

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

New York, N.Y.

December 28, 1945

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Lead Industries Association was held on Friday, December 28, 1945, at 12:30 P. M. at the Lawyers Club, New York City.

PRESENT

Clinton H. Crane, Chairman
F. H. Brownell
F. W. Rockwell
N. R. Taylor

REPRESENTING

St. Joseph Lead Co.
American Smelting & Refining Co.
National Lead Co.
United States Smelting Refining
& Mining Co. Inc.

Also Present

J. H. Schaefer
H. Powe
I. H. Cornell
E. V. Peters

Ethyl Corp.
National Lead Co.
St. Joseph Lead Co.
St. Joseph Lead Co.

F. E. Wormser, Secretary-Treasurer

The meeting was called to order with Mr. Clinton H. Crane in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting of October 3, 1945 were approved.

MEMBERSHIP

The Secretary reported that an invitation had been extended to the Broken Hill Associated Smelters Proprietary Ltd. of Australia to join the Lead Industries Association. He reported that some of the engineering staff who had visited this country earlier in the year had expressed themselves as deeply interested in the work of the Lead Industries Association and felt they would like to become members. The Secretary and the Chairman were endeavoring to work out a mutually satisfactory basis for their participation in our work.

STATISTICS

LIA02710

The Committee reviewed the war statistics gathered at the request of the W.P.B. and the other statistical reports which were the result of the war activities of the lead industries.

It was moved, seconded and carried that the Association continue its statistical reports unchanged for six months after which the statistical program would again be reviewed by the

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A letter from Secretary Wallace, with reference to his proposed statistical program was noted. The Secretary was authorized to extend every cooperation to Secretary Wallace and to release the statistics of the Lead Industries Association on pigments to the public. The Secretary was authorized to extend every cooperation to Secretary Wallace and to release the statistics of the Lead Industries Association on pigments to the public. Correspondence is attached as Exhibit "B."

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
ANDREW BROWN COMPANY

The Secretary was authorized to present a complaint to the Federal Trade Commission covering the unfair advertising of the Andrew Brown Co., making misleading attacks on red lead.

JOHN HOPKINS LEAD ANTIDOTE
RESEARCH

A request for assistance on a study looking toward an antidote for lead poisoning, undertaken by Dr. A. H. Corwin of the Johns Hopkins University was noted, and the Secretary was authorized to advise the Research Corporation, through whom the request was received, that the Lead Industries Association was prepared to furnish half the budget requested by Dr. Corwin of \$7,113.00, namely \$3,556.50. Attached as Exhibit "C."

AMENDMENT - FEDERAL TRADE
COMMISSION ACT

The Secretary said that a Congressional hearing would soon be held on the Reece Bill, HR2390 on the powers of the Federal Trade Commission, and inquired as to whether the Executive Committee favored the Association taking any stand on this prospective legislation.

The Secretary was authorized to lend support to the passage of the Reece Bill, on behalf of the Association.

METAL POWDER ASSOCIATION

The President presented a letter from Mr. David N. Burruss, Jr., of the Metals Refining Company, as per Exhibit "A" attached, requesting the continued services of the Secretary to assist the Metal Powder Association as its Acting Secretary and Treasurer.

Without objection the request of the Metal Powder Association was granted.

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SAFETY AND HYGIENE PROGRAM

The Secretary presented a proposed Safety and Hygiene Program for the Association, which is attached as Exhibit "D."

After discussion it was felt desirable to engage in more activity along the lines of safety and hygiene in the interests of better public and private information on lead, but it was not desirable at this time to appropriate the suggested sum of \$62,500 for the purpose. The Secretary was authorized, however, to add an assistant to the staff to help in organizing and carrying out this important phase of the Association's activities.

The Secretary was also authorized to cooperate with the American Medical Association in a joint symposium on lead some time in the future.

The Secretary reported that he had been assisting the Broken Hill Associated Smelters Proprietary Ltd. of Australia in furnishing information to help the Company in averting the imposition of some anti-lead legislation in Australia.

The Secretary also reported that he had been instrumental in helping to procure time for the California members before the imposition of stringent labeling laws applying to paint, labeling laws which were to go into force January 1, 1946 and had been postponed until March 30, 1946.

