EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

New York, N.Y. April 21, 1950

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Lead Industries Association was held on Friday, April 21, 1950, at 3:45 P.M., at the office of the Association, New York City.

PRESENT	REPRESENTING
F. E. Wormser, Chairman	St. Joseph Lead Co.
S. D. Strauss	American Smelting & Refining Co.
George Mixter	United States Smelting Refining & Mining Co. Inc.

ALSO PRESENT

G. H. LeFevre	United States Smelting Refining & Mining Co. Inc.

R. L. Ziegfeld, Secretary-Treasurer

The meeting was called to order with Mr. Felix E. Wormser in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting of July 27, 1949 were approved.

TAXATION

The secretary presented a rough draft of a letter urging members' support of the mine taxation program of the American Mining Congress, which he had been instructed by the Board of Directors to send to members as promptly as possible, and which is attached as Exhibit "A." The letter was approved and ordered circulated.

METALLIC LEAD PRODUCTS DIVISION

The secretary reported that earlier on the same day the Advisory Committee of the Metallic Lead Products Division had met to consider the possibilities of expanding field work in the plumbing and water works field. He explained that the Advisory Committee had instructed him to write all members of that Division, informing them that the Committee recommended an increase of $20,000 in the budget, to add two additional field men to the staff. The Advisory Committee also recommended to the Executive Committee that Mr. Homer Yetman, who had been the only Association field man for the last fifteen months, and who would be responsible for securing and training the additional field men, be granted a salary increase of $1,000 a year, provided the enlarged budget was approved by the Division and the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee approved this recommended increase subject to approval of the larger budget.

TARIFF

The Committee then proceeded to discuss what position, if any, the Association should take with respect to the long list of lead items just published by the State Department as subject to negotiation for tariff rate changes under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade in the negotiations to be conducted at Torquay, England, later in the year.

The secretary informed the Committee that written statements would have to be filed with the Committee for Reciprocity Information by May 17, 1950, and requests to be heard at the General Hearings would have to be received by May 10, 1950, the hearings to begin on May 24, 1950.

It was noted that two members of the Executive Committee, Messrs. Bowlby and Martino, were not present. The secretary explained that he had discussed the matter in advance with Mr. Bowlby by telephone. Mr. Bowlby had expressed his opinion that the Association should make every effort to preserve the present duties on the manufactured products listed and that on the raw materials, such as ore and pig lead, he was willing to go along with the members of the Committee who were directly interested in those items, as they thought advisable.

The secretary explained that he had expected Mr. Martino to be present at the meeting and that he had only learned a couple of hours earlier than he would not be able to be present. He had, therefore, been unable to obtain Mr. Martino's views although he had tried to reach him by telephone several times.

The Committee asked the secretary to obtain Mr. Martino's views at the earliest possible moment inasmuch as the Committee did not wish to take a definite position without knowing the views of all members of the Committee.

Those present felt that the Association should submit a brief or statement opposing any reduction in the present lead schedules, whether they be manufactured products or raw materials. They also felt that some general statement to the effect that rather than reducing the tariffs at this time an increase might even be considered, particularly as a result of the devaluation of currencies in many foreign countries producing lead and lead products.

The secretary was then instructed, after obtaining Mr. Martino's views, to prepare a statement along the lines outlined for submission to the Board of Directors for approval.

It was the general feeling of those present that the Association could take no position with respect to the tariff negotiations on lead and lead products unless it took a consistent position with respect to all of the items listed.

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The meeting adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

Robert L. Ziegfeld

Secretary

Executive Committee
Meeting Minutes

Exhibit A
April 21, 1950

LEAD INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

420 LEXINGTON AVENUE

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

April 25, 1950

SUBJECT: TAXATION

To Members of the Lead Industries Association:

The Board of Directors of the Lead Industries Association has asked me to send you a copy of the enclosed pamphlet MINING TAXATION issued by the American Mining Congress. Previously it had authorized me to go on record with the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives in support of the American Mining Congress taxation program, which has already been done.

It is the feeling of the Board that adoption of the American Mining Congress' recommendations on taxation would be beneficial not only to the miners of lead in the United States but also to the consumers of lead, by encouraging a greater amount of exploration for new ore deposits, development of new mines, and a steadier supply of metal at reasonable cost.

You are, therefore, urged to communicate with your own Congressman and Senators wherever you may have operations, indicating your support of the American Mining Congress' taxation program, and urging its adoption, if you agree with the Board.

Very truly yours,

Robert L. Ziegfeld

Secretary.

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