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LEAD ¹

By ELMER W. PEHRSON AND

SUMMARY OUT

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The lead industry made further strides in 1936, marked recovery in industrial activity. Prices were substantially above those in 1935, as was made in liquidating the huge stockpile of depression. In short, the industry enjoyed a feature of 1936 was the notable increase in covering and building, although imports still lags far behind that in other imports.

Salient statistics of the lead industry in the United States, 1932-36, in short:

	1925-29 (average)	1932
Production of refined primary lead:		
From domestic ores.....	680,525	248,900
From foreign ores and base bullion.....	123,104	33,000
	783,629	281,900
Recovery of secondary lead:		
As pig lead.....	124,600	128,000
In alloys.....	153,400	70,300
	280,000	198,300
Total production of pig lead (primary and secondary).....	910,229	409,900
Imports:		
Lead in base bullion.....	95,747	13,400
Lead in ore.....	40,068	21,000
Exports of refined pig lead.....	98,048	23,500
Refined primary lead available for consumption.....	690,916	264,800
Estimated consumption of primary and secondary lead.....	900,250	416,700
Prices:		
New York:		
Average for year.....	7.47	3.
Quotation at end of year.....	6.25	3.
London average.....	5.87	1.
Mine production of recoverable lead.....	664,230	292,900
World smelter production of lead.....	1,850,000	1,279,000

¹ Revised figures.
² Data for 1934-36 include lead imported for immediate consumption under bond as do figures for earlier years.
³ Subject to revision.

⁴ This report deals primarily with the smelting, refining, and distribution of lead.

declined to 31,400, and since then has increased to only 61,400 tons. Most of the advance was credited to 1936, in which year cable covering consumed 10 percent of the total. The use of lead in building likewise has slumped severely—from 96,000 tons in 1929 (10 percent of the total) to 22,000 tons in 1932 with a subsequent rise to only 40,000 tons in 1936. Consumption of lead for all other purposes, which includes pigments, storage batteries, ammunition, foil, alloys, etc., has improved surprisingly; the tonnage used in 1936 was 81 percent of the 1929 total. These purposes took 84 percent of all the lead used in 1936 compared with only 67 percent in 1929. Obviously, however, full return of lead consumption to predepression levels requires substantial improvement in the building and utility fields.

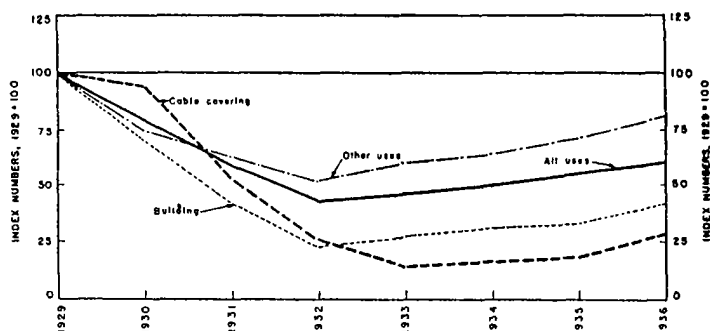


FIGURE 28.—Comparison of trends in consumption of lead in cable covering, building, and other uses with total lead consumption, 1929-36. Data from American Bureau of Metal Statistics.

DOMESTIC PRODUCTION

Refined pig lead produced in the United States is derived from three main sources—domestic ore, foreign ore and base bullion, and secondary materials. The following table lists the production from each of these sources from 1927 to 1936.

Total pig lead produced in the United States, 1927-36, in short tons

Year	From domestic ores and base bullion	From foreign ores and base bullion	From secondary materials	Total
1927.....	608,320	128,210	119,000	855,530
1928.....	626,202	154,869	138,000	919,071
1929.....	672,498	102,135	138,500	913,133
1930.....	573,740	99,293	129,000	772,033
1931.....	390,200	52,504	128,800	571,504
1932.....	248,917	33,024	128,000	409,941
1933.....	249,713	13,983	131,800	395,496
1934.....	299,841	11,395	124,500	435,736
1935.....	310,505	14,055	156,800	481,360
1936.....	387,698	11,458	137,600	536,756

¹ Revised figures.

PRIMARY LEAD

Refinery production.—Production of refined primary lead in 1936 increased 23 percent; it was equivalent to the production in 1905 but was 49 percent below the 1925-29 average. The production of lead

derived from domestic ores increased about 23 percent; production from foreign ores and base bullion was equivalent to only 11 percent of the 1925-29 average, only 3 percent of the total output of refined primary lead.

Refined primary lead produced in the United States, 1927-36, in short tons

Year	Production (short tons)			Sources	
	Desilverized lead ¹	Soft lead ²	Total production ¹	From domestic ores and base bullion	From foreign ores and base bullion
1927.....	483,622	55,666	539,288	672,498	248,917
1928.....	396,094	45,678	441,772	573,740	390,200
1929.....	263,919	40,456	304,375	442,764	390,260
1930.....	189,707	29,104	218,811	281,941	248,917
1931.....	165,791	12,307	178,098	203,676	249,713
1932.....	186,468	22,744	209,212	311,236	299,841
1933.....	192,544	35,233	227,777	324,600	310,505
1934.....	239,944	47,462	287,406	399,156	387,698

¹ The lead content of antimonial lead is excluded (see p. 176).

² Desilverized soft lead is excluded.

³ Includes lead derived from Missouri ores and other nonargenticiferous ores.

Revised figures.

Source of primary lead.—Of the total refined primary lead produced in the United States, 49 percent was derived from domestic ores and base bullion. Production from foreign ores decreased in 1928 more than 128,000 tons of foreign base bullion; in 1936 such refining virtually ceased. Sources of lead derived from domestic ores and base bullion are shown in the following table.

Refined primary lead produced in the United States, 1927-36, in short tons

Source	1929	1930	1931	1932
Domestic ore.....	672,498	573,740	390,260	248,917
Foreign ore:				
Australia.....	6	3	3	30
Canada.....	9,499	14,309	3,816	3,797
Europe.....	23	41	43	4,491
Mexico.....	16,807	14,949	6,420	334
South America.....	3,285	3,476	2,299	2,631
Other foreign.....	51	1,510	9,076	10,464
Foreign base bullion:				
Australia.....	29,075	34,348	22,254	21,747
Canada.....				
Europe.....				
Mexico.....				
South America.....				
Other foreign.....				
Total foreign.....	51,295	18,592	30,072	11,164
Grand total.....	724,793	592,332	420,332	260,081

Revised figures.

Antimonial lead.—Antimonial lead or base bullion is a by-product of the refining of base bullion, and from this source is only a small part of the total refined primary lead.

and some is produced by mixing metallic antimony with refined lead.

Several lead-smelting plants operate on scrap materials exclusively. Production data from such plants are summarized in the chapter on Secondary Metals. A large quantity of hard lead scrap also is treated at primary smelters and refineries, and the production of antimonial lead at these plants is shown in the table that follows.

Antimonial lead produced at primary lead refineries, 1929-36

Year	Production (short tons)				Antimony content		Lead content by difference (short tons)			
	From domestic ore	From foreign ore	From scrap	Total	Short tons	Percent	From domestic ore	From foreign ore	From scrap	Total
1929.....	17,062	8,607	17,575	43,244	4,935	11.4	(1)	(1)	(1)	33,298
1930.....	8,918	4,793	11,080	24,797	2,907	12.0	(1)	(1)	(1)	21,889
1931.....	(1)	(1)	(1)	21,842	2,438	11.2	3,628	1,003	14,173	18,704
1932.....	(1)	(1)	(1)	21,024	2,495	11.9	3,577	1,460	13,486	18,523
1933.....	(1)	(1)	(1)	17,805	1,720	9.7	4,158	791	11,136	16,085
1934.....	(1)	(1)	(1)	16,607	2,263	13.6	5,901	330	8,113	14,344
1935.....	(1)	(1)	(1)	16,384	1,729	10.6	4,685	491	9,479	14,655
1936.....	(1)	(1)	(1)	23,230	2,162	9.3	7,442	696	12,930	21,138

¹ Not recorded.

² Segregation discontinued.

SECONDARY LEAD

Recovery of secondary lead decreased 3 percent in 1936. Return of battery scrap for smelting and refining was 10 percent less than in 1935, and stocks of scrap were considerably lower at the end of the year. As the output of domestic refined primary lead was 25 percent higher, the ratio of secondary- to primary-lead production declined from the record high of 87 percent in 1935 to 68 percent in 1936. As lead consumption continues to increase, further declines in this ratio may be expected, as additional supplies of the metal will have to come largely from the mines. Further details on secondary-lead production in 1936 are given in the chapter on Secondary Metals.