BUDGET - 1946

The Committee reviewed the various activities of the Association for 1945 and after considerable discussion of the needs of each fund, it was regularly moved, seconded and carried that the same sum as subscribed in 1945 to all the activities of the Lead Industries Association, namely \$175,000, be subscribed in 1946, with provision for a Safety and Hygiene Program and a White Lead Research Program. The status of the various budgets as of today is as follows:

<u>FUND</u>	<u>1946 BUDGET</u>	<u>FUNDS TO BE SUBSCRIBED</u>
Ordinary Fund	\$71,500 (a)	\$71,500
Metallic Lead Products Fund	\$40,000	\$29,000
Red Lead Research Fund)		
White Lead Research Fund)	\$30,000	\$30,000
Agricultural Service Division		
Fund	\$32,800 (b)	\$24,000 (b)
Safety and Hygiene Program Fund	\$20,500	<u>\$20,500</u>
		\$175,000

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- (a) Includes overhead of \$10,000 carried by General Promotion Fund.
- (b) To be augmented by a subscription of \$10,000, or more, from the American Turpentine Farmers Association Cooperative.

The Chairman announced that the St. Joseph Lead Company was prepared to subscribe an additional sum to help defray the cost of an educational program in the chemical field, looking toward the wider dissemination of accurate information on how to install lead properly and to preserve the continued use of lead in the chemical field.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 P.M.


Secretary

LIA02713

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Meeting Minutes

Exhibit "A"
December 28, 1945

C O P Y

METALS REFINING COMPANY
HAMMOND, INDIANA

December 18, 1945

Mr. C. H. Crane, President
St. Joseph Lead Company
250 Park Avenue
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Crane:

When in New York last week, I dropped into your office to see you and Mr. Cornell. I learned from Mr. Cornell that you were not expected back in New York until Friday. As I was leaving New York on Wednesday night, I missed seeing you.

I particularly wanted to report to you on the splendid progress that the Metal Powder Association had made during the past eleven months under the guidance of Mr. Felix Wormser. The program that Mr. Wormser set up for the Association did not get underway until early spring, but by the time of our annual meeting in October, the Association was receiving many favorable comments on the work that it was doing. These praises have come from both members and those engaged in the manufacture and use of powdered metal parts.

As a result of the work that it has been doing, the Association received a number of requests for membership from concerns outside the field of producers of metal powder and has gained four new members since the middle of October, when the constitution was changed to make eligible for membership any concern connected with the production, fabrication, or use of metal powders.

The Metal Powder Association is now set up along the same lines as the Lead Industries Association and although at this time the membership is largely composed of the manufacturers of powders, we expect, as time goes on, that the consumers or users will considerably outnumber the producers.

This coming year will be a critical one for the Metal Powder Association since it was only just beginning to get on its feet when peace came and with it the problems of reconversion. While the change-over from war to peacetime conditions may slow down our progress, we are confident that with Mr. Wormser's assistance and counsel, the Metal Powder Association will survive and become a virile, healthy organization.

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I don't believe that the work that he has done for the Metal Powder Association has in any way detracted from or interfered with Mr. Wormser's duties as secretary of the Lead Industries Association. If I am correct in this assumption and it is agreeable with you and the directors of the Lead Industries Association, we would like to have Mr. Wormser continue as acting secretary of the Metal Powder Association for the coming year. We hope that the Metal Powder Association will very shortly be able to stand on its own feet, but during this trying period just ahead of us, we do need the advice and counsel of someone experienced in Association work and, in our opinion, there is no better man for this job than Mr. Felix Wormser.

Wishing you the Season's Greetings, I am

Very truly yours,

DAVID N. BURRUS, JR. (Signed)

LIA02715

C O P Y

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON 25

November 5, 1945

Dear Sir:

A year ago, in anticipation of the approach of the problems of reconversion and peacetime operation, you were presented with an outline of the Department's program for re-establishing the flow of statistical information to business and industry as soon as the termination of hostilities would permit. In the same communication the general objectives of the continuing statistical program of the Department were defined and the major projects upon which preparatory work was then in progress were briefly described.

Since that time, the Department's staff, in close cooperation with business representatives and other government agencies, has developed the program in more specific terms. The basic outlines of what the Department proposes to do in discharging its responsibility for furnishing businessmen with information are given in the attached memorandum entitled "Census Statistical Program for Business."

The end of the war makes it necessary to bring to rapid completion the general planning phase of the program and also to perfect the details of each survey as soon as possible. Your comments on the attached proposal are solicited to further this end. If the projects outlined meet your needs, it is important that we know it. If they do not, we should appreciate your telling us in what respects they are not adequate and the changes which you suggest for improvement.

Sincerely yours,

(SIGNED) H.A. WALLACE

Secretary of Commerce

Mr. Felix E. Wormser, Secretary
Lead Industries Association
420 Lexington Avenue
New York 17, N. Y.

