

LEAD INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

292 MADISON AVENUE

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

July 1, 1960

QUARTERLY REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

APRIL 1 TO JUNE 30, 1960

The following report covers the highlights of Association activities for the second quarter of 1960. More detailed information on these activities or others not enumerated will be supplied on request. No attempt has been made to cover routine activities, and research is covered in a separate report of the Research Director.

GENERAL

1. Annual Meeting. A highly successful annual meeting of the Association was held at the Chase-Park Plaza Hotels in St. Louis on April 6 and 7. Attendance of 144 representatives of members and guests was a record.

2. Headquarters. On May 2 the Association moved its offices to larger and more adequate quarters at 292 Madison Avenue, New York 17, telephone Oregon 9-6020.

3. Information Bulletins. Another of this series of bulletins for members was prepared and circulated.

4. Statistics. LIA's Annual Statistical Review was prepared and circulated to members. Also the introductory page for the lead section of the Year Book of the American Bureau of Metal Statistics was prepared.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

5. Milwaukee "Lead Poisoning" Case. In connection with the seemingly spurious claim for damages in the amount of \$200,000 for alleged injury due to contamination of water transmitted through lead pipes in a Milwaukee apartment house, noted in the last quarterly report, a conference and inspection of the premises took place in Milwaukee on June 27, with attorneys for the defendant and an attorney for the LIA, as well as an LIA staff member, present. Anticipating the September 26 trial date, arrangements have been made for such medical and toxicological testimony as may be required.

6. Harvard Lead Toxicity Study. The proposal of the Harvard School of Public Health for a study of relative toxicities of various lead compounds, looking to an easing of restrictions on those found to be of lesser hazard to health, was last reported as having been placed before our Board of Directors. By their vote, a committee of company executives and medical and toxicological experts has been appointed to consider the proposal and advise on its several aspects.

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7. Air Pollution Regulations. "Ambient air" is a term with which we may expect to become increasingly familiar. Meaning the general outdoor atmosphere, it appears destined to come under scrutiny, from the viewpoint of the public health, in a manner not unlike that accorded to polluted factory atmospheres in the past. To the proposals of the California State Health Department to establish limits on carbon monoxide, lead and other pollutants on a statewide basis has now been added federal legislation directing the Public Health Service to proceed along similar lines. Backed by a million-dollar appropriation, this is most certainly something to be watched, and we are giving both the California and federal projects careful attention.

8. Meetings Attended. Gatherings attended during the quarter have included the annual meeting of the Air Pollution Control Association in Cincinnati, where there were both formal presentations and informal discussions of the subjects of the preceding paragraph, the annual Industrial Health Conference, participated in by five major organizations in that field and held this year at Rochester, N. Y., and a meeting in New York City under the auspices of the National Health Council. Our director of health and safety was a speaker on the Rochester program.

9. Childhood Lead Poisoning. Though it is too early to venture a definite opinion, something of a change seems to be taking place in the epidemiological pattern of childhood lead poisoning. Whereas the disease has hitherto been mainly one of the slums of our older and larger cities, it has of late been reported from such smaller centers as Albany, N. Y., Springfield, Mass., Covington, Ky., and Gastonia, N. C. These sporadic incidents seem probably attributable to an increased awareness on the part of the medical profession. The problem continues in the larger municipalities. In New York City, where the incidence among Puerto Rican children is high, volunteer work by Dr. May R. Mayers has brought about an agreement by a local agency of the Puerto Rican Government to print and distribute informational leaflets dealing with the subject in the Spanish language.

10. Health and Safety Bulletin. The Thirteenth International Congress on Occupational Health will be held at the Waldorf-Astoria, New York City, from July 25 to 29, 1960, and will include a number of papers on lead poisoning. A bulletin relative to the Congress, issued on May 20, has brought a gratifying response from our members.

INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT--GENERAL

11. "Lead." The second 1960 issue of this quarterly was prepared and printed for distribution to some 55,000 people, of which about 4,500 copies were distributed in Canada and 1,500 in the United Kingdom by members and the Lead Development Association.

12. Advertising. Our one-page "Lead News Letter" ads continued to appear in "Materials in Design Engineering" and "Product Engineering" in alternate months.

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13. Design Engineering Show. Our 22- by 18-ft exhibit booth attracted an unusual number of visitors at the four-day Design Engineering Show at the New York Coliseum in May. A variety of lead products were featured and almost 1,000 engineers filled out cards asking for more information on lead in general or on specific applications.

14. Battery Brochure. An additional 13,000 copies of this brochure on industrial trucks were printed and distributed, bringing the total to 63,000. Since these have now been completely used up, another 10,000 are on order.

15. Sound Attenuation. The report of Bolt Beranek and Newman, acoustical consultants, on the sound attenuating properties of lead, emanating from the Expanded Research Program, has been rewritten with an introduction suitable for printing as a brochure for circulation to acoustical and design engineers, architects and others faced with problems in this field. Publication is expected within the next couple of months.

16. Battery Conference. The annual Signal Corps Battery Conference, this year at Atlantic City in May, was again attended. The program contained little of interest on lead-acid batteries, emphasizing newer types of power sources. No proceedings or papers are available this year because of the expense to the Signal Corps in the past, but a committee was appointed to investigate the possibility of making the papers available in some way.

