



Quotable Quotes – Benjamin Franklin

“...”

LEAD POISONING

TO
BENJAMIN VAUGHAN

Philada, July 31, 1786.

This, my dear friend, is all I can at present recollect on the subject. You will see by it, that the opinion of this mischievous effect from lead is at least above sixty years old; and you will observe with concern how long a useful truth may be known and exist, before it is generally receiv'd and practis'd on.

I am, ever, yours most affectionately,

B. FRANKLIN.

You will see that Franklin was referring to an opinion expressed 60 years previously, in 1726. Today, nearly 300 years later, we are still dealing with lead poisoning.



Give me 26 lead soldiers and I
will conquer the world.

~ Benjamin Franklin

Benjamin Franklin. (n.d.). AZQuotes.com. Retrieved May 22, 2020, from AZQuotes.com Web site: <https://www.azquotes.com/quote/1210155>

Here Franklin was referring to the printing press and asserting that the written word is all conquering. We may be concerned about lead dust migrating to the printed paper or the print press worker. A paper titled 'Occupational Lead Exposure in Printing Presses: An Analytical Approach by [Oke et al. 2008](#), explores the issue and describes the 'lead absorption problem that poses a great threat to the health of workers in printing presses'.