

**HOUSE PAINTING, GLAZING,
PAPER HANGING, AND
WHITEWASHING: A BOOK
FOR THE HOUSEHOLDER**

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House Painting, Glazing, Paper Hanging, and Whitewashing: A Book for the Householder by
Alvah Horton Sabin

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ALVAH HORTON SABIN

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**WORKS OF
A. H. SABIN, M.S., D.Sc.**

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HOUSE PAINTING

GLAZING, PAPER HANGING, AND
WHITEWASHING

A BOOK FOR THE HOUSEHOLDER

BY

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PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION

IN this edition a few rather unimportant corrections have been made; and some additional matter has been added, to guide the amateur who wishes to mix his own paint. Anyone can do this for simple and ordinary painting, and, as in every other art, study and practice will bring knowledge and skill. A number of formulas for tinted paints may be found in the appendix; these are based on white lead, because for light colors that is practically the only material which the conditions allow; white zinc may be added if desired, but alone it is not recommended for a paint base. For dark colors, as browns and brownish reds, oxides of iron may be used exactly as white lead; also ochers may be so

used for dull yellows. But, in general, white lead is the practical and workable material for house painting, and always has been. The best "mixed paints," sold ready for use, are also good and very convenient for the amateur.

A. H. S.

July, 1918.

PREFACE TO THE SECOND THOUSAND

IN Dr. Holley's recent book on "Lead and Zinc Pigments" it is said that in 1908 the editor of one of the paint magazines sent out an inquiry to the painters throughout the country regarding the reduction which they advised with paste white lead to make it into a paint of suitable body for use with the brush. The numerous replies received were chiefly remarkable for their lack of agreement; no general rule could be derived from them. The conclusion Dr. Holley arrived at, which was approved by numerous experiments by himself and other paint experts, was that a finishing coat should weigh about twenty-one and one-half pounds per gallon; and this

agrees with the previous experience of the writer. Mr. Lowe agrees that white lead paint should weigh over twenty pounds; but Mr. G. W. Thompson of the National Lead Company thinks nineteen pounds is enough; and a great deal of white lead weighing not over eighteen is undoubtedly used. These figures refer to Dutch process lead; some of the other makes are lighter.

This is an important question; it is the whole question of suitable paint body. If the paint is thin (which is what makes it light) a gallon will cover a much larger surface; it will have less hiding power, very much less than the weights show as expressed in numbers; and the film will be thinner. It is easier to apply; and those who use it say it is likely to be more thoroughly brushed out and make a more uniform and therefore more durable film. It costs less per gallon, and much less per square foot of surface painted

both in money and labor. The present writer stands by his original belief that a rather heavy-bodied paint will give the best service, but does not wish to obscure the fact that it is a matter in which there is a difference of expert opinion. It applies, of course, not to white lead alone, but to other paints.

It will be noted that on page 25 the cost of a gallon of white lead paint is given as \$1.27; this is for a nineteen-pound paint; a twenty-one-pound paint, at the assumed prices, would cost \$1.45 for materials; but the comparison here is with an average good ready-mixed paint, and the nineteen-pound white lead is more fairly comparable with that as regards opacity or hiding power, and probably also spreading capacity, for the working qualities of the best mixed paints are very high. Indeed, the values in every way of these paints are high; they are all based on lead and zinc, in the proportion of two to four parts by