

LEAD INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

480 LEXINGTON AVENUE

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

April 2, 1956

QUARTERLY REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

January 1 to March 31, 1956

To keep members promptly and fully informed of Association activities, the secretary has been requested to present brief quarterly reports. This is the first such report. It is intended only to cover the highlights, but more detailed information on any of the activities will gladly be supplied to members on request.

1. Cable Sheathing - The Cable Sheathing Task Group held its third meeting in an attempt to solve the problem of continuous extrusion of lead alloys as a means of improving the cable sheathe market for lead. Several members of this group, together with the L.I.A. secretary, also met with a group of French cable manufacturers visiting this country.

2. Ceramics - The Ceramics Technical Committee held its third meeting and made substantial progress toward completion of the Manual on Lead in Ceramics. Since temporary shortages and high prices have at times stimulated substitution for lead in ceramics, arrangements were made for the secretary to address the annual meeting of the American Ceramic Society in April on the future availability of lead. The address has been prepared.

3. Radiation Shielding - The report of Walter Kilde Nuclear Laboratories' survey of the market for lead in nuclear shielding was received and circulated to members. The Technical Steering Committee and Industry Development Committee both met to consider the report and future activities in this field. A program recommended by the former and approved by the latter will now be submitted to the Board for approval.

4. A.C.S. Monograph - A contract with the American Chemical Society and Reinhold Publishing Co., to edit a Monograph on Lead has been signed. All signatories to the contract have agreed to an outline and lists of suggested authors. Authors for perhaps 20 per cent of the material have been obtained.

5. Solder - The Solder Committee completed its draft for a Handbook on Soldering to be published by the American Welding Society. It is now in the hands of subcommittees of both groups for editing.

6. Lead Building Construction Bulletin - Copy was prepared for a series of bulletins on lead products used in construction for architects. These contain the reasons for employing lead, a specification the architect can use, and helpful practical hints for installation and inspection. The first is now in the hands of the printers.



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7. National Association of Corrosion Engineers - A staff member served as General Chairman of the annual meeting of the N.A.C.E. held in New York with a registration of over 2,000 people.

8. Non-Destructive Testing of Lead - A paper on this subject as it relates to lead chemical equipment, delivered by a staff member before the Society for Non-Destructive Testing last fall, appeared in that Society's official magazine. Reprints were distributed to members and our mailing list of chemical engineers and colleges.

9. Red Lead - A draft of a new Red Lead Technical Letter was prepared and circulated to the Red Lead Technical Committee for criticism. A meeting of the Committee is scheduled for early April at which it is hoped that it will be made ready for printing.

10. Lead Chapter for Economic Geography - A chapter on lead prepared by two members of the staff appeared in a new economic geography textbook edited by Dr. Albert S. Carlson of Dartmouth College. A quantity of reprints for distribution to members and others was obtained gratis.

11. Text Book on Lead Plumbing - About 350 additional copies of our text book for plumbers training classes were sold at cost in the last three months, bringing distribution to date to well over 6,500 copies.

12. "Lead" - The mailing list for "Lead" was expanded to over 50,000 names by adding additional architects, ceramists and other groups with potential interest in lead products. "Lead" is now on a quarterly basis with the first 1956 issue at the printers.

13. Childhood Lead Poisoning - This continues a major problem and source of adverse publicity. As recently as March 19 the "New York Daily News" carried an article headline, "Lead Poisoning Killed 10 Kids in Brooklyn in '55, Highest Toll in the City," based largely on data from the Health Department. Efforts were continued to educate doctors and health departments on this childhood problem and health authorities in New York, Baltimore, Chicago, Cincinnati, St. Louis, New Jersey and Connecticut were contacted in this connection.

14. Legislation - This was an active period in state legislatures and we followed proposed legislation closely. A protest was filed with the proper legislative committee in New York State against a bill dealing with paint that would be unnecessarily harmful to both the paint and lead industries. The bill did not come out of committee.

15. Lead Poisoning From Auto Exhausts - This possibility received wide publicity in connection with the Los Angeles smog. We gathered data on the amount of lead in street air in New York, Detroit, Cincinnati, Los Angeles and other cities. All were found well below safe limits.

16. Talk on Lead Poisoning - On request, in the interests of accuracy, we virtually prepared a talk on lead poisoning that a New York doctor delivered before a group of pediatricians in that city.

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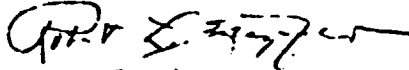
17. A.S.A. Standard on Lead in Paint - This standard, prepared by an American Standards Association Subcommittee sponsored by L.I.A. and of which our Health and Safety Director was secretary, setting a safe limit for lead in paint that may be chewed by children stood up in its first court test in a case in Baltimore that found the paint manufacturer not responsible. An expert witness was suggested to the defense attorney by L.I.A.

18. Annual Meeting - Arrangements were made for the annual meeting in St. Louis on April 24-25 and an interesting program prepared.

19. Headquarters - A lease was signed to occupy new headquarters on the 20th floor of the Lincoln Building, 60 East 42nd Street, New York 17, starting July 1, 1956. The American Zinc Institute will occupy adjoining offices with joint reception and conference rooms. This arrangement should result in better service and greater convenience to members, and the rental is considerably less than could be obtained in our present location. The new location is equally desirable and the building is also connected underground with Grand Central Terminal.

20. Routine Activities - The usual statistical services, Information Bulletins, handling of inquiries, gathering of material for periodical and other publications, and field work in the architectural and chemical construction fields were maintained.

Respectfully submitted,



Secretary.