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C O P Y

CENSUS STATISTICAL PROGRAM FOR BUSINESS

The most compelling problem facing business today is that of reaching and maintaining a high peacetime level of production, distribution, and employment. A high level of activity depends in large part on the decisions reached concerning such important operating problems as the building of new plants, additions of new lines, wage policies, opening of new sales outlets or intensification of sales efforts in established marketing areas or industries. To reach sound decisions businessmen need information about the market conditions of the goods which they buy and sell. Some of the most vital facts will be those concerning the production and distribution of goods and services, the pattern of wholesale and retail trade, and the population and its buying power.

Most of the work of the Census Bureau in these fields was suspended during the war, even though major changes were taking place in the production and distribution system accompanied by vast movements of population and changes in income distribution. Consequently, as a starting point, complete censuses of production and distribution should be taken for the first full peacetime year so that production and marketing plans may be adjusted to take account of the changes resulting from the war.

In the past, major emphasis in the statistical program of the Census Bureau has been placed on the periodic complete censuses taken at intervals ranging from 2 to 10 years. The new program recognizes that business needs cannot be met merely by collecting facts at such intervals. Markets change rapidly in response to the development of new products, new distribution methods, and changes in population and purchasing power. The proposed statistical program recognizes the importance of current statistics to enable business and Government to keep abreast of changes in the economy and in the population, not only for the country as a whole but also for its major subdivisions.

To meet the most urgent of the needs of business and the public generally, the Census Bureau has developed a program which will provide both comprehensive censuses and coordinated current reports on the most significant factors involved. The program centers on manufacturing; distribution--including wholesale and retail and service trades; and population with particular reference to individuals as consumers and members of the labor force. The program represents an effort to measure and describe markets as well as the supply of goods being produced for sale in such markets, along with the necessary complementary information needed for intelligent analysis of the size, location, and conditions existing among producers, distributors, and consumers in each of the major producing and consuming sectors of the business economy.

MANUFACTURING

The manufacturing statistics program will provide information on the production of manufactured commodities, as well as on the movement of materials from the mine and farm through the various stages of manufacturing up to the distribution channels through which products move to the consumer. This objective will be accomplished through a program made up of two complementary parts--Censuses of Manufactures and Mineral Industries to provide comprehensive data on industries and commodities and a system of current reports to keep the most important aspects of industrial information up to date.

LIA02717

Although provided for by law on a biennial basis, the Census of Manufactures has not been taken since 1939, having been set aside by the President under the authority contained in the Second War Powers Act. The absence of comprehensive measures of manufacturing activity during the war years makes it imperative that the changes in the number, location, size and products of manufacturing establishments be determined as soon as possible. Therefore, it is proposed to take the

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Census of Manufactures (and Mineral Industries) covering the first full peacetime year, 1946, rather than to wait for the next regularly scheduled census which would not be taken until 1948 covering the year 1947.

These censuses will be similar in most respects to those taken before the war and will furnish data on the production of commodities, consumption of materials, employment, man-hours worked, wages, value of production, cost of materials, inventories, capital expenditures, etc. This will make it possible to determine at least in broad outline the changes caused by the war, including shifts in products, changes in the size distribution of manufacturing establishments, the position of the various industries as a source of employment and wages, shifts in the fortunes of particular industries, changes in the productivity of labor, and many other significant industrial developments. Regional, state and other geographic compilations will contribute greatly to an understanding of the altered importance of each section of the country with respect to production, employment, and markets for raw materials and semifinished goods. Furthermore, the censuses, since they include all manufacturing and mining establishments, will provide a general bench mark in terms of which current statistics collected by public and private agencies may be appraised and adjusted so that their accuracy and dependability may be increased.

The current manufacturing statistics program is largely under way at the present time. The program includes some 130 carefully selected monthly, quarterly and annual surveys needed to measure the more important aspects of industrial operations as often as needed. All of the major manufacturing industries are represented in the current program but greatest emphasis is placed on those commodities which contribute importantly to the ebb and flow of the business tide. Data are being obtained not only on measures of activity, such as production or shipments, but also on the "forecasting" items for selected commodities such as the volume of new and unfilled orders and inventories of materials or finished products.

These current surveys will enable businessmen to keep in touch with important changes in manufacturing activity and with the market position of leading commodities. The current program will furnish at least on an annual basis the facts needed to carry forward the more significant measures of industrial operations during the years not covered by a complete census. In fact, the full development of the current program should make it feasible to take the Census of Manufactures at five-year intervals rather than on a biennial basis as is now provided by law.

Distribution

For wholesale and retail trade and service establishments less information is available at present than for manufacturing. Major shifts in the distribution of population, the amount and type of goods available for sale, and the number and size of establishments have taken place, but as in manufacturing, no complete census has been taken since 1939. Furthermore, the Census Bureau's current reporting program designed to cover intercensal periods was only in an early stage of development when further progress was stopped by the advent of war.

