

DIRECTOR'S MEETING

New York, N. Y.

June 15, 1933.

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held at the Lawyers Club, New York City, on Thursday, June 15, 1933, at 12:30 P. M.

Present:

Clinton H. Crane,
Chairman

B. M. Zimmer
E. A. Hothorn
H. M. Brush
F. H. Brownell
P. E. Sprague
W. C. Beschorman
F. M. Carter
E. J. Cornish
G. W. Lambourne
C. M. Chapin
I. H. Cornell
J. A. McCarthy
F. Y. Robertson
R. C. Swanton

F. E. Wormser, Secretary.

Representing:

St. Joseph Lead Co.
American Metal Co. Ltd.
" " " "
American Smelting & Refining Co.
Federal Mining & Smelting Co.
Metals Refining Co.
National Lead Co.
" " "
" " "
Park Utah Consolidated Lines Co.
St. Joseph Lead Co.
" " " "
United Metals Selling Co.
United States Smelting Refining
and Mining Co.
Winchester Repeating Arms Co.

President Clinton H. Crane occupied the chair.

The Secretary's Report follows:

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

The following summarizes briefly the activities of the Lead Industries Association since the last meeting:

(1) National Industrial Recovery Act - Although this important industrial legislation has not yet been enacted into law, at the time of writing, we have begun the accumulation of some of the information which will be necessary in order to use the provisions of this Act. A questionnaire has been distributed to our mining, smelting and refining members, requesting labor data covering wages paid and the extent of employment in the industry today compared with 1926.

Compared with other trade associations, the Lead Industries Association represents, in some branches, an unusually high proportion of production. In primary lead smelting and refining the industry is 100% represented. In mining we have a representation close to 80%, in the lead pigments industry our representation is close to 100%, a remark which applies equally to lead pipe, sheet, and some of the lead alloys. In other words, the Lead Industries Association is the natural medium for these lead manufacturing interests to use under the provision of the National Industrial Recovery Act.

(2) Statistics - An important change in the method of reporting our Pig Lead Sales statistics was made May 1st, without interruption of the service, and an addition - Unfilled Orders - included in the tabulation.

(3) Tariff - An informal meeting of the Executive Committee and some members with headquarters in New York was held on May 6th to discuss a threatened move on the part of the Washington Administration to disturb existing tariff schedules and the prospect of the lead schedule being made one of the bargaining items in international trade arrangements advocated by the Administration. Mr. Callahan of Wallace, Idaho, representing the Northern Idaho lead miners, attended. It was informally agreed that the Lead Industries Association was the natural fact finding agency from which to obtain the data necessary to defend the interest of lead in Washington should any tariff emergency arise. Accordingly, the Secretary has already begun to procure data on the relative costs of labor in the United States compares with costs in Australia, Burma, Germany, Spain and other lead producing countries, to use with other data should a tariff emergency arise.

A visit to Washington by the Secretary and a talk with some of those presumably competent to speak, seems to indicate that if a tariff bill is passed the Senate will exercise its right to ratify any reciprocal treaty arrangements. Just now tariff legislation seems destined to be postponed indefinitely.

(4) Plumbing Regulations - Acting by authority of the Board, our intensive drive to obtain a modification of the plumbing codes so that lead would receive equitable consideration, is making steady progress and meeting with an excellent reception. I am attaching an account of developments in the State of New Jersey which culminated in the passage of one of the strongest endorsements in favor of lead I have ever seen, by the New Jersey State Master Plumbers Association. Now that the ice has been broken I think our progress will be even faster.

(5) Labor Regulations - The Massachusetts Department of Labor had in contemplation during May to introduce a rule restricting slightly the use of white lead in interior painting. I visited Boston to confer with our medical advisors and to request the Department to modify its proposal. Although a decision has not yet been made I have every reason to believe that an adjustment satisfactory to everyone will be reached.

(6) Tin-Lined Hard-Lead Pipe - Our long continued effort to find a satisfactory joint for a thin-walled tin-lead pipe has finally been rewarded for we have developed a simple type of flared fitting which can be installed quickly by any plumber competent to wipe a joint. Tensile tests and pressure tests indicate that the joint is satisfactory. The future of this product appears to be very bright and before long we expect to make a full report.

(7) Educational Work - We have in prospect the publication of a separate leaflet on lead as a flashing material, containing data which may help to bring about a wider use of lead as a flashing material.

The reprinting of our LEAD PIPE booklet is awaiting the inclusion of a section on tin-lined hard and soft lead pipe.

It is of passing interest to know that a Spanish lead syndicate also intends to use the LEAD PIPE booklet as a basis for some nation wide publicity in favor of lead in its areas.