Secondary lead recovered in the United States, 1929-36

[Compiled by J. P. Dunlop]

Year	Pig lead (short tons)—			Lead in alloys (short tons)	Total recovered lead		
	At primary plants	At secondary plants	Total		Short tons	Value	Ratio domestic refined primary lead (percent)
1929.....	65,350	73,141	138,500	172,500	311,000	\$39,186,000	68.3
1930.....	48,135	80,805	129,000	128,800	265,800	25,580,000	68.3
1931.....	43,774	85,026	128,800	105,900	234,700	17,367,800	68.3
1932.....	33,611	94,389	128,000	70,300	198,300	11,898,000	68.3
1933.....	41,632	90,168	131,800	92,700	224,500	16,613,000	68.3
1934.....	33,667	90,043	124,500	83,900	208,400	16,421,600	68.3
1935.....	44,748	112,052	156,800	113,000	270,400	21,632,000	68.3
1936.....	34,656	102,944	137,600	125,400	262,900	24,186,800	68.3

LEAD PIGMENTS

Lead pigments manufactured in 1936 showed an increase of 11 percent over 1935. They were derived from refined pig lead, of which 44 percent, litharge 40 percent, red lead 14 percent, and orange mineral 1 percent. Such pigments are the principal pigments in which lead is used in paints.

Lead in pigments,¹ 1929-36, by source

Year	Lead in pigments from—				Year
	Domestic ore ¹	Metal	Scrap	Total	
1929.....	9,429	248,667	2,427	260,513	1929.....
1930.....	6,685	190,182	689	197,557	1930.....
1931.....	5,722	166,328	710	172,760	1931.....
1932.....	4,932	127,318	262	132,512	1932.....

¹ Includes also lead recovered in zinc oxide and leaded zinc. Excludes pigments from foreign ore.

MINE PRODUCTION

Mine production of recoverable lead increased 13 percent over 1935; it was 125 percent higher than in 1925 to 1929. Missouri, Idaho, and Nevada were the principal sources and contributed 30, 24, and 14 percent, respectively, of the total production. Missouri's output in 1936 was 108,422 tons, Idaho's 16 percent, and Utah's 10 percent. Nevada's output increased 11 percent over 1935. Among the minor producers, Arizona and Colorado contributed large amounts. Production in Nevada and New Mexico was 10 percent higher than in 1935. Further details of production of lead in the various States can be found in the various State chapters.

Mine production of recoverable lead in the United States, 1925-29 (average) and 1930-36, in short tons

State	1925-29 average	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936
Western States and Alaska:								
Alaska.....	982	1,365	1,661	1,201	1,157	840	670	1,041
Arizona.....	9,743	4,246	982	1,182	1,721	3,439	7,783	10,118
California.....	2,070	1,780	1,879	1,209	381	412	567	1,023
Colorado.....	30,112	22,130	6,884	2,150	2,402	4,218	5,673	7,250
Idaho.....	141,610	134,058	99,365	72,118	74,363	71,324	79,020	91,231
Montana.....	18,871	10,653	4,430	1,079	6,582	10,005	15,589	19,111
Nevada.....	9,807	11,529	7,930	440	2,303	10,991	12,676	12,302
New Mexico.....	6,730	10,378	11,209	10,114	11,043	9,365	7,289	6,622
Oregon.....	6	5	2	4	8	21	30	7
South Dakota.....	21	108	17	4	3	300	522	48
Texas.....	213	109	17	3	300	522	48	10
Utah.....	140,569	115,403	79,212	62,770	58,088	58,077	63,610	69,285
Washington.....	1,323	576	1,386	921	840	291	103	81
Wyoming.....				5			3	
Central States:	370,997	312,413	215,000	163,280	159,488	169,344	193,439	219,441
Arkansas.....	38	53	78	4	10	40	38	2
Illinois.....	552	248	205	31	240	40	430	23
Kansas.....	26,121	12,910	7,082	6,490	6,089	6,805	10,892	11,401
Kentucky.....	135	101			178	104	132	10
Missouri.....	202,240	199,632	100,121	117,159	84,980	90,493	97,493	110,231
Oklahoma.....	58,306	23,052	13,210	10,634	18,038	16,747	23,405	24,111
Wisconsin.....	1,745	1,537	952	910	540	234	286	10
Eastern States:	249,137	237,533	181,648	135,228	110,073	114,463	132,682	148,501
New York.....								
Tennessee.....	4,096	8,367	7,974	4,460	3,116	3,625	4,982	5,900
Virginia.....								
North Carolina.....	4,096	8,367	7,974	4,460	3,116	3,625	4,982	5,900
Total	664,230	558,313	404,622	292,968	272,677	287,432	331,103	372,561

¹ Subject to revision.

Mine production of recoverable lead in the principal lead-producing districts of the United States, 1929-36, in short tons

District	State	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936
Southeastern Missouri region	Missouri.....	197,436	198,922	158,950	116,162	83,970	89,580	96,941	106,611
Coeur d'Alene region	Idaho.....	141,558	129,311	97,771	71,505	73,926	70,331	78,290	84,111
Bingham	Utah.....	49,447	42,586	33,597	32,640	33,030	32,420	36,293	32,111
Joplin region	Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma.....	74,143	36,972	21,463	18,131	26,137	24,465	34,849	33,111
Park City region	Utah.....	42,570	30,875	17,368	12,653	11,557	12,360	13,180	17,111
Butte	Montana.....	8,239	2,540			1,485	5,391	10,302	9,111
Rush Valley	Utah.....	11,751	10,157	8,773	7,222	6,916	6,894	4,907	4,111
Tintic	Idaho.....	44,113	20,474	18,427	9,842	6,433	6,715	5,833	7,111
Tyho	Nevada.....	1,991	3,622	4,083		1,077	4,285	5,519	6,111
Willow Creek	New Mexico.....	5,720	5,431	7,583	6,449	7,076	6,143	5,162	4,111
Pioche	Nevada.....	2,986	4,868	2,892	74	1,026	4,644	4,955	5,111
Oro Blanco	Arizona.....	(¹)	(¹)				1,676	4,717	5,111
San Juan Mountains	Colorado.....	17,386	11,722	908	792	906	1,651	2,428	3,111
Central	New Mexico.....	3,766	3,936	3,420	3,621	3,408	2,846	1,891	2,111
Ophir	Utah.....	25	18	13	2	87	1,349	2,392	1,111
Leadville	Colorado.....	6,172	6,808	1,470	70	606	524	1,258	1,111
Eagle	Montana.....	2,938	1,287	3,489	771	1,521	2,560	1,121	1,111
Banner	Nevada.....	2,430	1,464	240	14	385	77	857	9,111
Jack Rabbit	Nevada.....	2,430	1,464	240	14	385	77	857	9,111
Inyo County	California.....	670	1,711	1,765	1,102	301	277	346	3,111
Upper Mississippi Valley	Iowa, northern Illinois, Wisconsin.....	1,536	1,537	952	910	640	234	286	2,111
Bisbee (Warren)	Arizona.....	1,020	151	252	431	(²)	64	200	(²)
Pend d'Oreille	Idaho.....	863	950	1,020	676	309	318	189	2,111
Eagle County	Colorado.....	199	2,821	3,616	221	8	62	165	2,111
Warm Springs	Idaho.....	1,507	1,793	37		21	6	32	2,111
Cedar Plains	Montana.....	1,177	120	25	2			7	(²)
Barker	Idaho.....	6,137	4,578	21		28		22	(²)
Dome	Idaho.....	1,870	829		1				(²)
San Francisco	Utah.....	691	1,863	436				42	(²)
Austinville	Virginia.....	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Metalline	Washington.....	328	267	1,257	682	722	237	(²)	(²)
St. Lawrence County	New York.....	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)

¹ Data not yet available.

² Bureau of Mines not at liberty to publish figures.

³ Not listed according to census.

Lead stocks, as reported by the statistics, are shown in the following table. The stocks include metal held by smelters and refiners of secondary material who have refined in the United States and included.

Stocks at end of year at smelters and refiners in short tons

	1929	1930
Refined pig lead.....	41,726	95,824
Refined metal lead.....	9,360	7,723
Total	51,076	103,547
Lead in base bullion:		
At smelters and refineries.....	8,313	8,171
In transit to refineries.....	7,116	4,261
In process at refineries.....	16,089	14,368
Total	31,518	26,800
Lead in ore and matte and in process at smelters.....	28,299	28,697
Total	110,893	158,744

Substantial progress was made in the lead industry in 1936. Stocks of refined lead accumulated for the first time since the close of the year was 1935, at the average rate of domestic production of 1936. Although stocks were low at the end of 1936, the large quantity of metal available in the United States and early in 1937 aided in preventing a speculative market reaction. The supply of lead in the United States. The British supply of the lead industry issued in 1936 was low (less than a 1.5-month supply). The London price precipitated by the first few months of 1937 indicated a plentiful supply.

DOMESTIC SUPPLY

New supply.—The following table shows the supply of lead available for consumption from 1929 to 1936. It does not take into account variations in the supply of lead which have changed considerably during the year. The supply available for consumption in 1936 was greater than in 1935 but was less than the 1925-29 average. As total consumption in 1936, it is evident that more lead was supplied by primary than by secondary sources.

Refined primary pig lead available for consumption in the United States, 1929 and 1931-36, in short tons

	1929	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936 ¹
Supply:							
Stock in bonded warehouse Jan. 1.....	4,139	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Imports.....	1,658	10	44	109	283	1,322	2,550
Production.....	774,633	442,764	288,361	273,579	311,236	324,560	399,189
	780,430	442,774	288,405	273,688	311,519	325,882	401,746
Withdrawn:							
Exports.....	73,251	21,005	23,516	22,835	5,000	6,982	18,314
Stock in bonded warehouse Dec. 31.....	1,328	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
	74,670	21,005	23,516	22,835	5,000	6,982	18,314
Supply available for consumption.....	705,851	421,769	264,889	250,853	306,519	318,900	383,432

¹ Stocks of pigs, bars, etc., in bonded warehouse included with base bullion. (See table on p. 183.)