The Bureau's program contemplates a complete census covering all wholesale, retail, and service establishments (including contract construction), covering the year 1946. This is the earliest year for which the bench mark statistics of the complete census would reflect peacetime conditions and at the same time permit integration with the Census of Manufactures. Such a census will provide information

on the number and size of establishments by kinds of business, sales or receipts, and other data shown by small geographic areas which will bear directly on business problems requiring market analysis, aid in the direction of sales programs, serve as a guide in the establishment of new businesses and perform a multitude of other useful services to the community at large.

Present legislation provides for a decennial census of business with the next one scheduled to be taken in 1950 to cover the year 1949. In the decade of the 30's the need for more frequent complete descriptions of the business community resulted in a series of "special" censuses financed by emergency funds. The result was a succession of surveys differing importantly in scope and content, which detracted in substantial measure from their usefulness. It is, therefore, proposed to conduct the complete Census of Business every five years in the future with the first one scheduled to cover activity in the year 1946.

Valuable though the complete census will be, it is nevertheless true that even in times of peace our economy is so dynamic in character that there is need for a continuing flow of information to keep pace with current developments. To meet these requirements, it is proposed to obtain annually for intercensal years information on inventories, operating costs, and other data which will make possible analysis of operating experience by kind of business. The annual statistics thus prepared will be similar to those obtained from the complete census, with the published information limited to the United States totals, regional areas, states, and large cities.

In order to stay abreast of current market developments and provide the basis for future projections, data will also be gathered monthly from a representative group of the more important types of retail, wholesale, and service trade establishments. In general, the information gathered will consist of readily obtainable data reflecting the level of business activity--the total value of retail sales, service trade receipts, and wholesale sales and inventories. These monthly statistics will be published for roughly the same geographic areas as the data made available from the annual surveys, that is, large cities, states, regional areas and United States totals classified by kind of business. Publication of monthly data can begin within a few months of the time that funds become available.

The current monthly and annual program will have the effect of maximizing the usefulness of the Census of Business by making it possible to carry forward the bench mark statistics established. The monthly surveys will be of particular importance in providing an improved basis for the estimate of the level, trend, and composition of consumer expenditures--information needed not only by business but also by government in connection with the establishment of sound fiscal policy and the determination of the related National Income and Product estimates.

In short, the program is designed to provide the factual basis needed to deal with the distribution problems facing American business. Not only must the ground lost during the war be recovered by the groundwork must be laid for a continuing and unprecedented expansion of marketing and selling enterprise. If the goal of high production and employment is to be achieved outlets to absorb the country's manufacturing and agricultural output must be established.

POPULATION AND CONSUMER MARKETS

LIA02719

The program of the Census Bureau also recognizes the vital need of business for consumer market data to use in conjunction with statistics on the production

and distribution of goods and services. It is clear that the changes in consumer markets in the postwar period will involve large numbers of people and extend over a considerable period of time. Hence, up-to-date knowledge regarding their extent and character will be of prime importance in business planning.

Under these circumstances, it is apparent that the nation is no longer at a stage where its needs for information on the population and its activities can be met by a decennial census of the population. It is proposed, therefore, that the complete census of population, including housing and the labor force, be conducted quinquennially instead of decennially. Data will be collected annually on a sample basis in order to show, for cities of 100,000 or more and for states, the year-to-year shifts in population, housing, employment, occupation and industry. Decisions regarding expansion of production or of distribution outlets, estimates of sales potentials, and the establishment of advertising and marketing organizations will be greatly aided by comprehensive figures on how many people live in a particular area, and what their characteristics are.

Annual surveys of the distribution of consumer income are also planned to assist producers and marketers in adjusting their programs. The currently available monthly reports on the national labor force will be supplemented by the inauguration of a new program for labor force statistics which will make available on a quarterly basis figures on employment and unemployment for each of 50 major local labor market areas and for the largest industrial states. This series will not only make available overall measures of the number employed and unemployed in important cities and states but will also make possible a more complete analysis of the composition of the labor force including part-time employees, duration of unemployment, and characteristics of the unemployed. Publication of such information can begin early in 1946 if funds become available before the end of this year.

GENERAL SUMMARY

The sections above highlight those parts of the proposed Census program changes of greatest direct interest to businessmen. For purposes of summary, the program may be considered to involve two phases: first, current data which can begin to be made available to business in the immediate future, i.e., early in 1946 including monthly reports of production, wholesale and retail sales, service trade receipts and the quarterly detailed reports on the labor force; and second, data of a more comprehensive character for use in the longer term phases of post-war readjustment to become available in 1947 such as the complete Business and Manufacture censuses and the Survey of Consumer Income all covering the year 1946, as well as the Sample Census of Population to be taken in the fall of 1946.