(8) Spray Residues - The Department of Agriculture, through the U. S. Food & Drug Administration, has established a lead tolerance on fruit and vegetables in inter-state commerce of .014 grain per lb., which has created a furor among the apple growers in the Northwest, insecticide manufacturers and other parties at interest and the subject is still in a state of agitation. We have been trying to help adjust the situation, having in mind the fact that we do not wish to subject the public to any unnecessary risks and secondly that we do not wish to see any unsupported assertions made about lead by Government agencies. I have been studying the question from a toxicological standpoint, which is the key to the whole situation, but have not yet had sufficient data for us to act intelligently.

(9) Tea Lead - The Food & Drug Administration has also issued a warning against the use of bare lead foil for lining tea casks. Here too, we have been investigating the situation and

have discovered that there is a surprising amount of lead in tea samples taken from lead lined casks, running anywhere from 10 to 15 milligrams per lb. I believe the simplest adjustment would be for the shippers of tea to use a cheap paper inner liner.

(10) Lead Hygiene - Even though our knowledge of lead poisoning has increased enormously over the last ten years, chiefly through the work of Drs. Aub, Fairhall, Sayers, Kehoe and other ardent workers in lead, much remains to be done and it is a lack of knowledge of the effect of small amounts of lead in the human system today which prevents us from taking an intelligent stand on some of the practical problems which face the use of lead products such as lead arsenate, tea lead and others.

During my visit to Harvard, Professor Fairhall and I had a long discussion on this subject. Dr. Fairhall feels that it would be highly desirable to make an intensive study of this question of normal lead, that is the amount of lead which practically every human being has in his system. This is a problem which is receiving more and more attention. Professor Fairhall tells me that he will be glad to give his entire services free for a year if we would like to tackle this interesting problem and will financially support a program of research. A copy of Professor Fairhall's letter, estimating the cost of the program is attached.

It may be that my position, which places me close to attacks on lead from all sources, forces me unduly to emphasize the question of the general health hazard of lead, but it does seem to me that it is of fundamental importance to the lead industries and that we should always be in the forefront so far as medical knowledge of lead is concerned. Only with accurate knowledge of lead are we able to combat many of the unwarranted attacks on lead and I hope that the Board will see the wisdom of continuing and even increasing our medical research.

In this connection, I would like to point out that Dr. Aub's fund expires on July 1st. He told me that frankly he has hesitated in making any further appeal to us in view of the terribly depressed state of the lead industries for the past two years, an attitude which I told him I thought the Board would greatly appreciate.

Respectfully submitted,



Secretary.

The Treasurer's Report follows:

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cash on Hand and in Bank, January 1, 1933. \$13,184.44

Receipts

Membership Contributions, 1932	\$54.00	
Membership Contributions, 1933	<u>\$15,221.50</u>	\$15,275.50
Less 1933 Contributions Previously Paid	124.00	
	<u>\$15,151.50</u>	
Less Contributions Outstanding	308.75	
		<u>14,842.75</u>
Interest		27.21
Book Sales		<u>12.00</u>
Total Receipts		\$14,881.96
TOTAL		\$27,046.40

Disbursements

Furniture & Fixtures	\$81.15	
Salaries	8,388.00	
Rent & Light	888.87	
Office Expense Miscellaneous	388.53	
Traveling Expenses	515.63	
Telephone & Telegraph	189.70	
Books & Subscriptions	123.94	
Printing	2,490.56	
Mailing	1,018.18	
Illustration	92.00	
Advances	<u>50.00</u>	
Total Disbursements		13,962.34
Cash on Hand and in Bank, June 1, 1933		<u>13,084.16</u>
TOTAL		\$27,046.40

The National Industrial Recovery Act was fully discussed by the Board, with its bearing on the manifold industries represented in the Lead Industries Association after which a motion was duly made, seconded and carried

THAT the Secretary be requested to make an appointment with the official in Washington responsible for the administration of the National Industrial Recovery Act so far as it related to the lead industries, for the purpose of discussing a program which the Lead Industries Association might adopt.

The Secretary read a communication from Mr. W. H. Bassett, Chairman of Sub-Committee No. 1 of B-2 of the A.S.T.M. as follows:

"At a recent meeting of Sub-Committee No. 1 of Committee B-2, American Society for Testing Materials, at which the specification for Pig Lead was under consideration, the matter of 99.99% pure lead was under discussion and the chairman was instructed to write to you and inquire if the demand for lead of this quality is sufficient to require its inclusion in the A.S.T.M. Specification for Pig Lead.