² Includes small quantities of foreign lead reexported.

³ Revised figures.

Consumption by uses.—Owing to the large return of secondary lead from lead-consuming industries, the total consumption of pig lead greatly exceeds the supply of new lead available. The following table gives the American Bureau of Metal Statistics estimate of the total consumption of lead by industries, 1929-36.

Lead consumed in the United States,¹ 1929-36, in short tons

Purpose	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936
White lead.....	119,700	83,000	77,500	54,500	59,100	64,500	80,000	85,400
Red lead and litharge.....	30,000	32,000	18,000	32,000	38,000	42,000	47,500	54,000
Storage batteries.....	210,000	103,000	157,000	138,000	147,000	163,000	175,000	191,000
Cable covering.....	220,000	208,000	117,000	65,500	31,400	35,200	38,900	61,400
Building.....	98,000	67,000	40,000	22,000	25,000	30,000	32,000	40,000
Automobiles.....	18,000	11,000	6,000	3,500	5,000	7,300	10,000	11,100
Railway equipment.....	5,700	5,200	1,000	300	200	1,100	500	2,400
Shipbuilding.....	800	500	400	200	100	200	200	200
Ammunition.....	41,100	33,300	29,700	23,300	32,300	34,800	29,200	32,800
Terneplate.....	4,200	2,700	2,200	1,400	2,500	2,600	4,700	5,300
Foil.....	30,800	26,000	20,000	14,000	22,500	16,200	15,900	25,500
Bearing metal.....	33,000	20,000	12,000	10,000	11,400	12,100	13,000	16,500
Solder.....	37,000	27,000	20,500	14,000	10,000	10,000	20,000	22,000
Type metal.....	18,000	16,000	14,400	10,800	11,000	13,000	15,000	17,000
Calking.....	31,500	21,000	15,000	10,000	12,000	10,000	12,000	13,500
Castings.....	18,000	12,000	7,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	6,750
Other uses.....	50,000	40,000	30,000	22,200	30,000	35,000	40,000	48,000
	972,300	768,600	567,700	416,700	449,500	488,000	538,900	633,500

¹ Source: American Bureau of Metal Statistics. These estimates are for the total consumption of lead irrespective of whether its origin be primary or secondary. Antimonial lead is included.

The total industrial use of lead increased 18 percent in 1936 but was still 35 percent below the 1929 record. All major uses increased in 1936 over 1935, and percentage gains for cable covering and building showed up exceptionally well. Compared with 1929, however, these two uses still lag far behind. The increased use of lead in foil was due partly to greater use of lead-tin foil in cigar wrappings, for which it is especially suitable because of its resistance to corrosion from the alkalis in the tobacco. The added resistance to corrosion and strength of tellurium lead are increasing the use of this alloy.

To assist the consumer in obtaining lead products of standard quality, the Lead Industries Association has adopted a Seal of Approval, effective January 1, 1937. The seal is available to manufacturers whose products meet the standards set up by the association for lead pipe, lead sheet, and lead

The two major markets for lead in the United States are New York and St. Louis; much of the lead produced at prices based on quotations in these markets are influenced to some extent by the quotations on the London market, so that the New York price is usually about 0.35 cent a pound above the St. Louis price by as much as the London price.

The New York quotation for lead in 1936, an increase of 16 percent over 1935, was 4.50 cents a pound, and 31 percent below the 1929 average of 6.50 cents. At the close of the year the price stood at 4.50 cents a pound, the latter part of February, when it was raised to 4.75 cents a pound, a substantial increase in stocks during the year, the subsequent decline following active buying in the market, and the fact that there was no further change in price until shipments approached predepression levels. At the close of the year the price was carried close to domestic consumption at high levels, but by shut-downs due to strikes at some of the major producing centers in the market in London. On December 31 the highest since February 1930.

Average monthly and yearly quoted prices of lead in the United States, 1934-36, in cents per pound

Month	1934			
	St. Louis	New York	London	St. Louis
January.....	3.90	4.00	2.55	3.90
February.....	3.90	4.00	2.61	3.90
March.....	3.90	4.00	2.63	3.90
April.....	4.05	4.18	2.65	4.05
May.....	3.90	4.14	2.62	3.90
June.....	3.82	3.98	2.49	3.82
July.....	3.63	3.77	2.43	3.63
August.....	3.60	3.75	2.45	3.60
September.....	3.64	3.69	2.32	3.64
October.....	3.61	3.66	2.28	3.61
November.....	3.42	3.57	2.32	3.42
December.....	3.45	3.60	2.28	3.45
Average.....	3.73	3.86	2.46	3.73

¹ St. Louis: Metal Statistics, 1937, p. 399. Average daily quotations for lead in the open market, as reported daily in the American Metal Market, New York: American Metal Market, daily issues. Figures are in cents per pound.

London: Metal Statistics, 1937, p. 403. Average price of lead in Metal Statistics, converted to cents per pound at average exchange rate.

² London quotations in pounds sterling per long ton, as reported in Metal Statistics, 1936, £17.6000.

The London quotation for 1936 averaged 3.91 cents per pound, the highest since 1929, and the difference between New York and London was 0.59 cent a pound in favor of New York. During the year, however, the price advance in London was not reflected in New York owing to a more favorable supply situation from Spain caused by the civil war.

ment elsewhere on account of labor troubles. In consequence, London set the pace in the upward swing, and by December the London quotation actually exceeded the New York. At times the differential in favor of London was high enough to make exportation from the United States profitable. On December 31, the London quotation was equivalent to 6.21 cents per pound, compared to 6.03 cents at New York.

FOREIGN TRADE¹

The foreign trade of the United States in lead consists largely of imports of ore and base bullion, which are smelted and refined in bond, and the export of this lead either as refined lead or in manufactured products. Since 1927, however, this trade has declined. In 1936 only 23,615 short tons of lead in ore, base bullion, and refined and scrap lead were imported, compared with 161,389 tons in 1927; exports of refined lead decreased from 125,267 to 18,314 tons. During the same period lead exported in manufactures with benefit of drawback declined from 12,004 to 7,735 tons.

Imports.—Total imports of lead in ore and matte, including imports for immediate consumption and entries for warehouse, increased slightly. Larger receipts from Mexico, Canada, and Peru were offset by smaller shipments from Newfoundland and Chile. Imports of base bullion virtually ceased, but imports of refined lead, which for several years were only a few hundred tons, increased to 2,590 tons in 1936. Total imports of lead decreased 2 percent and were only 20 percent of the 1929 total.

Total lead imported into the United States, 1930-36, by classes, in short tons¹

Year	Lead in ore and matte	Lead in base bullion	Pigs, bars, sheets, and old	Total lead content
1930.....	39,377	38,630	209	78,216
1931.....	20,888	32,320	110	53,318
1932.....	21,001	13,462	44	34,507
1933.....	5,958	1,587	100	7,654
1934.....	10,611	2,450	283	13,344
1935.....	20,025	2,692	1,322	24,039
1936.....	20,713	312	2,590	23,615

¹ Data for 1934-36 include lead imported for immediate consumption plus material entering the country under bond, as do figures for earlier years.

² Reclaimed scrap, etc. No imports of pigs, bars, etc., were recorded for 1931.

Total lead imported into the United States, in ore, base bullion, and refined, 1930-36, by countries, in short tons¹

Year	Canada	Mexico	Newfoundland	South America	Europe	Other countries	Total
1930.....	17,268	36,721	9,708	22,472	113	1,642	78,216
1931.....	2,618	38,706	9,708	2,171	15	63,218	113
1932.....	2,460	13,545	10,598	2,811	5,053	34,507	15
1933.....	1,629	2,154	1,485	2,368	18	7,654	15
1934.....	1,160	3,270	3,357	5,455	67	13,344	18
1935.....	238	9,786	6,837	6,643	512	24,039	25
1936.....	1,692	10,601	3,955	6,861	341	23,615	285

¹ Data for 1934-36 include lead imported for immediate consumption plus material entering the country under bond, as do figures for earlier years.

² Figures on imports and exports compiled by M. B. Price, of the Bureau of Mines, from records of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce.

Total lead imported into the United States in short tons

Country	1930
Canada.....	17,283
Chile.....	3,318
Mexico.....	16,341
Newfoundland.....	9,708
Peru.....	831
Sweden.....	1,636
Other countries.....	39,377

¹ Data for 1934-36 include lead in ore and matte imported into the country under bond, as do figures for earlier years.

Total lead imported into the United States in short tons

Country	1930	1931
Mexico.....	20,350	32,210
Peru.....	18,280	110
Other countries.....	38,630	32,320

¹ Data for 1934-36 include lead in base bullion imported into the country under bond, as do figures for earlier years.

Lead remaining in warehouses in the United States

[Stated in the form in which the material was received]

Year	Lead in ore and matte	Lead in base bullion ¹
1930.....	39,516	5,642
1931.....	52,849	6,343
1932.....	42,314	3,769
1933.....	21,640	1,058

¹ Pigs, bars, sheets, and old included with base bullion.