In addition to the above, the program of the Bureau in other fields will continue to serve many types of business use as they have in the past. The relaxation of wartime security regulations, for example, will permit the resumption of publication of detailed export and import statistics to satisfy the needs of those firms with interests in foreign trade. The information resulting from the 1945 Census of Agriculture will soon be available to describe conditions in this important producing and consuming area. Data on such subjects as vital statistics and government round out the picture of the additional activities of more specialized interest being carried on by the Bureau for businessmen.

October 1945

LIA02720

Meeting

December 28, 1945

C O P Y

RESEARCH CORPORATION
405 Lexington Avenue
New York 17

Joseph W. Barker
Chairman of the
Executive Committee
Acting President

August 15, 1945

Mr. Felix E. Wormser
Lead Industries Association
420 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Felix:

For the past several years Research Corporation has been assisting in a research program at the Johns Hopkins University, Department of Chemistry, looking toward the development of an antidote for heavy metal poisoning effective against certain of the heavy metals. This work has been done under Dr. A. H. Corwin, Chairman of the Department of Chemistry, who last Friday afternoon stopped in my office to report progress and to request a continuation of our assistance.

The original work was to be directed towards developing an antidote for lead, cadmium and mercury poisoning. In the meantime, however, the Government became interested in arsenical poisoning in connection with possible gas warfare and/or protective measures against enemy gas warfare. This temporary diversion has now ceased and the group has been back on the original track as you will see from the enclosed letter.

Dr. Corwin is optimistic and believes that their results to date indicate that they can mobilize lead deposited in the bones and that they are probably on the track to acute lead poisoning.

It seemed to me that this was an era in which the development of any antidote should not be patented and exploited but rather that it was something that should be dedicated to the public good. Dr. Corwin agrees with me on this point of view, and I suggested to him that I would put the matter before you to see whether or not the Lead Industries Association would not be willing to join with Research Corporation in making grants to complete this project to the end that eventually, if successful, the Johns Hopkins University, Research Corporation and the Lead Industries Association would jointly dedicate the results to the public good.

I should be happy to have your reaction as to this possibility and I would be very glad to talk to you about it after you have read the enclosed copy of a letter to me from Dr. Corwin.

With kindest personal regards, I am,

Sincerely,

(Signed)
Joseph W. Barker

LIA02721

Enclosure

N 665.04

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C O P Y

THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY
Baltimore 18, Maryland

Department of Chemistry

August 13, 1945

Dr. Joseph W. Barker
Research Corporation
405 Lexington Avenue
New York 17, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Barker:

In accordance with our conversation, I think it would be entirely appropriate to approach the Lead Industries Association for aid in the work on an antidote to lead poisoning. We have already made encouraging progress in this field and in order to bring the laboratory phase to a conclusion in the shortest possible time, we should have the services of an organic chemist and a pharmacologist for approximately another year. In our work on metals more toxic than lead, we have been able to poison animals with a dose sufficient to obtain one hundred per cent mortality, wait one-half hour and then inject the antidote and save all of the animals. This requires the elimination by the kidneys and liver of the metal in the form of a non-toxic complex.

In acute lead poisoning, which is more difficult to treat than chronic lead poisoning with this particular antidote, the amount of metal which must be eliminated is approximately forty times as great as in the case of the metals with which we have been successful. This is due to the lower toxicity of lead. Our first experiments have shown that the method of administration which we are using is overloading the kidneys in acute lead poisoning. There are two ways in which this difficulty might be rectified. The first is by changing the manner of treatment with the antidote in such a way as to lighten the burden on the kidneys. This we believe to be entirely feasible and we are now in the process of making preliminary experiments with this objective in view. The second method of attack is to modify the chemistry of the compound in such a way as to ease the burden on the kidneys. This we also feel to be entirely feasible and we have projected new chemical

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compounds which should be capable of securing this effect.

Even with our present method of treatment, we are able to save between twenty and thirty per cent of the animals poisoned with lead and to increase the survival time of the remainder. This margin may be entirely sufficient for the treatment of chronic lead poisoning, but we should prefer to have an even greater margin of safety before we undertake extensive studies of chronic poisoning. I have stated above that chronic poisoning is essentially easier to treat. This is because the elimination of the poison need not be as rapid as in acute poisoning, with the result that there is no necessity to overload the kidneys. Our results to date indicate that the antidote we use is capable of mobilizing lead deposited in the bones but it will be necessary to conduct further experiments in this line before we can make a final report.

