

LEAD INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

60 EAST 42ND STREET

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

July 2, 1957

QUARTERLY REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

April 1 to June 30, 1957

The following report covers the highlights of Association activities during the second quarter of 1957. More detailed information on these activities or others not enumerated herein will be supplied on request.

GENERAL

1. Annual Meeting - The Annual Meeting of the Association was held at the Drake Hotel, Chicago, on April 24-25 with one session held jointly with American Zinc Institute. Registration at the L.I.A. meeting reached a record 146.
2. "Lead" - One issue of our publication "Lead" was published and mailed to about 50,000 users and prospective users of lead. Another issue was prepared and sent to the printers for mailing shortly.
3. Research - On recommendation of the Technical Steering Committee and with approval of the Industry Development Committee and Board of Directors, L.I.A. contracted with Battelle Memorial Institute, Columbus, Ohio, for an "Evaluation of Research Needs and Formulation of a Research Program." The contract calls for completion of the study in six months at a cost not to exceed \$20,000. To get the study under way the Technical Steering Committee met with Battelle personnel at Columbus on May 27.
4. A.B.M.S. - The Secretary prepared the introductory page to the lead section of the Annual Review of the American Bureau of Metal Statistics and certain of the statistics used were supplied by L.I.A.
5. Statistics - L.I.A.'s Annual Statistical Review was printed and mailed to members.
6. Naval Reserve - The Secretary and a staff member addressed the U.S. Naval Reserve Composite Company on the general subject of lead economics and uses in New York on June 26. A movie of lead mining and numerous slides were shown. The Company is composed of about 100 Naval Reserve Officers with average rank of Lieutenant commander.
7. Battery Conference - A staff member attended the annual battery conference sponsored by the Power Sources Division, U. S. Army Signal Engineering Laboratories, at Astbury Park, N. J., on May 22-23. A list of papers presented and an announcement of the availability of printed proceedings at reduced cost through L.I.A. was sent to members.



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8. Technical Developments - The annual review of literature and technical developments in lead for publication in "Industrial and Engineering Chemistry" in the Fall was completed and turned over to the magazine.

9. Battery Association - The Secretary represented L.I.A. at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Battery Manufacturers April 29 to May 1.

10. Publicity - A number of publicity releases concerning Association activities and developments favorable to lead was sent to newspapers and the trade press.

11. A.S.T.M. - L.I.A. was represented at the annual meeting of the American Society for Testing Materials in June.

12. Developments in Storage Batteries - Permission to reproduce a paper by this title, presented by a representative of Ford Motor Company before the Society of Automotive Engineers, was obtained from that Society and the paper circulated to members.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

13. Ceramics - The rather opposite problems of assuring adequate control of lead hazards in the ceramics industries and at the same time allaying groundless fears on this score have had considerable recent attention. In addition to the handling of individual inquiries, the plan to provide speakers on the medical and engineering phases of these questions at the annual meeting of the American Ceramic Society held in Dallas on May 6th was carried out, and preliminary discussions for the delivery of two similar papers at the fall meeting of the Porcelain Enamel Institute are currently under way. Also, Section 10 of the L.I.A. Ceramics Manual is being reprinted with the title "Handling Lead Compounds in the Ceramic Industries" and several thousand copies will be distributed to lead frit manufacturers for issuance to their customers.

14. Childhood Lead Poisoning - With the publication of three reports by two Baltimore physicians and their issuance in reprint form, the study of childhood plumbism financed by the L.I.A. at The Johns Hopkins Hospital came to a close at the end of March. The work at the Children's Medical Center in Boston continues. The wide interest in this subject was evidenced by many requests for copies of the Baltimore reprints during the current quarter.

15. American Academy of Pediatrics - Our cooperation with the American Academy of Pediatrics has borne fruit in their suggestion that we arrange for the delivery of one or more papers on plumbism at a forthcoming meeting of the Academy. The "Poison Control Centers" sponsored by the Academy now total 67 in as many cities, with around-the-clock telephone service and a clearinghouse in Washington. The importance of these centers to prompt and correct diagnosis, a major factor in the childhood lead problem, can hardly be overestimated.

16. "Maximum Acceptable Concentrations" - Prior mention has been made of the work of the Subcommittee on Lead of the American Standards Association, of which the health and safety director is chairman. As the current quarter closes, word has been received that the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists has accepted the recommendation of the A.S.A. subcommittee that the maximum acceptable concentration of lead and its inorganic compounds in the air of work places be increased from 1.5 mg to 2.0 mg per 10 cubic meters of air, thus making this the nationwide governmental standard. The relief from undue restrictions afforded

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to our industries by this 33 1/3 per cent increase is obvious. The A.S.A. sub-committee is now working on possible even further increases for certain selected inorganic lead compounds.