Lead imported for consumption in the United States

Year	Lead in ore and matte ¹		Lead in base bullion	
	Short tons	Value	Short tons	Value
1930.....	15,468	\$1,461,360	10,423	\$1,127,920
1931.....	10,734	1,104,191	10,436	671,002
1932.....	9,647	863,135	2,674	131,579
1933.....	16,239	1,164,093	305	31,700
1934.....	10,760	558,558	2,220	117,729
1935.....	8,273	258,954	1,154	66,559
1936.....	5,836	226,668	763	45,340

¹ Classification as follows: Jan. 1, 1929, to June 17, 1936, "Lead in ores, fine dust, and mattes, n. s. p. l."

² Reclaimed scrap, etc. No imports of pigs, bars,

Miscellaneous products containing lead imported for consumption in the United States, 1930-36

Year	Babbitt metal, solder, white metal, and other combinations containing lead			Type metal and antimonial lead		
	Gross weight (short tons)	Lead content (short tons)	Value	Gross weight (short tons)	Lead content (short tons)	Value
1930.....	1,399	530	\$503,103	328	275	\$32,934
1931.....	906	310	436,574	.....	.....	.....
1932.....	498	191	143,662	6	5	479
1933.....	340	51	30,623	25	21	1,076
1934.....	709	102	71,805	112	94	6,784
1935.....	128	24	44,289	534	445	36,453
1936.....	334	67	112,205	456	400	34,694

Exports.—Exports of refined lead nearly trebled in 1936, and Mexico and Japan imported virtually the entire increase. Exports credited to Mexico, however, probably represent shipments destined for other countries. Very little, if any, of the lead exported in 1936 was domestic metal.

Refined lead¹ exported from the United States, 1930-36

Year	Pigs, bars, and old		Foreign lead exported in manufactures with benefit of drawback (short tons)	Year	Pigs, bars, and old		Foreign lead exported in manufactures with benefit of drawback (short tons)
	Short tons	Value			Short tons	Value	
1930.....	48,307	\$3,904,213	12,161	1934.....	5,909	\$305,994	7,472
1931.....	21,665	1,241,881	10,503	1935.....	6,982	472,017	8,995
1932.....	23,510	1,089,697	7,220	1936.....	18,314	1,390,832	7,735
1933.....	22,835	834,580	6,508				

¹ Includes small quantities of foreign lead reexported.

Refined pig lead¹ exported from the United States, 1930-36, by destinations, in short tons

Destination	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936
COUNTRY							
Argentina.....	934	226	.....	113	(?)	.....	3
Brazil.....	874	1,382	750	329	475	338	795
Canada.....	9	68	132	6	21	45	44
France.....	3,001	318	224	.....	.....	.....	.....
Germany.....	823	52	1,344	5	.....	11	2
Japan.....	16,453	17,301	20,219	21,236	4,464	5,324	8,628
Mexico.....	40	171	13	5	21	38	8,049
Netherlands.....	22	13	112	.....	4	188	.....
Philippine Islands.....	543	400	475	300	169	217	223
Sweden.....	7,557	392	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
United Kingdom.....	9,157	3	(?)	.....	36	8	123
Uruguay.....	364	145	84	140	221	112	.....
Other.....	9,330	1,204	154	641	508	701	442
	48,307	21,665	23,510	22,835	5,909	6,982	18,314
CONTINENT							
North America.....	318	435	155	41	107	157	8,289
South America.....	2,442	1,903	868	730	1,076	668	1,021
Europe.....	27,899	795	1,793	5	40	212	133
Asia.....	17,289	18,624	20,700	22,053	4,684	5,945	8,885
Africa and Oceania.....	359	8	.....	.....	2	(?)	12
	48,307	21,665	23,510	22,835	5,909	6,982	18,314

¹ Includes small quantities of foreign lead reexported.

² Less than 1 ton.

Mineral Mining.—The lead industry and mechanical loading equipment. The Missouri district are now virtually on a basis, and many lead and lead-zinc States are equipped with mechanical recently conducted by the Bureau much interest in mechanical loading large potential use.

Stope filling by means of a free surface through raises has been a British Columbia. Excess water in the stope. The mud is expected to set of adjacent pillars.

Milling.—A total of 335,889 short tons of concentrates was produced in the United States (Tri-State and Wisconsin districts), according to Metal Statistics. The average grade compared with 60.19 percent in 1935. According to Pallanch,⁴ modern flotation by economic considerations and from results are not justified under conditions of freight rates, and prices.

A new edition of Flotation Plant Design published in 1936.

Smelting.—Of outstanding interest is the Smelting of Lead and Zinc issued early in 1936 by the American Institute of Mining Engineers. The book presents a status of lead metallurgy.

In reviewing the progress of lead smelting, the book points out that increasing supplies of some plants have so reduced the lead bullion has to be recirculated to take advantage of a larger number of plants demonstrated at Trail, British Columbia, and at other plants.

A unique process for the simultaneous electrolysis of galena is being tested at a commercial plant 300 tons of lead sulphur 99.5 percent pure have been produced in what is described as a new process. The principal advantage claimed for it eliminates the sulphur-disposal problem. Processes used in the recovery of lead were described by Thews in the Transactions of the American Chemical Society and Metallurgy.

WORLD ASPECTS

International cooperation.—The International Lead Association, under which certain producers and

¹ Flinn, L. N., Berquist, F. E., and Tryon, F. O. *Mineral Resources of the United States*, vol. 138, no. 5, 1937, p. 241.
² Pallanch, R. A., *Factors Governing the Separation of Lead from Zinc*, vol. 17, no. 356, 1936, pp. 386-389.

version into electrolytic zinc. The Norwegian plant operated at capacity throughout 1936. Zinc mining in southern Spain probably has declined considerably.

U. S. S. R. (Russia).—Zinc production increased further in 1936. Plans for a new smelter near Gloubokoie in the Altai district are reported to have been ratified, and at Kirovgrad in the Urals a plant is under construction that will treat annually 250,000 to 300,000 tons of copper slag containing 5 to 6 percent zinc. The U. S. S. R. is now virtually self-sustaining with regard to zinc.

United Kingdom.—The smelter output of zinc increased 3 percent in 1936. The industry is supported largely on foreign ores, imports of which decreased from 152,000 long tons in 1935 to 130,000 in 1936. The decline was mainly in shipments from Australia. As the local smelting industry is inadequate for the needs of the country, large imports of metal are required. Net imports were 174,000 tons in 1936 and 151,000 in 1935. Consumption increased 10 percent over 1935 and totaled 217,000 tons.

The Imperial Smelting Corporation, Ltd., the only zinc-smelting company in the United Kingdom, operated its new vertical-retort plant at Avonmouth at capacity throughout the year. In November the company announced that owing to losses sustained the Seatons Carew smelter had been shut down and that it also purposed closing the Bloxwich plant, which operates largely on scrap. The company was active during 1936 in promoting a renewal of the cartel but insisted that it should be given preferential treatment in the British market. Following the collapse of cartel negotiations in the latter part of the year, the company asked the Government for an increase in the import duty on zinc. Such action, however, would have been difficult in view of the Ottawa agreement. Under a recent trade treaty negotiated with Canada, the British Government is free to impose a tariff on Canadian zinc, on which British consumers depend to a great extent. With the rising market at the close of 1936 and early in 1937, immediate action in this respect seemed improbable. Early in 1937 it was rumored that the Government was acquiring large quantities of zinc.

Yugoslavia.—Trepca Mines, Ltd., treated 600,200 metric tons of ore in 1936, from which 78,100 tons of 50-percent zinc concentrates and 65,700 tons of 80-percent lead concentrates were obtained. The ore averaged about 7 percent zinc, 9 percent lead, and 3.2 ounces of silver per ton. The declining zinc content of the ore in the lower levels of the mine accounts for a 15-percent decline in the production of zinc concentrates. The zinc concentrates are shipped to Belgium and France for smelting. The operations of this company were described in detail in the September to December 1936 issues of Mining and Metallurgy.

LEAD AND ZINC PIGMENTS

By ELMER W. PERRSON AND

SUMMARY OUT

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In consequence of the greater demand for automatic tires, and storage batteries—automotive industries—sales of lead and zinc pigments increased over 1935 in both value and tonnage. However, sales were still 39 percent lower in tonnage, indicating that the same extent as production.

Salient statistics of the lead and zinc pigments in the United States (average) and 1937

	1925-29 (average)	1932
Production (sales) of principal pigments:		
White lead (dry and in oil) short tons.....	154,483	66,674
Litharge.....do.....	84,845	58,098
Red lead.....do.....	41,362	18,880
Zinc oxide.....do.....	154,208	72,250
Leaded zinc oxide.....do.....	28,609	14,305
Lithopone.....do.....	177,745	121,687
Value of products:		
All lead pigments.....	\$50,092,000	\$19,133,000
All zinc pigments.....	41,314,000	10,430,000
Total.....	101,406,000	29,563,000
Value per ton received by producers:		
White lead (dry).....	178	117
Litharge.....	178	89
Red lead.....	193	111
Zinc oxide.....	133	110
Leaded zinc oxide.....	124	91
Lithopone.....	98	84
Foreign trade:		
Lead pigments:		
Value of exports.....	1,346,000	385,000
Value of imports.....	30,000	6,000
Zinc pigments:		
Value of exports.....	2,150,000	466,000
Value of imports.....	931,000	521,000
Export balance.....	2,526,000	304,000
Import balance.....		

