

Three other samples are found to contain no lead; but although involved by our inspector as white lead, and apparently sold as such, examination of the label shows that these samples are not named white lead, but as zinc white, colonial white, or American white. They must be therefore be regarded as genuine. Thirty samples sold as white lead are found to be true to name. The results may be synoptically summarized as follows:—

Genuine, as being white lead.	30 samples.
" not being labelled white lead.	3 "
Questionable, as containing barytes or other cheaper substance while sold as white lead.	71 "
Total.	104 "

In connection with this subject, the following citation from Lunge and Keane's "Technical Methods of Chemical Analysis," Vol. III, p. 917, may be put in evidence:—

"Since technically pure white lead is too expensive for many industrial purposes, it is treated with white 'fillers'.....

As long as these adulterated qualities are described as such, no objection can be made against them. It must be taken for granted that the comparatively low covering power of these qualities is known. Two methods are in use for denoting these products; special names, or distinguishing appendices (numbers, letters) to the name 'white lead.' Included in this group are the commercial varieties; Venetian White, which contains equal parts of white lead and heavy spar, or 'blanc fixe;' Hamburg White which contains 1 part of white lead and 2 parts of heavy spar; and Dutch White, which contains 1 part of white lead and 3 parts of heavy spar. According to the second method of designation, the technically pure pigment is described as white lead 'pure,' and the adulterated varieties are denoted by numerals 1, 11, 111, or 1st, 2nd, etc."

The methods of distinction above named would undoubtedly serve the purpose of informing the initiated as to the true composition of the article. But it cannot be claimed that the public generally would be much wiser on being told that the sample offered was white lead number 1 or number 2. The word mixture or compound would seem to be more to the purpose; but honesty requires that the presence and amount of barytes, or other ingredient, should be plainly stated on the label.

In view of the explanations made in the earlier part of this report which seem to dispose of any suspicion of intentional fraud on the part of the manufacturers or dealers; I would respectfully commend to the consideration of this department the following propositions:—

1. That no action be taken in the case of samples herein reported.
2. That Section 38 of the Act be deleted, or so modified by revision, as not to conflict with the fundamental principle of *truth to name*.
3. That the name white lead on the label of any package shall be understood to mean that white lead as defined in Schedule 4, is contained in such package, unless the word *compound* or *mixture* is plainly printed on such label; or the actual content of the package is specifically declared.

I beg to recommend publication of this report as Bulletin No. 300.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. MCGILL,
Chief Analyst.