The summary above gives you an idea of our present position with respect to a lead antidote and the nature of the work which should be done to finish the laboratory studies. If the Lead Industries Association is interested in supporting this work further, I should like to request from them a budget approximately as follows:

Chemist - - Salary	\$3200.00
Pharmacologist - Salary	2700.00
Supplies and Equipment	1000.00
Administration	213.00
	<u>\$7113.00</u>

I shall be happy to supply any further information which may be of aid to you in securing these funds.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Alsoph H. Corwin

Alsoph H. Corwin
Chairman, Department of Chemistry

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LIA02723

C O P Y

MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL
BOSTON 14, MASS.

November 14, 1945

Mr. Felix Wormser
Lead Industries Association
420 Lexington Avenue
New York 17, N.Y.

My dear Felix:

I apologize for not having written you an answer to your letter of October 2nd sooner. This was relative to a letter from Professor Corwin. The trouble was that the letter meant nothing to me and I put it aside to think it over and hence neglected it. The letter is carefully worded to give one no idea what he really has in mind. He obviously wants to keep his antidote a secret. If he has an antidote which makes cadmium non-toxic it would be exciting, but if it is non-toxic why should he "over-load" the kidneys, as he expresses it. Not knowing what he is talking about, I, therefore, have no opinion. He lives near Lawrence Fairhall and unless he is determined to keep it a secret maybe he would be willing to talk to him, for at the moment it sounds as though it might be interesting. However, one must know more about it to have a real opinion.

Yours,

(Signed)

Joseph C. Aub, M.D.

JCA:SCN

P.S. Corwin is said to be a good chemist - but is he working with any biologist - does he know what he means by "over-loading the kidney?" I do not think it's fair to ask for money - giving so little inkling of what he has in his mind - or how well he will do the work.

JCA

LIA02724

N 665.06

C O P Y

FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY
U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
WASHINGTON 14

October 16, 1945

Mr. Felix Wormser, Secretary
Lead Industries Association
420 Lexington Avenue
New York 17, New York

Dear Felix:

I have read your letter of October 11, 1945 and attached copies of correspondence from Dr. Barker and Dr. Corwin with reference to carrying out work on lead poisoning at the Johns Hopkins University.

This appears to me to be a very worthy undertaking and I imagine that the results with reference to the antidotal effect of the material they are working with will be very interesting in view of the work that has already been reported in England with reference to arsenical poisoning. I assume that the antidotal material they are working with, which has now been known for 2 or 3 years and has been designated as BAL, is no longer so secret or confidential as it once was and see no reason why any further secrecy should be maintained with reference to it. I note that chronic poisoning is apparently easier to treat and indeed that is the only type of lead poisoning which is of interest in industry.

It would appear that any treatment of chronic lead poisoning which gives as good results as has been indicated in this correspondence would be of the greatest value to industry and I shall be greatly interested in following the progress of the work.

Yours very sincerely,

(Signed)

Lawrence T. Fairhall
Senior Scientist (R)

LTF:cc

LIA02725

N 665.07

A SAFETY AND HYGIENE PROGRAM FOR
THE LEAD INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

Medical and public misinformation usually amounting to actual prejudice against lead, because of its toxic qualities, is a subject of vital importance to all the lead industries in the United States and to many of the basic chemical industries as well. If anything, the problem has become even more serious in the last five years than ever before, owing primarily to the spread of considerable anti-lead propaganda and also to occasional faulty medical research which has penetrated deep into medical annals and caused many physicians and hospitals to assume erroneous positions on the question of lead poisoning.

At the same time, in the last year or two, labor unions have seized upon the lead hazard as an instrumentality for obtaining higher wage scales. They contend that, as lead is toxic, any manual operation in which lead is involved is entitled to extra compensation. An excellent illustration of the effect of this latest attitude of labor unions was given in the attempt made in New York State to procure a higher wage scale for the demolition of steel structures painted with red lead. This effort almost resulted in the passage by New York State of some safety and health regulations decidedly discriminatory against red lead, an issue which was met squarely by us in public and defeated.

In part this attitude of labor has prevented us from restoring the use of red lead as a preferred painting material by the U.S. Navy. It is our belief that lead is not used by the U.S. Navy today almost solely because of fear of lead poisoning. Our investigation does not disclose any written rule or regulation to that effect in the Navy Department but it is present nevertheless.