Lead pigments again fared better than zinc pigments. Total sales of lead pigments increased 22 percent in value and 16 percent in quantity whereas zinc pigments increased only 5 percent in total value and 13 percent in quantity. Producers of lead pigments received nearly \$7 per ton more for their product in 1936 than in 1935, while zinc pigments brought \$6 less per ton. Trends in lead pigment quotations during 1936 paralleled those of metallic lead, but prices of zinc pigments did not respond to the sharp increase in the zinc quotation. Prices of the zinc oxides, for instance, were increased only 0.25 cent per

oxide 21 percent, and leaded zinc oxide 17 percent. Total sales had increased to 194,762 tons, of which lead oxide supplied 62 percent, zinc oxide 17 percent, and lithopone 21 percent. For the same period the average price of lead pigment increased from 23 to 27 percent. Tyler¹ has pointed out the rapid increase in the use of lead pigments and their expanding use in finishing work by lead and zinc pigments. Much of this increase has occurred during a period when prices of lead have been high. Even under these conditions titanium dioxide, from the standpoint of low-cost raw materials, was considerably more expensive. Recent sharp rises in lead and zinc prices have had no appreciable change in the competitive position of lead pigments. The drop in the price of lithopone in 1936 was significant. Further increase in the price of lithopone in 1936 suggests a record production of

PRODUCTION

In this report, sales of pigments and production, as no account is taken of the beginning and end of the year. The production of lead and zinc pigments at their own plants are included under the production of lead and zinc pigments. The total value of lead and zinc pigments was approximately \$62,068,000 in 1935. The total value of all lead pigments was approximately \$27,000,000 in 1935. The total value of all zinc pigments was approximately \$35,000,000 in 1935. The total value of all lead pigments increased 22 percent in total value and 16 percent in quantity. The average value per ton of lead pigments, as reported by producers, increased 0.25 cent in 1936. The New York quotation for pig lead increased 7 percent in value per ton in 1936. The St. Louis quotation for pig lead increased 7 percent in value per ton in 1936. Lead pigments.—Production of lead pigments, which declined only slightly in 1936, increased 22 percent in 1936. Production of lithopone was 8 percent in 1936. Production of zinc oxide, which increased 21 percent in 1936, was 1 percent in 1936. Production of sublimed lead was 1 percent in 1936. The total value of all lead pigments except white

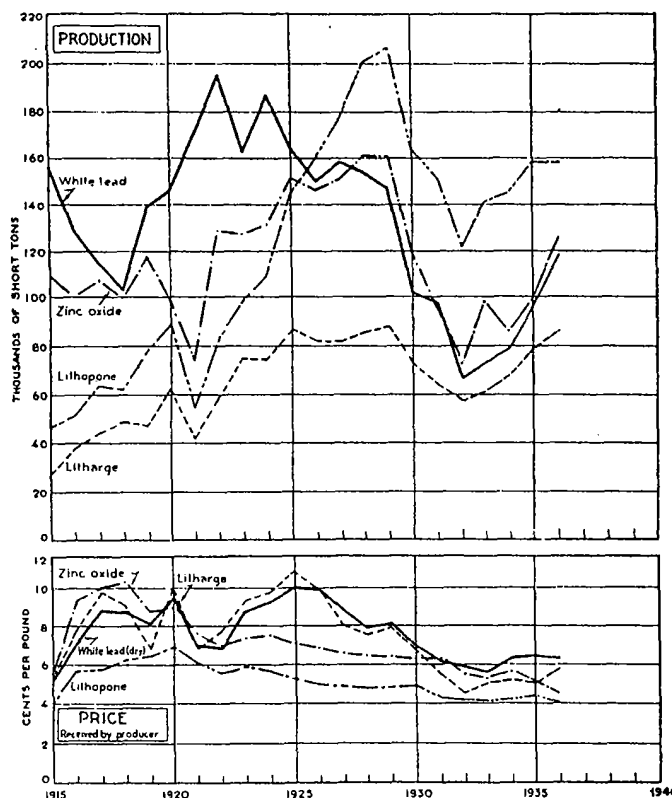


FIGURE 30.—Production and price trends of the principal lead and zinc pigments, 1915-36.

pound during 1936 whereas the price of metal rose 0.60 cent between January 1 and December 31. The lower sales realization on zinc pigments in 1936 resulted from the drastic cut in prices put into effect the latter part of 1935 and the 0.25-cent reduction in lithopone price in November 1936. The latter was prompted by a 1-cent cut in the quotation for titanium dioxide.

Comparison of the sales of the white-lead pigments and zinc oxide to the paint trade in recent years reveals substantial gains in the use of leaded zinc oxide. In 1932, total sales amounted to 105,529 short tons, of which white and sublimed lead comprised 66 percent, zinc

Lead pigments sold by domestic manufacturers in the United States, 1935-36.

Pigment	1935			1936		
	Short tons	Value (at plant, exclusive of container)		Short tons	Value (at plant, exclusive of container)	
		Total	Average		Total	Average
Basic lead sulphate or sublimed lead:						
White.....	7,572	\$727,004	\$96	7,631	\$963,208	\$112
Blue.....	727	71,682	99	591	102,505	116
Red lead.....	28,776	3,492,141	121	34,896	4,657,322	133
Orange mineral.....	252	47,515	189	248	48,106	194
Litharge.....	79,030	8,290,339	104	86,216	9,090,663	114
White lead:						
Dry.....	27,972	3,481,988	124	34,775	4,367,337	126
In oil.....	68,859	11,957,171	174	83,632	14,200,617	170

¹ Weight of white lead only but value of paste.

Lead pigments sold by domestic manufacturers in the United States, 1927-30, in short tons

Year	White lead		Basic lead sulphate or sublimed lead		Red lead	Orange mineral	Litharge
	Dry	In oil	White	Blue			
1927.....	38,609	119,026	13,482	1,061	39,073	709	81,838
1928.....	42,949	111,923	16,002	1,234	40,497	459	85,570
1929.....	42,159	104,872	15,680	1,234	43,021	678	87,919
1930.....	32,548	69,502	10,308	1,219	32,041	356	72,578
1931.....	30,022	66,440	8,700	896	25,853	282	63,890
1932.....	19,940	46,728	5,708	540	18,880	212	58,094
1933.....	24,028	48,354	7,320	625	21,094	231	61,192
1934.....	22,600	50,165	6,300	608	20,743	234	66,733
1935.....	27,972	68,859	7,572	727	28,776	252	79,930
1936.....	34,775	83,632	7,531	891	34,896	248	86,216

Zinc pigments and salts.—Production of zinc oxide and leaded zinc oxide increased 27 and 35 percent, respectively, in 1936, the output of the latter being the highest on record. The tonnage for lithopone represents a decline of 1 percent from 1935, due to a change in the method of compiling statistics. Formerly the combined weights of standard-grade and high-strength lithopone were reported as total sales. Beginning with 1936 the total will include sales of standard grade plus the standard-grade content of the high-strength product. This change reduces the tonnage by the excess quantity of zinc sulphide contained in high-strength lithopone. Production in 1936, compiled on a basis comparable to former years, would show a moderate increase in output over 1935. The Bureau of Mines is not at liberty to publish statistics on the new basis for past years.

The 1936 tonnages were equivalent to the following percentages of the 1929 outputs: Zinc oxide, 79; leaded zinc oxide, 149; and lithopone, 77. Unit values of the oxides decreased substantially in 1936, and that of lithopone was slightly lower.

Zinc pigments and salts sold by domestic manufacturers in short tons

Pigment or salt	1935	
	Short tons	Value (at exclusive value)
Zinc oxide.....	99,007	\$10,237,953
Leaded zinc oxide.....	29,976	2,791,808
Lithopone.....	159,486	13,470,274
Zinc chloride, 50° B.....	(?)	(?)
Zinc sulphate.....	7,108	324,906

¹ Zinc oxide containing 5 percent or more lead is classed as lead oxide.

² Figures not available.

Zinc pigments and salts sold by domestic manufacturers in short tons

Year	Zinc oxide	Leaded zinc oxide
1927.....	151,246	
1928.....	160,904	
1929.....	160,611	
1930.....	119,142	
1931.....	95,700	
1932.....	72,250	
1933.....	98,542	
1934.....	87,088	
1935.....	99,007	
1936.....	126,800	

¹ Figures not available.

CONSUMPTION BY INDUSTRY

White lead.—About 95 percent of the white lead is used in the manufacture of paint. The tonnage for 1936 was 24 percent above that in 1935, and 45 percent above that in 1929. Consumption of white lead in the United States was 45 percent in 1936.

Distribution of white lead (dry and in oil) sales,

Industry	1929	1930	1931	1932
Paint.....	130,526	91,563	91,832	63,300
Ceramics.....	4,246	3,360	2,848	1,700
Other.....	6,259	7,211	2,688	1,500
Total.....	147,031	102,140	97,368	66,500

Basic lead sulphate.—This pigment is used in quantity so used in 1936 was 5 percent below that in 1929. In 1929 basic lead sulphate were used in storage batteries, but large quantities of this pigment are used to increase the lead content. In 1936

used for this purpose by pigment producers reporting to the Bureau of Mines. This tonnage is not included in the accompanying statement of sales of basic lead sulphate but is included in figures shown for leaded zinc oxide. It is the Bureau's policy to measure production of a plant in terms of final products.

