

LEAD INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

480 LEXINGTON AVENUE
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

December 5, 1952

SUBJECT: WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE
ON RESOURCES FOR THE FUTURE

To Members of the Lead Industries Association;

Our Lead Information Bulletin No. 54, dated November 19, 1952, carried an item about a White House Conference, to be held under the sponsorship of a new organization, Resources for the Future, Inc., next spring. This item elicited enough interest among our members that we felt it desirable to seek further information immediately.

A letter addressed to the president of Resources for the Future, Inc., brought the attached reply and enclosure.

We expect to continue to keep members posted on developments regarding this Conference.

Very truly yours,

Robert A. Ziegler
Secretary.



C O P Y

RESOURCES FOR THE FUTURE, INC.
 706 Cafritz Building
 1625 Eye Street, N.W.
 Washington 6, D.C.
 National 3694

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Norvell W. Page
 Conference Manager

3 December 1952

Mr. Robert L. Ziegfeld, Secretary
 Lead Industries Association
 420 Lexington Avenue
 New York 17, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Ziegfeld:

Thank you for your letter of 28 November 1952 to Mr. Albright inquiring about the White House Conference on Resources for the Future. I am enclosing a statement giving the background and preliminary plans for this conference which will provide you with the all the information available at this time.

Invitations to participate in the conference will not be issued until late in January. We shall keep you informed of opportunities for making statements as our plans advance.

We shall be pleased to add you to our mailing list to receive further general communications concerning the conference.

Sincerely yours,

S/ Norvell W. Page
 Norvell W. Page
 Conference Manager

Encl.

WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON RESOURCES FOR THE FUTURE
 March 25, 26, 27, 1953 - Mayflower Hotel - Washington, D.C.

C O P Y

December, 1952

WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON RESOURCES FOR THE FUTUREBackground and Preliminary Plans

Resources for the Future, Inc.
 706 Cafritz Building
 1625 Eye St., N.W.
 Washington 6, D.C.

Plans are being made for a White House Conference on Resources for the Future to be held in Washington, D.C., on March 25, 26, 27, 1953, at the Mayflower Hotel. This conference will be the first of its kind since President Theodore Roosevelt's National Conservation Conference in December, 1908.*

Timing: The beginning of a new administration in Washington next year and the public interest aroused by the reports of the President's Committee on Materials Policy, Water Policy, and Government Reorganization provide an opportunity for a new beginning and a new orientation of public opinion towards the conservation, use, and development of our resources.

Objectives of the Conference are:

- 1) To call the attention of the public, industry, and government to the resources problem, its nature, and possible solutions;
- 2) To provide a forum for full discussion and better understanding of issues and policies aimed at providing needed materials for a growing dynamic economy and at resource conservation and development;
- 3) To formulate new objectives and next steps for action by individual citizens, private groups in industry, agriculture and labor, by citizen organizations, and conservation agencies, as well as by Federal and State governments.

Theme: The theme of the Conference will be the question: "How Shall We Provide the Resources for the Nation's Growth, Welfare, and Security?"

Scope: The scope of the Conference will be "The Conservation, Wise Use, and Development of our Resources."

*A White House Conference was held by Theodore Roosevelt in 1908, which was also the first meeting of the Governors' Conference. It was attended by "twenty governors of States and Territories, personal representatives of eleven governors or governors-elect, members of 26 State Conservation Commissions, and presidents and representatives of 60 national organizations." The "Joint Conference," as it was called, met at the invitation of the President in the Belasco Theatre, and was opened by President Roosevelt and President-elect Taft. The costs of holding the Joint Conference were covered by assignment of government personnel and by those attending paying their own expenses. It passed a number of resolutions relating to procedures for follow-up of its interests. Follow-up conferences were held annually in different parts of the country over several years.

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Sponsorship: The new corporation "Resources for the Future, Inc." will sponsor the Conference. For a White House Conference, the invitations go out in the name of the President, and President-elect Eisenhower has indicated his willingness "to issue or join in an appropriate call of the Conference" — presumably in late January. President Truman has pledged the support of his office in preparing for the Conference.

