May 29th, 1943

Mr. R. E. Dwyer, Executive Vice-President,
Anaconda Copper Mining Company,
25 Broadway,
New York, New York.

Dear Mr. Dwyer:-

The following is a brief discussion of the April, 1943 operations at the East Chicago Plant.

LEAD REFINING DEPARTMENT

The income for the month:-

Lead Refinery	$ 5,622.98
Bismuth Refinery	$ 186.43

The tons treated were 3,543. In the April costs there is an adjustment of $10,734.96, due to valuating East Helena silver produced from inventory since January 1st, 1943, at the current purchase price instead of the inventory value of 34-3/4¢ per ounce.

The Tooele plant is operating on a high bismuth run during May and will continue on that basis throughout June.

WHITE LEAD DEPARTMENT

The change over from a Betts process plant to a White Lead Plant operation was completed April 2nd.

The Profit and Loss Statement reveals the following:-

Dry White Lead	$ 652.37
Lead-in-Oil	$ 1,682.90
Other Income	$ 4,806.94
New Profit	$ 3,776.41

The item of $4,806.94 is a reimbursement for the cancellation of a linseed oil contract, which was forced upon us by the linseed oil order FDO-42, issued by the Director of Food Distribution, U. S. Department of Agriculture on April 1st, 1943. In addition to the income of the amount indicated, it is anticipated that there will be a similar adjustment amounting to approximately $8,500.00 in our May accounts. This is apparently a case where a Government regulation resulted in a direct profit.

ZINC OXIDE DEPARTMENT

The operations carried on during the month were limited to one muffle on the production of zinc oxide from scrap materials and the six-door unit of the American Block operated on Great Falls dross and refuse oxide. The treatment of the past accumulations of high zinc residue metal were completed during the month in a second muffle furnace.

The income for the month is shown as follows:-

Zinc Oxide	$ 1,2[illegible]3.05
Zinc Metal	$ [illegible]9.06

The rather surprising results in the Zinc Oxide Department are a combination of a number of small but favorable items. The results for the month can not be considered as normal. The results in May and succeeding months of this year will probably show a loss in the neighborhood of $10,000.00 per month. It is, however, gratifying to have at least one month when an income was realized.

WAR MANPOWER COMMISSION

We have just received a limited exemption for the office and supervisory employees from the Chicago office of the War Manpower Commission. They have refused exemption to 29 employees, including 12 clerks, 11 stenographer-clerk-typists, 1 switchboard operator, 3 timekeepers and 2 business machine operators. We are advised that we may appeal this decision. Mr. Royes, our local attorney, has been asked to give us his opinion on this situation.

Much confusion in the Calumet Area still prevails concerning the status of the Calumet Area Employment Stabilization Plan. The principal objection to the Employment Stabilization Plan is the seniority provision. An analysis of these provisions reveals an ambiguity of the seniority provisions, and a possible direct contradictory statement by authorized representatives that the seniority provisions are mandatory for any employer accepting the plan, whereas the official copy of the plan states that none of the provisions of the plan shall supersede any understanding reached through regular collective bargaining procedure, such as are incorporated in our contract with the Union. Because of this uncertainty, we have not signed the Calumet Area Employment Stabilization Plan. We understand that very few of the local industries have signed it to date.

LABOR SITUATION

This is far from satisfactory. Women employed in our plant have increased to 49. There is grumbling by the men that the women employees can not do as much work as men. The men want more pay. The Union believes that women should be paid as much as men, and if the women can not do the work that men perform, the women should be discharged.

In the past week we have held three grievance meetings with the Union. The first meeting to discuss their complaint regarding wage rates and working conditions in the silver room and blast furnace departments. The last two meetings were essential to settle a sitdown strike which was pulled without any notice in the blast furnace department on the Friday evening, May 21st. The sitdown lasted a total of 98 minutes. We believe that a satisfactory position has been taken with the Union to prevent a re-occurense of this uncalled for situation.

Very truly yours,

GEJ/mm
cc:Mr. Frederick Laist