Distribution of basic lead sulphate sales, 1929-36, by industries, in short tons

Industry	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936
Paints.....	13,435	9,573	8,311	5,088	7,072	6,011	7,770	8,124
Rubber.....	655	391	173	77	181	93	155	124
Storage batteries.....	2,327	1,104	697	195	99	139	28	28
Other.....	397	456	505	296	613	224	374	144
	16,814	11,527	9,686	6,257	7,945	7,067	8,290	8,422

Litharge.—The principal use of litharge is in the manufacture of storage batteries, but this outlet has been affected adversely by the growing tendency of battery makers to substitute a black oxide or suboxide of lead, which they manufacture themselves. This practice was begun in 1923, and by 1929 a total of 33,000 tons of the black oxide was being made. In 1936 one battery maker began the manufacture of litharge. In all, 40,832 tons of oxides were made at battery plants in 1936 compared with 34,146 tons in 1935. None of this is included in the Bureau of Mines statement of litharge production.

Distribution of litharge sales, 1929-36, by industries, in short tons

Industry	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936
Storage batteries.....	37,100	33,173	31,005	29,365	27,327	30,024	30,007	38,700
Insecticides.....	(1)	6,000	7,508	11,735	11,126	12,271	14,666	14,662
Chrome pigments.....	8,112	3,286	3,582	2,591	3,973	6,162	7,356	8,407
Ceramics.....	8,663	4,080	4,124	2,963	5,438	6,606	6,751	7,782
Oil refining.....	13,615	12,028	7,351	4,703	0,070	7,011	7,860	7,259
Varnish.....	3,124	698	641	1,380	610	414	504	2,307
Rubber.....	6,651	4,736	3,032	1,921	2,875	2,466	3,171	2,147
Linoleum.....	322	388	298	169	109	101	280	280
Other.....	10,269	8,180	5,839	3,100	3,668	2,982	3,207	4,722
	87,916	72,578	63,890	58,096	61,103	68,733	79,930	86,246

¹ Included under "Other." Not separately reported.

Red lead.—The use of red lead in storage batteries and paints in 1936 increased 15 and 35 percent, respectively, over 1935. The quantity used in paints nearly equalled the amount used in 1929.

Distribution of red lead sales, 1929-36, by industries, in short tons

Industry	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936
Storage batteries.....	25,689	18,908	13,700	10,655	12,049	15,987	17,657	20,323
Paints.....	11,855	10,906	9,250	6,389	7,182	8,766	8,721	11,784
Ceramics.....	903	835	811	467	715	595	867	807
Other.....	4,574	2,202	2,056	1,369	1,142	1,395	1,531	1,980
	43,021	32,941	25,853	18,880	21,988	26,743	28,776	34,896

Orange mineral.—Sales of orange mineral decreased slightly in 1936. This pigment is used chiefly in the manufacture of inks and color pigments, and the tonnage involved is quite small.

Distribution of orange mineral sales, 1929-36, by industries, in short tons

Industry	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936
Color pigments.....	487	188	114	10	10	10	10	10
Ink manufacture.....	151	88	119	5	5	5	5	5
Other.....	40	80	49	4	4	4	4	4
	678	356	282	2	2	2	2	2

Zinc oxide.—Total sales of zinc oxide were 1936 than in 1935. All uses shared in the increase in inks and textiles, which remained virtually the same. In the preparation of exterior paints, manufactory proportions of zinc oxide than formerly. Of the total made by the French process and 58 percent by the American process, the same ratios as in 1935. The proportion of zinc oxide made from scrap zinc was virtually the same. Over 3,000 tons of zinc oxide, not included in the foregoing, were used to make leaded zinc oxide. This is included under leaded zinc oxide.

Distribution of zinc oxide sales, 1931-36, by industries, in short tons

Industry	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936
Rubber.....	47,072	37,679	5	5	5	5
Paints.....	31,357	22,369	2	2	2	2
Floor coverings and textiles.....	4,695	2,837	5	5	5	5
Ceramics.....	3,171	1,782	5	5	5	5
Other.....	8,505	7,588	5	5	5	5
	95,700	72,250	9	9	9	9

Leaded zinc oxide.—This pigment is used in the manufacture of paint. The quantity sold in 1936 was 36 percent more than in 1935. The proportion of lead content in exterior paints is reflected in the increase of leaded zinc oxide in 1935 and 1936. Some manufacturers are marketing a 50-percent leaded zinc oxide. This heading includes approximately 2,400 tons of leaded zinc oxide and over 3,000 tons of zinc oxide used by producers of leaded zinc oxide.

Distribution of leaded zinc oxide sales, 1931-36, by industries, in short tons

Industry	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936
Paints.....	18,292	14,072	5	5	5	5
Rubber.....	38	26	5	5	5	5
Other.....	247	207	5	5	5	5
	18,577	14,305	10	10	10	10

Lithopone.—Sales of lithopone to the paint industry in the accompanying table, decreased slightly in the latter years are not comparable to those for the years previously mentioned. Comparable figures

paint in 1936. The production of floor coverings and textiles rose appreciably in 1936. Of the total for that year approximately 6,800 tons were used in coated fabrics and textiles and the balance in linoleum and felt-base floor coverings. This distribution includes an estimate for one producer who was unable to segregate sales under these headings. Other items obtained in 1936 for which 1935 data are not available include paper, 1,629 tons, and ink, 321 tons. Lithopone production capacity was reported at 230,320 tons per year in both 1935 and 1936.

Lithopone is used extensively in interior paints, and in this field is now subject to intense competition from titanium pigments.

Distribution of lithopone sales, 1929-36, by industries, in short tons

Industry	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936
Paints, etc.	150,804	126,076	119,446	93,465	106,905	114,472	124,015	122,401
Floor coverings and textiles	37,500	23,056	20,780	17,001	18,472	14,811	10,440	23,085
Rubber	7,176	5,997	5,833	3,955	5,078	4,506	4,435	4,908
Other	10,829	8,336	5,791	6,040	10,286	11,086	10,990	7,805
	206,315	164,065	151,850	121,067	140,831	145,565	159,486	168,319

Zinc sulphide.—Production of this pigment was reported by five plants in 1936; but owing to the fact that one producer represents such a large part of the total, the Bureau of Mines is unable to publish statistics. Most of the zinc sulphide is mixed with regular lithopone to make high-strength lithopone.

Zinc chloride.—The Bureau of Mines cannot report zinc chloride production because of the refusal of one of the large producers to supply reliable data.

According to the Department of Agriculture, the consumption of zinc chloride by wood-treating plants totaled 2,050 tons in 1936. From a peak of 26,000 tons (solid basis) in 1921, consumption of zinc chloride in this field declined to 1,600 tons in 1934. The loss of this market is due primarily to the fact that zinc chloride is soluble in water and therefore is not as effective as creosote, its principal competitor, in preserving wood exposed to moisture. From time to time various insoluble zinc preservatives have been developed, but none has found a wide market. Recently a chromated zinc was introduced, but enough time has not elapsed to gauge its effect on this market for zinc.

Complete data on sales of zinc chloride in 1936 are not available, but returns received from producers representing roughly two-thirds of the total output indicate the following distribution of sales by uses in 1936:

	Percent		Percent
Soldering flux	24	Oil refining	5
Wood preserving	23	Others	10
Dry-cell batteries	25		
Vulcanized fiber	13		100

Zinc sulphate.—In 1935 and 1936 producers of zinc sulphate were asked to distribute their sales according to various industries. The results of the canvass are not very satisfactory because the distribution was incomplete. Producers selling large tonnages to jobbers were unable to classify sales of this type by consuming industries.

Of the total 1936 sales (8,687 tons), 4,201 tons to the rayon industry, 331 tons to electrical glue manufacturers, 124 tons to printers and 3,500 tons to paint and varnish manufacturers; 3,500 tons. A break-down of the latter figure would show larger tonnages for the various uses enumerated. Zinc sulphate were used as a flotation reagent collected by T. H. Miller of the Bureau of Mines.

RAW MATERIALS USED IN THE MANUFACTURE OF ZINC PIGMENTS AND

Lead pigments and zinc pigments and a variety of materials, including ore, refined secondary materials, such as scrap and waste processes. In 1936, 93.2 percent of the lead derived from pig lead and 6.8 percent from secondary material. The production in 1936 were 63 percent from ore, 22 percent from secondary materials.

Metal content of lead and zinc pigments produced in 1936-36, by sources, in short tons

Source	Lead pigment
Domestic ore	12
Foreign ore	185
Secondary material	197

¹ Includes also lead recovered in zinc oxide and leaded zinc oxide.
² Zinc ashes, skimmings, drosses, and old metal.

In the following tables the source of the material of each pigment and salt is given, either directly or indirectly, in the manufacture of red lead, and orange mineral and to a large extent of basic lead sulphate. Zinc oxide is the principal material used in the manufacture of zinc oxide, leaded zinc oxide, lithopone, zinc sulphate. Some secondary lead is used in the manufacture of lead sulphate, and a substantial proportion of zinc chloride made in the United States is derived from secondary material. There has been a large increase in the use of zinc oxide in the manufacture of zinc oxide, which has displaced slab zinc in the manufacture of zinc oxide.