"It was the understanding at this meeting that several lead producers were either producing or were able to produce, lead of the quality above mentioned but that the Committee did not have sufficient information to decide whether it was warranted in including lead with a purity of 99.99% as one of the grades to be included in the specification.

"The Sub-Committee desired to be informed in regard to this matter as soon as possible."

The opinion was divided as to the wisdom of recommending a 99.99% pure lead specification in the revision that Sub-Committee No. 1 of B-2 was now making and without ob-

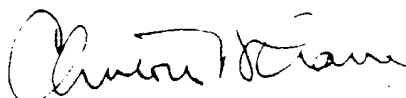
jection the Secretary was directed to write Mr. Bassett to the effect that the consensus of opinion of the Board of Directors of the Lead Industries Association was that the demand for a 99.99% pure lead specification, so far as the Lead Industries Association was concerned, did not warrant its inclusion in the contemplated revision of the Pig Lead Specification.

The Secretary presented a communication from Professor Fairhall of Harvard Medical School, as noted in the Secretary's Report, suggesting that certain research on the medical aspects of lead be conducted at Harvard.

It was regularly moved, seconded and carried

THAT the Treasurer proceed to raise the sum of \$7500, sufficient to defray Dr. Fairhall's proposed medical research at Harvard, through voluntary contributions commensurate with the lead production or consumption of members.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 P. M.


President.


Secretary.

C O P Y

June 13, 1933.

TO MEMBERS OF THE LEAD INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION:

LEAD IN PLUMBING CODES

Ever since the first of the year the Lead Industries Association has been making an intensive drive to procure modification of plumbing codes in the thickly populated areas along the Atlantic Seaboard, to strengthen the position of lead versus substitute materials. As you doubtless know, there has been a disturbing trend away from lead for many years which has militated against its widespread use in some parts of the average home plumbing system and has, therefore, decreased the volume of lead pipe and sheet used in plumbing.

The Directors of the Lead Industries Association felt that, unless some of the regulations at present unfavorable to lead were modified, it was illogical to expect any noticeable increase in the demand for lead plumbing supplies. Accordingly, in an economical way we have begun a modest but concerted effort to improve the status of lead in plumbing codes and, if our work meets with success, propose gradually to expand our field. Formerly, we only endeavored to correct situations where members may have requested assistance as in Washington and Buffalo.

In connection with our work in New Jersey, we have aroused so much interest that, during the week of May 15th, we were invited to be guests of the Master Plumbers Association of the State of New Jersey, at their Annual Convention in Atlantic City. On short notice we prepared an exhibit emphasizing some of the features of a plumbing code which we recommend - such as lead under bathroom floors, service lines and shower pans - and calling attention to the grave consequence for the plumbing craft which had attended the trend away from lead. We pointed out how the plumber had neglected to cultivate skill in the use of lead - which only a plumber can install properly - was encouraging incompetent craftsmen to engage in plumbing. As a result of our work a speech was delivered by one of the master plumbers, appealing to the convention to return to lead. A copy of this address is attached.

The combined effect of our educational work plus the exhibit which the master plumbers had a chance to see and the interest in the subject aroused by the lead speech on the floor of the convention, caused a resolution to be passed as follows: - the strongest endorsement in favor of lead I have ever seen by any plumbing organization:

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WHEREAS through standardization and simplification of connective devices in the plumbing field there has been a constant tendency to introduce and use threaded connections and unions requiring little technical ability beyond a strong arm and a wrench, thus lessening the knowledge and mechanical requirements for craftsmanship, and

WHEREAS the use of such devices has encouraged the employment of cheaper kinds of pipe and materials despite the known fact of their relatively short life when compared with lead which has been the plumbers' material since ancient days, to the detriment of the property owner in the lack of trouble free permanence of plumbing pipes and connections such as was his in the days of lead waste and round wiped solder plumbers joints; now therefore be it

RESOLVED by the New Jersey State Master Plumbers Association in Annual Meeting assembled at Atlantic City, (N.J.) this 20th day of May, 1933, that it is to the best interests of the property owner to have a plumbing system properly designed and installed with fixed connections and branch wastes and vents and with water services and water supplies of standard lead waste or water pipe of weights suitable for the several purposes, such pipe to be installed by journeymen plumbers skilled in the art of installing and connecting by means of round wiped plumbers joints; and to that end be it further

RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be placed in the hands of every member of this organization with request that the purpose of it be brought to the attention of the proper authorities in their several jurisdictions, to the end that the use of lead rough work and water supply be increased as rapidly and to as great an extent as may be possible.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the incoming Executive Committee and zone committee advance this resolution at their zone meetings.