There is hardly an outlet for lead to which one can turn today without encountering, in some measure, the question of the lead hazard to the public. So fundamental is this problem to the future welfare of the lead industries and the continued manufacture and use of many important lead products, such as white lead, red lead, litharge, sheet lead and lead pipe that unless some immediate attention is paid to the problem above and beyond what the Association has already accomplished and is currently doing, the opposing forces may grow strong enough to do us injury which it would take years of work to correct.

The current prejudice against lead is also inextricably interwoven with the continued development of new uses and new products for lead. It is obviously useless to expend large sums of money on the perfection of existing manufacturing processes, improvement of lead products and the discovery of new ones if there is to be a subsequent barrier interposed by the public or government agencies to lead on the ground of its toxic nature.

LIA02726

The Lead Industries Association over a period of fifteen years has had a vast amount of experience in the field of both occupational and public lead poisoning. It is my frank opinion that the time is now

ripe for the Association to embark on a carefully conceived program designed to correct the misinformation prevalent throughout the United States in medical and governmental circles about the toxic properties of lead and to assist present and prospective users with any problems they may have in meeting objection to the use of lead because of its nature.

Much thought has been given to this problem and to the recommendation of specific steps that might be taken immediately to procure a correction of the present unfortunate situation. Consideration has been given to placing the problem and its solution entirely in the hands of some neutral agency with an excellent reputation, such as the Industrial Hygiene Foundation, and financing the full program required. Such a move has the advantage of having an outside agency make pronouncements with the probability that its conclusions might be accepted more readily than if made directly by the Lead Industries Association. On the other hand, there is a possibility that announcements of such a group would be discounted because it would and should be known that it was financed by the Lead Industries Association.

The lead industry, from mine to finished product, presents in itself a large laboratory to help solve our problem. If it can be demonstrated, as I think it can, that the production of various lead articles can be attended with no detriment to health of the worker even though, as is well known, exposure may be of a high order, then public alarm over public exposure to lead, which is of a much lower order, should subside. In other words I feel our program should include some provisions to survey our own industries. In some cases our own house can be put into better shape. In others, we can profit by experience.

The Lead Industries Association in its internal thinking has always met the problem of lead poisoning frankly and fearlessly. Externally it has avoided public discussion except where driven to a defense. We have not attempted to disseminate any information that was not backed by the soundest scientific, medical and hygienic research we could obtain. I feel that the word of the Lead Industries Association might carry even more weight than if some other agency, used as a screen, were utilized in order to do the job for us. This point may only be academic, however, as the plan to be submitted calls for the help of nearly all agencies in a position to do so. It is obviously not possible to procure the services of any education institution for what would be, in part, publicity or public relations purposes.

It is my conclusion that the best means of organizing our effort is to form, within the structure of the Lead Industries Association, a Safety and Hygiene Bureau of its own and that, ideally, the bureau or division should be directed by someone of sound reputation in medical and hygienic circles who could devote all his energies to carrying out the Safety and Hygiene Bureau's program. I am impressed with the desirability of having competent medical or hygienic assistance available to the staff of the Association, full or part time.

LIA 02727

I conceive of our problem as being divided into two parts:

Part I - Education of the medical profession and officials of insurance companies, hospitals and labor unions, about lead poisoning, and

Part II - Education of industry and education of the public.

(The attached diagram is a schematic arrangement of the job to be done and how it might be divided into the most important elements.)

PART I - EDUCATION OF MEDICAL AUTHORITIES, ETC.

The Safety and Hygiene Bureau director on our staff would find a large and important job awaiting him in contacts with state health departments, municipal health departments, medical societies, medical conventions, insurance and casualty companies, medical schools, hospitals and labor unions.

In addition the medical portion of the program should include the conduct of purely scientific investigations that would help to clear up some of the remaining unknown factors about lead, of which there are plenty. For example,

1. We are planning to carry on our fundamental medical research on lead at the Harvard Medical School, temporarily interrupted by the war.
2. We have a program under way at the Children's Hospital at Boston which should shed additional light on the serious problem of lead poisoning in infants.
3. We have a cooperative arrangements with the Department of Pediatrics at Johns Hopkins on the presence of x-ray shadows in bones, caused by various compounds. (This involves no financing)
4. We have a request from the Research Corporation to cooperate in the continuation of a project begun at Johns Hopkins, seeking to perfect prophylactic measures to prevent the incidence of lead poisoning.
5. An investigation should be started sometime in the future, endeavoring to prove that the ingestion of extremely minute amounts of lead, contrary to popular conception, may be actually beneficial to public health.

Other projects of a purely scientific nature will arise from time to time.