Lead content of lead and zinc pigments produced by domestic manufacturers, 1935-36,
by sources, in short tons

Pigment	1935				1936			
	Lead in pigments produced from—			Total lead in pigments	Lead in pigments produced from—			Total lead in pigments
	Domes- tic ore	Pig lead	Second- ary ma- terial		Domes- tic ore	Pig lead	Second- ary ma- terial	
White lead.....		83,079		83,079		89,779		89,779
Red lead.....		25,173		25,173		31,617		31,617
Litharge.....		74,724		74,724		81,883		81,883
Orange mineral.....		206		206		249		249
Basic lead sulphate.....	4,024	1,879		5,903	4,680	1,569		6,249
Leaded zinc oxide.....	7,484		144	7,628	10,303		37	10,340
Zinc oxide.....								
	12,109	185,151	144	197,404	15,082	204,997	37	220,116

Zinc content of zinc pigments and salts produced by domestic manufacturers, 1935-36,
by sources, in short tons

Pigment or salt	1935				1936			
	Zinc in pigments and salts produced from—			Total zinc in pigments and salts	Zinc in pigments and salts produced from—			Total zinc in pigments and salts
	Domes- tic ore	Slab zinc	Second- ary ma- terial		Domes- tic ore	Slab zinc	Second- ary ma- terial	
Zinc oxide.....	47,021	26,749	7,490	81,260	56,946	32,625	9,201	98,772
Leaded zinc oxide.....	16,185	104	356	16,645	19,085	138	183	19,386
Lithopone.....	20,400		13,512	34,112	18,902		13,450	32,352
Zinc sulphide.....	(1)		(1)	(1)	(1)		(1)	(1)
Zinc chloride.....	(1)		(1)	(1)	(1)		(1)	(1)
Zinc sulphate.....	1,966		483	2,449	1,078		1,224	2,302

¹ Zinc content of a small quantity of zinc sulphide included with zinc content of lithopone.
² Figures not available.

PRICES

The total value and the average price received by producers from sales of lead and zinc pigments and salts are stated earlier in this chapter. The range of market quotations, as reported by the Oil, Paint, and Drug Reporter, appears in the following table. Quotations on lead pigments were advanced as the price of lead moved upward during the latter part of 1936. On October 1, zinc oxide prices were advanced by one-fourth cent per pound but were still considerably out of line with the price of the metal. A drop of 1 cent per pound in the price of titanium dioxide on November 2 was followed shortly by a reduction of one-fourth cent per pound in lithopone prices and 1½- to 2¼-cent cuts in zinc sulphide quotations.

Range of quotations on lead pigments and zinc pigments (or delivered in the East), 1935-36, in cents per pound

Product	1933
Basic lead sulphate, or sublimed lead, less than carlots, barrels.....	6.50-6.00
White lead, or basic lead carbonate, dry, carlots, barrels.....	6.00-6.50
Litharge, commercial, powdered, barrels.....	5.50-7.00
Red lead, dry, 95 percent or less, less than carlots, barrels.....	6.50-8.00
Orange mineral, American, small lots, barrels:	
Ex-white lead.....	10.25-11.75
Ex-red lead.....	9.00-10.50
Zinc oxide:	
American process, lead-free, bags, car lots.....	5.75
American process, 5 to 35 percent lead, barrels, carlots.....	5.75
French process, red seal, bags, carlots.....	8.63
French process, green seal, bags, carlots.....	9.63
French process, white seal, barrels, carlots.....	10.81
Lithopone, domestic, 5-ton lots, bags.....	4.50
Zinc sulphide, less than carlots, bags, barrels.....	13.00-13.50
Zinc chloride, works:	
Bojouton, tanks.....	2.00-3.00
Pased, drums.....	4.25-5.75
Zinc sulphate, crystals, barrels.....	2.75-3.75

FOREIGN TRADE

Imports of lead and zinc pigments and salts and exports increased 3 percent in 1936. The value of imports increased from \$452,000 to \$572,000; in 1929 it was \$452,000. There was an apparent import surplus.

The following table shows the value of lead and zinc pigments imported and exported for 1935-36.

Value of foreign trade of the United States in lead and zinc pigments and salts, 1935-36

	Imports	Exports
Lead pigments:		
White lead.....	\$1,000,000	
Red lead.....		
Litharge.....		
Orange mineral.....		
Other lead pigments.....		
Zinc pigments:		
Zinc oxide.....	205,000	
Lithopone.....	250,000	
Zinc sulphide.....	6,000	
Zinc chloride.....	468,000	
Zinc sulphate.....		
Lead and zinc salts:		
Lead arsenate.....	30,000	
Other lead compounds.....	34,000	
Zinc chloride.....	6,000	
Zinc sulphate.....	76,000	
Grand total.....	548,000	

¹ Figures not available.

² Figures on imports and exports.

Lead pigments and salts.—Imports of these commodities are of negligible proportions. The most important item is the group of lead compounds, including lead acetate, lead nitrate, and others.

Lead pigments and salts imported for consumption in the United States, 1932-36, in short tons

Year	Basic carbonate white lead	Red lead	Litharge	Orange mineral	Lead compounds	Total value
1932.....	29	4	—	4	277	\$52,865
1933.....	3	1	—	10	268	39,313
1934.....	15	—	(¹)	6	183	29,868
1935.....	6	1	—	2	302	33,228
1936.....	32	1	(¹)	5	185	\$2,614

¹ Less than 1 ton.

² Includes also—1935: Lead pigments, n. s. p. f., \$478 (4,405 pounds); 1936: Lead pigments, n. s. p. f., \$19 (13 pounds) and sublimed lead (basic sulphate) \$9 (15 pounds).

The principal exports are white lead, litharge, red lead, and lead arsenate. Less than 3 percent of the domestic production of white lead, red lead, and litharge was exported in 1936.

Lead pigments and salts exported from the United States, 1932-36, in short tons

Year	White lead	Red lead	Litharge	Lead arsenate	Other lead compounds	Total value
1932.....	1,681	403	1,493	505	—	\$481,694
1933.....	1,048	570	1,638	209	—	371,799
1934.....	1,561	745	972	325	—	457,273
1935.....	2,337	750	1,280	578	—	608,734
1936.....	1,861	810	1,386	414	—	609,800

¹ Includes an unknown quantity of orange mineral, 1932-33.

White lead and red lead, orange mineral,¹ and litharge exported from the United States, by destinations, 1933-36, in short tons

Destination	White lead				Red lead, orange mineral, ¹ and litharge			
	1933	1934	1935	1936	1933	1934	1935	1936
Countries:								
Argentina.....	60	60	98	120	109	232	162	139
Canada.....	75	91	50	74	1,104	415	502	544
Netherlands.....	377	463	827	387	—	—	2	43
Netherlands West Indies.....	2	10	3	3	58	(²)	81	274
Panama.....	20	201	205	453	68	112	62	63
Philippine Islands.....	138	130	190	170	104	210	287	342
United Kingdom.....	73	47	93	13	17	3	2	17
Others.....	206	550	865	635	589	745	942	784
	1,047	1,561	2,337	1,801	2,108	1,717	2,030	2,166
Continents:								
North America.....	223	477	441	754	1,401	759	930	1,140
South America.....	150	177	202	218	210	348	402	544
Europe.....	479	590	1,242	707	213	232	139	219
Asia.....	141	(²)	285	172	201	40	335	407
Africa.....	63	167	108	9	80	118	224	62
Oceania.....	1	150	1	1	(²)	222	(²)	24

¹ Orange mineral is not included in this group in 1934-36. Data not available.

² Less than 1 ton.

Zinc pigments and salts.—Imports of lead pigments and salts were approximately twice as large as lead pigments and amounted to less than 2 percent of domestic production.

Zinc pigments and salts imported for consumption in the United States, 1932-36, in short tons

Year	Zinc oxide		Lithopone
	Dry	In oil	
1932.....	2,515	157	4,724
1933.....	2,359	182	5,596
1934.....	1,204	64	3,927
1935.....	1,931	59	4,903
1936.....	693	96	4,780

Exports of zinc oxide and lithopone increased in 1936. The principal export of this trade is with North American countries.

Zinc pigments and salts exported from the United States, 1932-36, in short tons

Year	Zinc oxide	Lithopone	Zinc salts	Total value	Year
1932.....	1,261	3,212	299	\$512,559	1935.....
1933.....	722	1,186	(¹)	230,024	1936.....
1934.....	1,155	2,401	(¹)	365,189	

¹ Zinc salts not separately recorded.