The Secretary of the convention was instructed to communicate with the numerous local sections of master plumbers throughout New Jersey, requesting them individually to help restore lead to its rightful position in plumbing codes.

One result of this effort will be to facilitate our work in the State of New Jersey immensely. Moreover, it breaks the ice, so to speak, and enables us to approach the nearby States of New York, Pennsylvania, Connecticut and others with every prospect that we can duplicate the result in New Jersey. Although we haven't sufficient funds to pursue our work on a nation wide scale, we shall be very glad to help any member who has a local situation to meet where lead is not receiving adequate consideration.

Sincerely yours,

J. E. Wormser
Secretary.

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Gentlemen: - It affords me great pleasure to be granted this valuable opportunity to speak to you briefly upon the subject of ways and means to strengthen and secure our position in the plumbing field.

I appreciate the fact that our trade has greatly benefitted in recent years by the cooperation of manufacturers in the improvement of fixtures. I also realize that their interest in the plumber and in educating him in the art of estimating and salesmanship has been of material help to us. However, I feel that we, the members of our various associations, individually and collectively, have to our own detriment allowed much of the art and craft to drop right out of our trade, affecting our business and profits by encouraging unskilled competition. This we have done simply by standing by while our materials have been standardized and simplified to such an extent that the services of the skilled craftsman may be and often are entirely dispensed with.

Had this condition been accompanied by a corresponding improvement in the quality of plumbing installations we could find no fault, for our first consideration should be for the people we serve. But in many instances it has lead to less sanitary and less permanent installations, and to work done by incompetent handy men.

This deplorable state of affairs must not be permitted to continue and we must look to our associations for support and concerted effort in overcoming these conditions. One way to relieve the situation materially would be by the more extensive use of lead for the roughing in and for water services where possible. This can be accomplished by only slight revisions to plumbing codes in most cases, and some of our far sighted members have already accomplished much in this respect in their own towns. Such revisions not only restore to the plumber his art and protect his business, but improve certain parts of the plumbing system now permitted to be made entirely in galvanized iron pipe.

I wish to emphasize that the standardization of plumbing materials is highly commendable so long as it leads to improved plumbing and guarantees satisfactory workmanship. But I wish to conclude my talk to you, fellow members, with an earnest appeal for organized action in this direction, so that we may, in the very near future, be prepared to recover that very lucrative and desirable part of a work which is essentially ours.

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C O P Y

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
School of Public Health

55 Van Dyke Street
Boston, Mass.

April 30, 1933.

Mr. F.E. Wormser, Secretary
Lead Industries Association
New York.

Dear Mr. Wormser:

The following memorandum covers the chief points with regard to our recent conversation with reference to a rigid inquiry into the analytical determination of minute amounts of lead and the extent of the actual occurrence of lead in food and in human beings as a normal constituent.

Owing probably more than anything else to the very exact scientific study initiated and sustained by Dr. Aub in this field and to the interesting facts which he has established with respect to the behavior of lead in the organism, many other investigators have been attracted to the subject and some have sought to exploit it with papers and lectures which partake of sensationalism. While convincingly presented this material has frequently been unhampered by precise analytical work.

As one instance I refer to the question of "normal lead". If every man, woman and child is ingesting and contains the quantities of lead which one investigator says (in a series of papers to be published within the next few months) people will become "lead conscious" to an unfavorable degree. This is particularly unfortunate in view of the findings of Russel, Cone and Harwood of McGill University to be presented in Washington next month. These investigators have established - by means of carefully controlled and precise chemical investigations - a relation between lead and multiple sclerosis.

In the development of the chromate method of lead analysis we sought a method that would be at once simple and exact for the determination of lead in amounts of clinical importance and which furthermore would not require expensive apparatus, so that it could be used in the average clinical laboratory.

I now feel (1) that various other methods which have been reported must be rigorously investigated by the most refined chemical and physical means in order to establish their limitations and their exactness beyond all question, (2) that

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Mr. Wormser:

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the exact degree to which lead is a constituent of food should be known, and (3) that we should definitely know the extent to which lead is normally found in the body.

This investigation would require fully a year. I would want as an associate a chemist of Ph.D. grade trained in atomic weight work. The expense would be approximately as follows:

Salary of chemist for one year	\$2500
Hilger quartz spectrograph	2800
Field work, apparatus, special service	2500

For my part I would stop all other investigative work so as to give my entire attention to these problems, and there would be of course the facilities and supplies of our laboratories.

Yours sincerely,

Signed: Lawrence T. Fairhall