



Smithsonian Institution

Archives Center - NMAH

Leo Baekeland Diary Volume 60, 1940 to 1941

Extracted on Feb-05-2023 10:11:16

The Smithsonian Institution thanks all digital volunteers that transcribed and reviewed this material. Your work enriches Smithsonian collections, making them available to anyone with an interest in using them.

The Smithsonian Institution (the "Smithsonian") provides the content on this website (transcription.si.edu), other Smithsonian websites, and third-party sites on which it maintains a presence ("SI Websites") in support of its mission for the "increase and diffusion of knowledge." The Smithsonian invites visitors to use its online content for personal, educational and other non-commercial purposes. By using this website, you accept and agree to abide by the [following terms](#).

- If sharing the material in personal and educational contexts, please cite the Archives Center - NMAH as source of the content and the project title as provided at the top of the document. Include the accession number or collection name; when possible, link to the Archives Center - NMAH website.
- If you wish to use this material in a for-profit publication, exhibition, or online project, please contact Archives Center - NMAH or transcribe@si.edu

For more information on this project and related material, contact the Archives Center - NMAH. [See this project](#) and other collections in the Smithsonian Transcription Center.

11./

behind the ~~former~~ cottage formerly occupied by Bryans daughter. (Curry. Curry) He was formerly engaged by the Welsbach Light Co. Knows Dr. Whitaker very well and the others then engaged by Welsback Co Saturday 19. - All day at home. Bright weather but cold. cold! cold! Northerly 54°F. - Lower in some other parts of Southern Florida

"Frost proof" - town = 28 Tampa = 29 etc etc 20 19 - Our Floor tiles - composition curling up and detach themselves from underlying cement floor on account of their exposed upper surface drying out by the dry cold air.

The trouble seems to be that the new red composition tiles have a porous surface which leaves access to moist atmosphere when they are laid in the layer of ~~do~~ black sticky adhesive. - When the air gets very dry and cold as happens in the early winter months, the ~~inside~~ moisture escapes ~~in the tile~~ through the porous upper surface of the tile and curls upwards. Floor tiles curl again

At the same time the black adhesive below solidifies becomes brittle and the tile lifts itself. If one tries to flatten it it breaks off. - This is mostly the case with the new red large ~~sq tiles~~ square tiles.

All this is not merely theory but strict observation. I can reverse the observation by simply

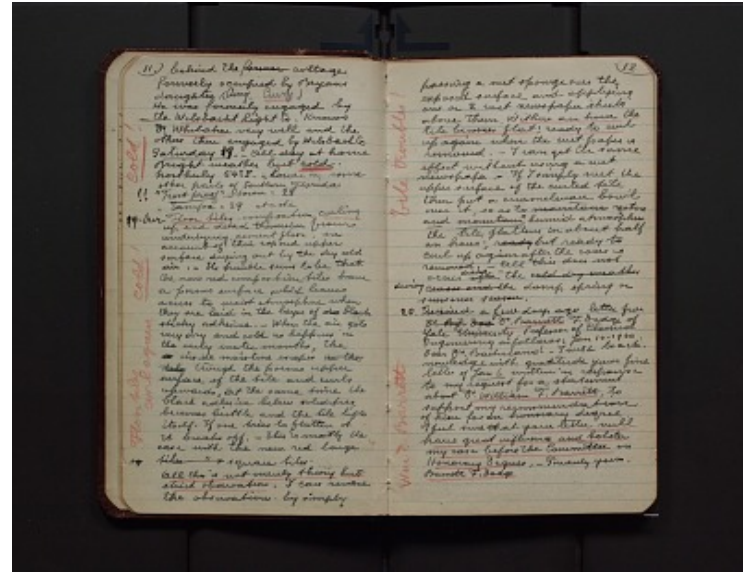
12/

passing a wet sponge over the exposed surface and applying one or 2 wet newspaper sheets above them. Within an hour the tile becomes flat; ready to curl up again when the wet paper is removed.

Tile troubles! - I can get the same effect without using a wet newspaper. - If I simply wet the upper surface of the curled tile then put an enamelware bowl over it, so as to ~~maintain~~ maintain humid atmosphere the tile flattens in about half an hour; ready but ready to curl up again after the cover is removed. - All this does not occur after the cold dry weather ceases and the damp spring or summer season. 20.

Wm D. Barrett

Received a few days ago letter from ~~Dr. B. J. Dec~~ Dr. Barnett F. Dodge of Yale University, Professor of Chemical Engineering as follows: Jan 10-1940. Dear Dr. Baekeland - I wish to acknowledge with gratitude your fine letter of Jan 6 written in response to my request for a statement about Dr. William F. Barrett, to support my recommendation of him for an honorary degree. I feel sure that your letter will have great



influence and bolster my case before the Committee on
Honorary Degrees. - Sincerely yours,
Barnett F. Dodge

Leo Baekeland Diary Volume 60, 1940 to 1941
Transcribed and Reviewed by Digital Volunteers
Extracted Feb-05-2023 10:11:16



Smithsonian Institution

Archives Center - NMAH

The mission of the Smithsonian is the increase and diffusion of knowledge - shaping the future by preserving our heritage, discovering new knowledge, and sharing our resources with the world. Founded in 1846, the Smithsonian is the world's largest museum and research complex, consisting of 19 museums and galleries, the National Zoological Park, and nine research facilities. Become an active part of our mission through the Transcription Center. Together, we are discovering secrets hidden deep inside our collections that illuminate our history and our world.

Join us!

The Transcription Center: <https://transcription.si.edu>

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SmithsonianTranscriptionCenter>

On Twitter: [@TranscribeSI](https://twitter.com/TranscribeSI)

Connect with the Smithsonian

Smithsonian Institution: www.si.edu

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Smithsonian>

On Twitter: [@smithsonian](https://twitter.com/smithsonian)