in any of the three coats. We also note that in the past you have obtained, with some paints, such defects as cracking, crazing, checking, peeling, fading, loss of gloss and yellowing.

In view of your specifications for a full gloss finish and three coat work, we suggest that the finishing coat be a gloss interior lithopone paint meeting the specifications given in our Circular No. 147, a copy of which was inclosed with our letter of May 28. For the middle coat, we suggest a flat wall paint meeting our Circular No. 111. For the priming or sizing coat, we suggest (as stated in our letter of May 28, 1930) a thin spar varnish, or a good interior varnish thinned with turpentine (about one quart of turpentine to the gallon of varnish). A small amount of your middle coat (flat) paint may be added to this varnish size. Suction or so-called "hot spots", which may show through this size coat, should be touched up with this sizing coat mixture. This should result in a uniform surface before proceding with the middle coat paint.

The purpose of the varnish sizing coat is to thoroughly seal the porous plaster. The porosity of plaster varies to a great degree, and it is therefore impossible to give specific directions that will cover every case. Most surfaces, however, will be well sealed with this one varnish sizing coat. We

again emphasize that this sizing or sealing coat should, when dry, present a uniform surface. Do not put on the middle or flat coat unless this sizing coat shows a uniform surface.

The following brands of flat wall paint (lithopone type) are typical of paints received under our Circular No. 111:

"Flat-Tone" - The Sherwin-Williams Company

"Velumina" - The Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company

"Town & County" - E. I. DuPont de Nemours & Company

The following brand of gloss wall paint (lithopone type) is typical of paints received under our Circular No. 127:

Paint

"Inside Enamel Sunlight" - U. S. Gutta Percha Company

You understand that we do not give out names of brands of paint to private parties, and that this information in your case is only for official use by the State Government of Minnesota. We must not be quoted as recommending any particular brand of paint.

Very truly yours,

E. F. Hickson, Chemist.