

LEAD INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

400 JEDDINGTON AVENUE 60 East 42nd Street
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

October 1, 1956

QUARTERLY REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

July 1 to September 30, 1956

In the third quarter of the year the Association staff was reduced by the resignation of Kempton H. Roll, to become secretary of the Metal Powder Association which started independent operation on July 1. This vacancy was not filled until September 10 by the addition of Edward J. Mullarkey, who comes highly recommended from the Arma Corporation. Nevertheless the Association's activities continued without interruption. The staff is now smaller by two people than it was prior to M.P.A.'s separation. Highlights of this quarter's operations are listed below.

GENERAL

1. New Offices - The Association moved into its new quarters in Suite 2020, Lincoln Building, 60 East 42nd Street, New York 17, on August 25.
2. "Lead" - The second 1956 issue of our magazine "Lead" was mailed during this period. Our mailing list for this publication is now about 45,000.
3. Cable Sheathing - The Cable Sheathing Task Group of our Technical Steering Committee met to consider the report of the European visit of one of its members on progress in continuous extrusion of lead alloy cable sheathing abroad and what may be done here to solve this problem. A small sub-committee was appointed to meet with the secretary and a manufacturer of presses to map out a specific research program and determine its cost.
4. Technical Developments - The section on lead for the Annual Review of materials in "Industrial and Engineering Chemistry," dealing with technical developments, was again prepared by the Association, as it has been for the past four or five years.
5. A.C.S. Monograph - Further progress was made in obtaining qualified authors for the A.C.S. Monograph on Lead, so that now about 90 percent of the material is under preparation. Several sections are already in our hands.
6. Encyclopedia - We have accepted a request from P. F. Collier and Son to rewrite the section on Lead for Collier's Encyclopedia, work on which has been started.
7. Trade Fair of the Atomic Industry - The secretary attended this show in Chicago to keep abreast of developments in this field. Several members were among the exhibitors.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

8. Meetings; Governmental Contacts - A safety conference under the auspices of the Governor's office in Albany was attended and afforded opportunity for renewed contacts with the staff of the New York State Health Department. The value of cordial relationships with governmental agencies has been evidenced in three recent instances, (1) submission, by the Massachusetts Department of Labor and



Quarterly Report

-2-

October 1, 1956

Industries, of the draft of a data sheet on lead hazards, for criticism prior to publication, (2) similar submission of the manuscript of an article on the same subject written for a medical journal by a member of that department, and (3) assurance given by the Baltimore City Health Department that contemplated further regulation of the use of lead paints is to be held in abeyance.

9. "Facts and Fallacies" - The printing and distribution of Dr. R. T. Johnstone's address on "Facts and Fallacies of Plumbism, and What to Do About Them," delivered at our last annual meeting, has proved a most useful means of disseminating sound common sense on this subject. In addition to some 300 copies mailed to our members in July, about the same number were sent to a list of physicians and others concerned with this subject with whom contact is maintained. These mailings have resulted in so many requests for additional copies for further distribution that the initial printing of 1,000 is nearly exhausted.

10. Health and Safety Bulletins - Two periodic Health and Safety Bulletins have been issued during the quarter, No. 121 with material relative to the annual meeting, and No. 122 with reference to miscellaneous recent publications of interest in this field.

11. Industrial Medical Service - The aid of an informal panel of six leading industrial physicians has been enlisted in an effort to bring about improvement in the services of an industrial clinic in a southwestern state in which at least one of our member companies is involved. Such cooperation can be of great value to industry, and at no cost, in raising the standards of those of lesser training and experience, for, as one of the six rightly says, "there's a good deal of that kind of occupational disease care in existence."

12. Pharmacy Laws - Recent court proceedings in one of our southern states have shown that certain pharmacy laws, designed solely for the protection of the public in the purchase of drugs and pharmaceuticals, may be so interpreted as to impose financial penalties on the manufacturers of lead compounds and paints for failure to label them as poisonous. Steps are being taken to determine the best means to secure such amendment of these laws as will preclude such interpretation in the future.