17. Association of American Battery Manufacturers. The meeting of this Association in Los Angeles in June was attended. Two papers of particular interest to lead people were delivered and will be circulated by LIA to its members as soon as possible. They were: "Modern Methods for the Prevention, Detection and Treatment of Lead Intoxication," by Dr. Rutherford T. Johnstone, and "The Challenge by New Battery Systems," by C. G. Grimes, vice president-research, Electric Storage Battery Company. A committee report contained another item of interest in that it estimated current automobile battery life at slightly over three years.

18. Sea Horse Institute. A meeting of this group at Wrightsville Beach, N. C., was attended to keep abreast of corrosion studies there.

19. ASTM. The annual meeting of this society was attended.

INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT--METAL PRODUCTS

20. Lead Welding. A committee under the chairmanship of David M. Borcina, assistant to the secretary, has been organized at the request of the American Welding Society to rewrite and bring up to date the section on lead welding (burning) in the "Welding Handbook" of that society.

21. Terne Roofing. Because of reviving interest in this lead product, LIA prepared a four-page flyer setting forth its advantages and giving specifications for its use. About 16,000 copies have been distributed to architects and builders.

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22. Advertising. Four one-page ads appeared on metallic lead products during the quarter in "Engineering News-Record." One was devoted to lead-asbestos antivibration pads under air-conditioning cooling towers, two to lead-lined reflecting pools in the new Time-Life Building in New York, and one to the leaded glass window of the new American Airlines Building at Idlewild, New York.

23. Construction Bulletins. Lead Construction Bulletins No. 2 and 3 were reprinted in quantities of 5,000 each as our original supplies were depleted. These dealt with lead shower pans and waterproofing, and with lead chemical laboratory drainage systems.

24. Plumbers' Show. LIA had an exhibit at the annual convention of the National Association of Plumbing Contractors in Cleveland late in June. Featured were the new fittings for lead connections to wall-hung water closets now being marketed commercially as a result of LIA's efforts at proper design.

25. Hull Damping Compound. On another visit to the Mare Island Naval Shipyard at Vallejo, Cal., to check on progress of research there to develop a satisfactory hull damping compound, it was learned that considerable progress has been made. Extensive testing has led to a compound made of neoprene containing 70 per cent lead powder and weighing about 4 lb per sq ft in sheet form. This has already been applied to the hull interiors of several destroyers and is now being applied to a missile cruiser at the Bremerton, Wash., yard. About 8,000 sq ft will be used on this ship. While we have been given permission to pass this information on to members, it may not be used for publicity or advertising purposes without clearance by proper Navy authorities.

26. Anodes. Cooperation with Electro Rustproofing Company has developed considerable data on the successful use of lead-silver anodes in impressed current systems for corrosion protection in salt water and chemical solutions of such structures as piers, bridges, power plant condensers, ships and traveling screens.

27. Cable Sheathing. Reports of the successfully concluded research project on the continuous extrusion of lead alloy cable sheath have been rewritten and consolidated into a single paper and submitted to the American Institute of Electrical Engineers with the hope that it will be accepted for presentation before the fall meeting of that organization.

INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT--PIGMENTS

28. Advertising. One two-color ad on lead metal protective paint appeared in "Marine Engineering/Log" during the quarter.

29. Committee Meeting. The Pigments Technical Committee met at Joplin, Mo., in May with the Chemical Subcommittee of the Technical Steering Committee at the inauguration of a new research project to develop industrial primers which incorporate lead pigments in water soluble vehicles.

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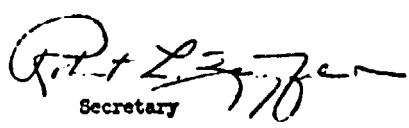
INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT--CERAMICS

30. ACS Annual Meeting. At the annual meeting of the American Ceramic Society in Philadelphia in April, LIA sponsored jointly with our Expanded Research Program a luncheon meeting with the faculty supervisors of our graduate research fellowships and the fellows themselves, if present, and the LIA Ceramics Technical Committee. The purpose was mutual discussion of our research projects and other ideas for research on lead in ceramics.

31. Papers on Lead in Enamels. Two papers on this subject were delivered at the ACS annual meeting by LIA research fellows at the University of Illinois. It is expected that these will eventually be printed in the "ACS Bulletin."

32. Advertising. Three ads appeared in the "ACS Bulletin," one each on glazed brick, glazed light aggregate blocks, and porcelain enameled steel chalk boards. The first two also appeared in "Ceramic Age" and the last in "Ceramic Industry." The glazed brick ad also appeared in "Brick and Clay Record" and the chalk board ad twice in "Metal Product Manufacturing."

33. Field Visits. Among plant visits in the interest of lead in ceramics were trips to the Barrows Porcelain Company, Cincinnati, The O. Hommel Company, Pittsburgh, A. O. Smith Company, Glaskote Division, and Monarch Aluminum, Cleveland. The annual meeting of the American Chemical Society was also attended.


Secretary

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