

COPY

County of Los Angeles
Air Pollution Control District
5201 Santa Fe Avenue
Los Angeles 58

Gordon P. Larson
Director

December 7, 1954

Dr. J. Cholak
Associate Professor of Industrial Health
Kettering Laboratory College of Medicine
Eden Avenue
Cincinnati 19, Ohio

Dear Dr. Cholak:

In your letter of November 24, 1954, you inquired about the atmospheric lead values in the Second Technical and Administration Report. The footnote in our Table VIII was in error. Lead was measured on carbonized filter papers by arc spectrograph. Standards containing comparable amounts of lead nitrate (aqueous) on a blank filter were used. In addition, an internal spectrographic standard of .010 ml. of 20 per cent Li_2CO_3 dissolved in HCl was used with each filter analyzed. The HCl was added to decompose the carbonate, during drying and carbonizing. An Applied Research Laboratory, 1-1/2 meter, grating spectrograph, A.R.L. source unit, platform electrode and densitometer were employed. From the numerous samples and standards measured, it was estimated that results were accurate to within about 10 per cent of the value obtained.

It is very possible that the value of $42 \mu\text{gm./m}^3$ quoted in our report was high, yet we measured $34 \mu\text{gm./m}^3$ on a later occasion. Seldom does the value exceed $10 \mu\text{gm./m}^3$ even during smog attacks. It is interesting to note that M. J. Peter of the Environmental Health Center measured $14 \mu\text{gm./m}^3$ in one of several samples which we collected for him early this year.

In regard to the values in excess of $150 \mu\text{gm./m}^3$ which you mentioned in your letter, we do not know where these originated.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact us.

Very truly yours,

Gordon P. Larson, Director

By: /S/ Robert D. MacPhee
Chemical Engineer

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