Zinc oxide and lithopone exported from the United States, by destinations, 1933-36, in short tons

Destination	Zinc oxide		
	1933	1934	1935
Countries:			
Argentina.....	16	36	35
Canada.....	280	439	453
Cuba.....	22	87	115
France.....	5	12	15
United Kingdom.....	36	68	56
Others.....	367	513	406
	722	1,155	1,140
Continents:			
North America.....	437	856	724
South America.....	39	48	78
Europe.....	72	66	94
Asia.....	80	41	132
Africa.....	3	12	5
Oceania.....	91	132	107

THALLIUM

A bluish-white, soft metal, thallium (element 81) resembles lead not only in its physical properties but also, to a considerable extent, in its chemical properties, although in the latter respect it somewhat resembles potassium. The metal itself is obtainable without much difficulty, but it is used only in quite small amounts for special alloys; lead-thallium alloys are highly resistant to corrosion. Even in its compounds thallium finds no very large sale, although significant quantities, chiefly as sulphate, are used in rat poisons and for ground-squirrel and rodent control generally. It also has been recommended for killing ants and as a fungicide and insecticide. Small quantities, a few hundred pounds annually, have long been used in optical glass, photoelectric cells, and medicine, and later developments are moth-proofing agents and fabric-finishing materials. A variety of other uses, including antiknock motor fuel, have been suggested, many of them having been patented, but none of them seem to have reached the commercial stage. Formerly, thallium was used rather widely in depilatories, but inasmuch as it is a cumulative poison of high toxicity this use has been discouraged. Recently, however, experiments have been made in the U. S. S. R. (Russia) with a view to controlling the moulting of sheep, particularly of merinos that do not moult naturally; promising results were obtained, although many of the sheep died, and more work has to be done.

Thallium is not a common element, but it is present in a large number of minerals and moderately substantial quantities may be recovered from the flue dusts from lead furnaces and pyrites burners. Partly because the demand is rather small there is only one domestic producer, the American Smelting & Refining Co.; but additional quantities of thallium sulphate and a little thallium acetate have been imported from Germany, Poland, and Belgium. Prices since the World War have ranged from above \$20 to a minimum of about \$5 a pound. The price of the metal in small lots is \$15 a pound.

THORIUM (AND MESOTHORIUM)

Thorium (element 90), like uranium, is the source of a series of radioactive elements of lower atomic weight. In the process of disintegrating to inert lead, the thorium group emits radiations similar to but not always identical with those from radium. Mesothorium, the immediate disintegration product of thorium, is chemically identical with radium. Its preparations emit the three types of rays characteristic of radium, but it is much shorter lived. Separated from thorium, a given specimen of mesothorium decays to half value in 6.7 years, to one-fourth of its original value in another 6.7 years, to only one-eighth of its original value in a third period of 6.7 years, and so on. The half-life period of radium, on the other hand, is 1,690 years. Mesothorium can be substituted for radium for certain therapeutic purposes but is possibly more important commercially in radioactive luminous materials. Over a period of 15 years, the brightness of luminous materials activated with mesothorium is in no way inferior to that of those made luminous by radium.²³ Formerly radium cost a great deal more than mesothorium, but as radium has

²³ Schlundt, Herman, Mesothorium: Foote-Prints, vol. 4, no. 1, 1931, pp. 3-17.

become cheaper, mesothorium, remaining the more costly of the two. In 1914 (522 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y.) imported from Austria. Domestic requirements present more mesothorium is used abroad. In England and France, for example, it is employed, activated with mesothorium.

The main use of thorium has been in the production of thorium nitrate, which purpose thorium nitrate is extracted with a small amount of cerium. The thorium of "rare-earth nitrates", accompanied by cerium nitrate, and then burned. Thorium compounds are used in X-ray tubes, have been employed for certain refractory and has been used recently in laboratory crucibles that can be employed at temperatures up to 2,300° C. Since the market by Westinghouse Lamp Company in shapes and sizes at \$75 a pound and in filaments of tungsten lamps to purpose, however, as well as for electron-tube electrodes, the element is used in the metal. Suggested uses for the glow-tube electrodes, and X-ray targets.

Thorium is a soft, malleable metal, otherwise easily worked and handled. Because of its low ionic emissivity, consideration may be given to the most refractory oxide known. Thorium metal, but neither is it unduly costly. Its price has fallen as a result of the diminished demand in the industry for thorium nitrate. This would seem to afford a sound basis for its use.

Thorium nitrate has recently been quoted by Drug Reporter at \$2.20 a pound. It was formerly quoted at \$60 a ton basis 6 months ago. An 8-percent grade has been listed at \$35 a milligram.

The imports of thorium nitrate in 1936 amounted to only 4,411 pounds valued at \$89,670, compared with 44,554 pounds valued at \$309,760 in 1914.

TITANIUM

About two and a half times as plentiful as titanium (element 22) is a constituent of ilmenite and rutile, however, are determined at all extensively as titanium. These minerals are relatively few. In British India, Norway, and the United States, so that the supply is abundant, has virtually no commercial uses, the price is \$6 a pound. Its alloys, particularly

used in the steel industry, are important and are consumed in rapidly growing quantities not only in steel making but also for use in making iron castings and various nonferrous alloys. Formerly employed almost exclusively as a deoxidizer, it has recently begun to be important in the manufacture of rustless steels to inhibit intergranular corrosion. Titanite, an aluminum-manganese-titanium alloy, takes a high polish that resists corrosion. Most important is the production of titanium pigments, which has grown at an astonishing rate in less than a decade from an insignificant industry requiring only 2,000 or 3,000 tons of ilmenite to a large business whose purchases of this raw material now exceed 100,000 tons a year. The consumption of rutile likewise has increased sharply. Scarcely 5 years ago this naturally occurring dioxide of titanium was used to only a small extent in the ceramic industry and had almost no other important applications until it began to be demanded in really large quantities for the manufacture of welding rods. Meanwhile, its ceramic uses have shown healthy growth. Titanium dioxide is used in ceramic glasses, in "topaz" yellow glassware, and to increase fluidity of acid-resisting enamels. For the acid-stable enamels as much as 8 percent TiO_2 is added, the yellow coloration being suppressed by a 2-percent addition of sodium fluosilicate.²⁴ A German patent (622346, I. G. Farbenindustrie) describes the production of a glass containing 20 to 48 percent of TiO_2 and 20 to 35 percent alkali (remainder acid oxides) made colorless by nitrate additions to the batch, which is melted slightly above $1,300^\circ \text{C}$.

Miscellaneous uses of titanium compounds are for smoke screens, "sky-writing", and pyrotechnics (tetrachloride); for arc-light electrodes; in dyeing and tanning; as abrasives (carbide); and in medicinal and toilet preparations. In addition to their use in paints and lacquers, titanium pigments are being used to an increasing extent in paper, linoleum, for delustering rayon, in printing ink, white rubber, plastics, cosmetics, soaps, and in shoe polishes and various leather and synthetic finishes.

Summarizing 1936 developments, E. L. Lasier, vice president of the Titanium Alloy Manufacturing Co., in a letter to the author, comments upon the greatly increased use of iron-titanium alloys (both high and medium carbon) in the steel industry for deep-stamping and automobile body stock. In the production of intermediate manganese steels, ferro-carbon-titanium is displacing more expensive alloys, notably nickel and vanadium. Other important developments have been the work on temper-hardening of copper-titanium alloys, the use of titanium in gray cast iron and in aluminum (through the use of a master aluminum-titanium alloy), and a prospect of employing the element to assist in age-hardening of chrome-nickel steels.

The American Rutile Co., leading producer of rutile, formerly operated its milling plant at Roseland, Nelson County, Va., only 2 or 3 months at a time, but in 1935 it built a new, modern mill which was operated almost continuously in 1936 and may be enlarged to a capacity of 500 tons of crude ore a day. No production figures are released by the company, but private estimates place the present output as high as 2,000 short tons of rutile a year. Rutile or brookite was produced in Hot Springs County, Ark., in 1936 by the Titanium Corporation. It has been difficult to recover high-grade rutile in

commercial quantities from this area. The Bureau of Mines succeeded in making Arkansas rutile by flotation.

Ilmenite produced in this country is mined by the American Rutile Co. at the Southern Mineral Products Co. mine, far from the Roseland operation. In 1936 the latter company sold its interest in making calcium monophosphate to the Virginia Chemical Co., a newly created company. The original owner was the Printing Ink Co. The original owner was engaged in mining activities and, in addition to producing concentrates to the new concern, ferro-alloy works of the parent company, at Niagara Falls, N. Y.

Domestic production statistics for 1936 closing the operations of individual companies serve to show the rapid growth of ilmenite and rutile. For several years imports of ilmenite and is still the largest, having contributed 22,472 long tons in 1936. Rumors to the effect that the Netherlands and accordingly the United States and accordingly Europe. Of possible significance in 1936 of \$6.22 a long ton for ilmenite and \$5.32 for those from British India. Tons credited to the United Kingdom.

Titanium ores imported for consumption

Year

1932	.....
1933	.....
1934	.....
1935	.....
1936	.....

Data on imports by customs districts show that ilmenite is imported at New York, divided between Maryland and Virginia, and were entries at New Orleans for 1936. Import ceased before 1936.

Rutile is now imported chiefly from Australia, where were received in 1936 also from Australia (\$1,128) and Australia (10,000 tons). Percent of the rutile arrives at New York, except that in 1936 a fair-sized shipment.

Imports of ferrotitanium and ferro-titanium amounted in 1936 to 2,240 pounds. Kingdom.

Among foreign developments mention is made at the Selianka mine in the Czech Republic and a substantial increase of a

²⁴ Viehhaber, Titanium Dioxide: Emallwaren Ind., vol. 12, no. 52, 1935, pp. 419-420; Ceram. Abs., vol. 16, no. 8, 1936, p. 231.