17. Legislation - Legislative proposals potentially inimical to our interests have continued to be watched. In this connection it should be mentioned that a 1955 decision of a county court in North Carolina, holding a pigment supplier guilty of negligence in having failed to apply poison labels to a shipment of litharge, has been reversed by the Supreme Court of that State. This is of great importance in countering the anticipated tendency to interpret the so-called pharmacy laws of the several states as applicable to commercial products such as pigments and paints.

18. Meetings and Visits - Meetings attended during the quarter included the annual week-long Industrial Health Conference in St. Louis, and meetings of the American Industrial Hygiene Association and American Medical Association in New York City. Visits were made to three industrial installations in Missouri and to three educational institutions in Massachusetts.

19. 1958 Conference - Plans are being considered for a possible 2-day Lead Hygiene Conference next year, similar to that held in Chicago in 1948.

METALLIC LEAD PRODUCTS

20. Plumbers' Show - The Association exhibited at the exposition in connection with the Annual Meeting of the National Association of Plumbing Contractors in Dallas, Texas, for the week of June 10.

21. Sweet's Catalog - A contract was signed for two 4-page catalogs, one on sheet lead roofing and flashing and one on lead plumbing materials, to appear in Sweet's Catalog for 1958. Both Sweet's architectural file and light construction file will be used, with total circulation of over 46,000. Work has begun on preparation of these catalogs.

22. Chemical Exposition - With approval of the Industry Development Committee, the Association has contracted for space at the Exposition of the Chemical Industries to be held at the New York Coliseum the week of December 2.

23. Soldering Handbook - At a meeting of the Association's Solder Committee with the Brazing and Soldering Committee of the American Welding Society on June 24 and 25, the completed draft of the Soldering Handbook was turned over to the Welding Society. Parts of the draft are still subject to review by the latter.

24. Lead Gutter Linings - Installation of nearly 3,000 sq. ft. of hard lead gutter linings on a new dormitory at Duke University was completed. As previously mentioned the L.I.A. staff assisted in preparation of specifications and details for this work. A staff member inspected the job and visited the architects and contractors, who are highly pleased with the use of lead and found the cost of installation lower than for copper. This job will be given suitable publicity.

CERAMICS

25. Advertising - All six advertisements in our current one-year campaign have now been prepared and have appeared at least once in one of the two magazines being

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used. Each ad will appear twice in each of those magazines, the campaign having started with March, 1957, and will run through February, 1958.

26. Research - Preliminary arrangements were made for a third graduate fellowship for research on lead in ceramics. This one will be at Ohio State University and will emphasize lead glazes for clay sewer pipe and sanitary ware. Other grants have been made to Rutgers and the University of Illinois.

27. American Ceramic Society - The chairman and several members of L.I.A.'s Ceramics Technical Committee, and a member of the staff attended the A.C.S. Annual Meeting in Dallas the week of May 5. Two papers on the toxicology and safe handling of ceramic materials were presented as a result of arrangements made by us. (See Health and Safety, Item 13.)

28. Handling Lead Compounds - (See Health and Safety, Item 13.)

29. Supplements - Work is progressing on the first supplement to the L.I.A. publication "Lead in the Ceramic Industries." It will be a condensation of a paper on lead glass decorating colors presented at the New York Metropolitan Section meeting of A.C.S. last January.

30. Publicity - The role of lead in porcelain enamels for aluminum was publicized in connection with a market forecast for this product made by the Porcelain Enamel Institute.

RED LEAD

31. Advertising - Preparation of all three advertisements in our current campaign emphasizing red lead paints for highway structural steel was completed. Each ad will appear twice in "Engineering News-Record," starting with April, 1957, and running through September, 1957.

32. New Technical Letter - Red Lead Technical Letter No. 12 was prepared, printed and mailed to about 11,000 engineers, contractors and paint manufacturers. It contains complete recommendations for painting highway structural steel.

33. Committee - The Red Lead Technical Committee met twice during this quarter. The first meeting was to inspect tests already on exposure and complete the new technical letter. The second was to evaluate the exposure tests and plan a new test including some lead pigments, like calcium plumbate, recently introduced abroad.

34. Ship Bottom Paint - Two Navy destroyers whose hulls were painted three years ago with a Navy paint and a red lead paint developed by the Red Lead Technical Committee were drydocked and inspected. Both paints performed about equally, but the L.I.A. paint, being considerably less expensive, appears to offer excellent future possibilities.

35. Legislation - (See Health and Safety, Item 17.) This law suit related to litharge added to red lead paint for painting a water tank.