13. Adverse Publicity - Three items of adverse publicity transcending in importance the common run of newspaper stories on childhood and other types of plumbism broke in July. The first of these, a 2-page article with the title "Don't Let YOUR Child Get Lead Poisoning," appeared in the July 8 issue of Parade, a Sunday magazine supplement published in over fifty newspapers with a combined circulation of more than seven million. The second was a broadcast on the same subject over WCEB-TV and the CBS Network on July 18. The Parade article was by Dr. J. E. Bradley of the University of Maryland School of Medicine, who participated also in the broadcast, and neither was outstandingly objectionable from the viewpoint of scientific fact. This cannot be said, however, of the third item, an account of the illness of Ambassador Clare Booth Luce, published in the July 23 issue of Time Magazine and widely quoted, in which it was alleged that arsenic and lead dusts from the ceiling of the ambassador's bedroom in Italy ("the heavily leaded paint exuded fumes") were causative factors. We have what we believe to be wholly reliable evidence of the untruth of these allegations, and Mrs. Luce's own physician has been quoted as saying "Specifically, what she had now was not poisoning." The question arises whether a definite campaign of counterpublicity would not be warranted, and it is felt that this whole subject is one which should have the attention of the Industry Development Committee.

Quarterly Report

-3-

October 1, 1956

METALLIC LEAD PRODUCTS

14. Lead Building Construction Bulletin No. 2 - The second of this series of bulletins was prepared and distributed to over 20,000 architects and builders and 10,000 plumbing contractors. It provides specifications and drawings for the installation of sheet lead shower pans and of sheet lead safe pans for such installations as soda fountains and pipe shafts. The Tile Council of America is also distributing this Bulletin to its members and a Canadian member of L.I.A. is distributing 2,000 copies in that country.

15. Plumbers' Apprentice Contest - D. M. Bordin of our staff served as judge of lead work in the annual international apprentice contest sponsored by the plumbers' union. H. S. Yetman, also of the staff, presented prizes provided by the Association for the three best lead workers. Our participation in this activity encourages more and better lead workers and is a source of great good will among plumbers.

16. Instructor Training - In a training course for instructors of plumbing held at the same time as the apprentice contest, H. S. Yetman demonstrated the proper methods of teaching lead work to plumbers' apprentices.

17. Lead Gutters and Flashings - We assisted the architects and sheet metal contractor in preparing details for the installation of 3 lb. hard sheet lead gutter linings and flashings for a new dormitory at Duke University. There will be some 750 ft. of this material ranging in width from about 2 to 7 ft. Copper was originally specified.

18. Corrosion - Work has been started by L.I.A. on revision of the chapter on lead in the A.C.S. Monograph on Corrosion, originally edited by McKay and Worthington in 1936.

19. Solder - The work of our Solder Committee, which has been preparing a Handbook on soldering for the American Welding Society, has reached a point where it will be reviewed by the Welding Society's main Brazing and Soldering Committee early in October.

20. Solder Specification - A staff member attended a hearing on a proposed new Federal Specification for solder.

21. Home Builders - Arrangements were made to exhibit at the annual meeting of the National Association of Home Builders in February, 1957. Our exhibit will be in the Chicago Coliseum.

CERAMICS

22. Manual - The Manual on Lead in Ceramics is in the hands of the printers and will be ready for distribution this fall.

23. Ceramic Technical Committee - Having completed its work on the Manual, this Committee met to consider what steps in the areas of advertising, research or promotion should logically follow distribution of the Manual. Its recommendations will be brought before the Industry Development Committee.

Quarterly Report

-4-

October 1, 1956

24. Address Before the Ceramic Society - The talk on lead, prepared by the secretary and delivered by our ceramic consultant Dr. John Koenig before the American Ceramic Society last April, has been accepted for publication in that Society's Bulletin. Date of publication is not known.

25. Whitewares - The secretary and most members of the Ceramic Technical Committee attended the annual meeting of the Whitewares Division of the American Ceramic Society.

RED LEAD PAINTS

26. Red Lead Technical Letter No. 11 - The latest in this series of publications was completed and distributed in early September. It deals with proper surface preparation for the application of red lead primers and was given a circulation of about 11,000. Its reception was excellent. For instance, Gulf Oil Corporation ordered 40 copies for use in a course on corrosion at the University of Houston for men in industry dealing with corrosion, and 100 copies were requested by Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan, for distribution to their students in Surface Coating Technology.

27. Red Lead Technical Committee - This Committee met to study the results of its test inspections made during the summer and to outline new Technical Letters and other activities for the coming year. Particular attention is being given the huge new Federal highway aid program, and the large market it offers red lead paints.

Respectfully submitted,


Secretary