In addition, special projects of more practical aspect must be considered. For example, currently the Lead Industries Association, with the help of the Industrial Hygiene Foundation and the Battelle Memorial Institute, is measuring the generation of lead and other fumes from cutting pieces of welded steel that have been painted with various paints.

On some of these problems we can depend upon the cooperation of the U.S. Public Health Service and State hygiene bureaus, just as we have in the past; for example, the investigation of the spray residue problem, and the study of the storage battery industry by the U. S. Public Health Service. Perhaps an interested industry can be depended upon to defray altogether, or in part, the cost of the necessary investigation. I might cite the experience we had in helping the evaporated milk industry and the lead weighted silk industry in their investigations of the lead hazard. Some industries, such as the ethyl gasoline industry, have done a magnificent job in studying their own hazards entirely through their own resources.

So much for the medical end of our problem.

LIA 02728

PART II - EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC

The dissemination of accurate publicity about lead to newspapers, magazines and radio should be organized specifically through a professional agency such as our own advertising agency who have already submitted their suggestions as to the role they can perform.

The education of industry could be done largely with the help of the Industrial Hygiene Foundation through the preparation and dissemination of scientific literature of a practical nature to assist in controlling the lead hazard in occupational surroundings -- or through actual field work in lead using industries and by other means.

COST OF PROGRAM

An overall budget of about \$50,000 to 75,000 for one year, provided as follows, would probably be necessary to carry out this program:

Salary of Safety Bureau Director	(open)
Consultants' fees	2,000
Clerical help	2,500
Traveling expense	5,000
Industrial Hygiene Foundation survey, etc.	7,500 to 10,000
Medical research	12,000 to 15,000
Public relations work	15,000
Contingencies	3,000

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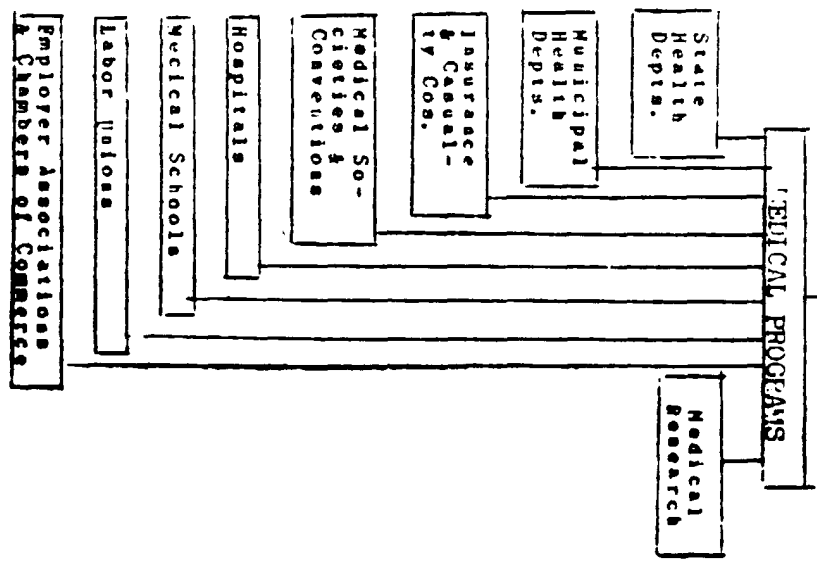
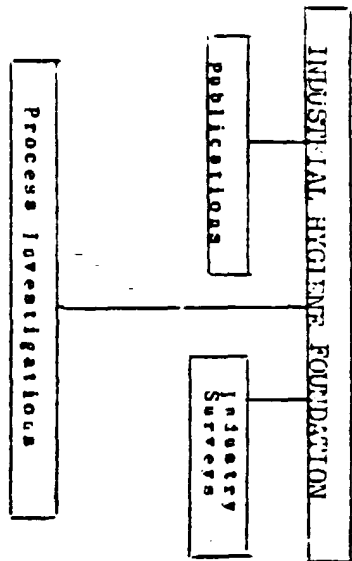
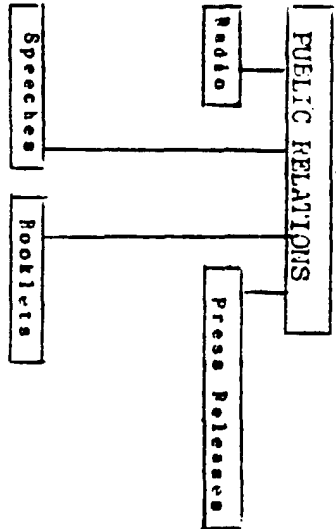
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LEAD INDUSTRIE ASSOCIATION

SAFETY AND HYGIENE BUREAU

Director

Consultant of
Advisory Committee



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