Leading organizations are being asked for their cooperation, participation, and assistance in the planning and conduct of the Conference.

Attendance: Attendance at the Conference will be by invitation to agencies and individuals, with representation from Federal and State governments, educational groups, business, industry, agriculture, and labor, as well as conservation agencies and "citizen" interests. All those invited will either be requested specifically to attend a given section or be asked to indicate their choice of a selected list of sections which they will agree to attend. Attendance is anticipated of more than 1,000. The general rule will be that everyone finances his or her own way.

Organizations: It is proposed to organize the Conference in sections after the general opening session and keynote address. Ten or eleven sections have been considered with three meetings of each section — on the afternoon of the first day and mornings of the second and third days. Each section might have an average attendance of 100.

General Sessions: Besides the usual general opening session with welcoming addresses, a keynote address may be scheduled at the first day luncheon.

During the evening of the first day it may be desirable to schedule a general session with some addresser or a motion picture.

At the second day luncheon and extending into the afternoon, a group of general speakers — from Congress, other Governors, and officials or distinguished citizens might be presented.

Under the Section type organization for a conference, the final general session usually results in presentation of a series of reports from the various sections and adoption of "resolutions." For this Conference a somewhat different tone might be set by emphasizing in each section report a theme of "What needs to be done next?" or outlining the gaps to be filled in policy and information — thus giving some answers to the inevitable question, "Where do we go from here?"

The main dinner meeting will be held the last evening at the Statler Hotel with the President of the United States invited to address the Conference on that occasion.

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Section Meetings: Several somewhat unusual procedures have been suggested for conduct of the Section Meetings:

- 1) Only one paper -- prepared and circulated in advance of the Conference presenting two or three major questions or issues with background factual material. This "Chairman's Paper" will be prepared by staff members with the guidance of the Chairman and a Section Steering Committee of four or six members chosen for their diversity of opinions on the issues.
- 2) A Panel discussion of the Chairman's paper by members of the Steering Committee at the first Section Meeting to emphasize the different or controversial aspects of the problems at issue.
- 3) Testimony by delegates, on written request, with statements limited to five minutes and subject to questions from members of the Steering Committee.
- 4) A draft of Statement of Consensus on Next Steps or answers to the original questions for discussion at the third section session.

Section Subjects: The subjects to be covered by the conference are so broad and so diverse that choice of problems to be discussed must be highly selective. There is no prospect of establishing a separate section for each major field of interest or of having each section cover all of its field.

The line-up of section subjects now being discussed is given below. The actual names of sections are provisional working titles only, and the substance of the sections is still subject to change. Consolidations, additions, or subtractions still are possible. The tentative list follows:

- 1) Future land use patterns to meet all needs -- stressing relationships among forest, range, and crop lands, urbanized areas, scenic and recreational, wild life, and "withdrawn" areas.
- 1a) Problems of management of renewable resources.
- 2) Water use patterns -- the relationships among various uses and problems -- multiple purpose and single planning for each drainage basin (whatever the organization may be).
- 3) Energy -- including: a) Fuels, oil and gas, b) coal and shales, c) water and steam, d) atomic and solar.
- 4) Minerals -- non-fuel (not including tariff) -- requirements, exploration, effective use, substitution, security, and land use considerations.

In each of these sections the Section Paper might outline a) Scope of the problem and needs in 1975, b) Approaches to meet this need, c) Outlines of possible policies.

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- 5) Demand for materials in 1975 and limitations on resources to support a growing dynamic economy. The subjects here are the assumption of a "growing economy," how to measure the demand, and to stress the problems of use and development of renewable and non-renewable resources.
- 6) Technology. The need for basic data, research, and technology -- to identify the critical needs and place responsibilities for action.
- 7) World relationships -- supply, sources, trade, investment, market and security.
- 8) Motives for needed action -- incentives and compulsion for action -- to stress the role of private action and ways of getting action.
- 9) Education and citizen participation. How to create awareness and action.
- 10) Organizing to get the job done -- problems of administration and organization in private groups, citizen organizations, state, and federal governments.