

LEAD INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

80 EAST 42ND STREET
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

January 10, 1958

QUARTERLY REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

OCTOBER 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1957

The following report covers the highlights of Association activities during the fourth quarter of 1957. More detailed information on these activities or others not enumerated will be supplied on request.

GENERAL

1. "Lead" - The last two 1957 issues of our quarterly "Lead" were sent to our mailing list of nearly 50,000 people.

2. Research Survey - The Technical Steering Committee of L.I.A. met at Battelle Institute in late October to hear and discuss a verbal report of the "Evaluation of Research Needs and Formulation of a Research Program" made by Battelle for L.I.A. The final printed report was received in early December, circulated to the Committee, and a meeting scheduled for its consideration on January 9, 1958.

3. "Lead and Lead Alloys" - The annual review of technical developments in lead and its products, bearing this title, appeared in the September, 1957, issue of "Industrial and Engineering Chemistry." It was reprinted and circulated to members in October, and is also being used to answer inquiries.

4. Battery Association - The Secretary attended the annual meeting of the Association of American Battery Manufacturers to maintain close and cordial relations with this industry composed of large consumers.

5. Annual Review - The Secretary prepared the Annual Review of Lead in 1957 for "Engineering and Mining Journal," as well as for "Steel" magazine, as usual.

6. Lead-Coated Conduit - L.I.A. has supplied samples of lead-coated steel pipe for testing, along with other materials, by Hammill Paper Co. for use as conduit in paper mills and other plants with corrosive conditions.

7. Publicity - A number of general publicity releases, as well as releases dealing with our specific promotional activities, were issued during the quarter and picked up by many papers and trade publications.

8. Activities for 1958 - Both the Industry Development Committee and Board of Directors met to act upon recommendations for 1958 activities and approved budgets for them.



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9. Research - The Directors approved preliminary organization steps toward a joint L.I.L. - A.Z.I. research set-up to be financed by lead and zinc producers on a world-wide basis and to provide for greatly expanded research activities. A committee of seven, including the presidents, secretaries, Technical Steering Committee chairmen and one additional member of both Associations was appointed to work out the details of organization.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

10. Red Lead Paints in Potable Water Tanks - In 1949 the Army questioned the safety of using red lead paints on the interiors of such tanks as the result of an opinion given by an official of the U.S. Public Health Service. Field tests sponsored by us caused the Army to withdraw its objections. Recently the controversy was reactivated by a manufacturer of a competitive paint and has led the American Water Works Association to consider revision of its specification which calls for the use of red lead. Fortunately our field testing has continued through the intervening years and is proving invaluable in refuting the adverse propaganda. However, at this time the matter remains undecided and we have been engaged in a series of meetings with A.W.W.A., U.S.P.H.S. and other officials in an effort to prove the safety of red lead under these conditions.

11. Childhood Lead Poisoning - Though the allegations relative to hazards to children from lead-painted toys, referred to in the report of the last quarter, appear to have been negated by statements issued by the Surgeon General of the Public Health Service and the American Academy of Pediatrics, the problem of plumbism in small children, mainly in the slum areas of our older cities, continues a serious and seemingly insoluble one. Caused by the chewing or picking off and ingesting of lead paints once widely used for interior decoration, it has been the source of adverse reports and publicity from such centers as Baltimore, Chicago and St. Louis and bids fair to bring about renewed pressure for legislation and regulation of a most unfortunate nature.

12. Warning Labels - Every effort is being made to confine the regulatory measures above referred to, to the field of warning labels, which, as applied to paints, are obviously less detrimental to our interests than would be any legislation of a prohibitory nature. Through our contacts with state and local health authorities, it is believed that this can be accomplished.

13. Threshold Limit for Lead in Air - The advance in the threshold limit for lead in air from 0.15 to 0.2 milligrams per cubic meter, first proposed by an American Standards Association subcommittee headed by our health and safety director and subsequently adopted by the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists, has been called into question and has recently been the subject of renewed discussion and correspondence. It is gratifying that we have been given the opportunity for an expression of opinion which should lead to a satisfactory outcome of the question.

14. Meetings Attended - Annual meetings attended during the quarter have included those of the Industrial Hygiene Foundation in Pittsburgh, the American Public Health Association in Cleveland, the Clinical Meeting of the American Medical Association in Philadelphia, and the American Mining Congress in New York City. Also attended were a number of local gatherings of the American Industrial Hygiene Association, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Manufacturing Chemists' Association and other groups.

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15. Sweet's Catalog - Preprints of the two four-page sections to appear in the 1958 Sweet's Architectural and Light Construction Catalogs were circulated to members and supplied in quantity to those requesting them. The Association has sufficient preprints to distribute at its booth at the National Home Builders Show in January, 1958, and to use in answering inquiries.

16. National Chemical Exposition - We exhibited at this show in December and were pleased with the interest shown in our display. Pictures of the booth were circulated to members. We have contracted for space at this show to be held in Chicago in September, 1958.

17. Lead Building Construction Bulletin No. 3 - This bulletin, dealing with lead laboratory wastes, was distributed to over 20,000 architects and others having to do with the design and specification of all kinds of chemical laboratories.

18. Construction Survey - We have contracted with the internationally known firm of architects and engineers, Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, to make a study of means to further develop the market for lead and lead products in building construction. The study is expected to get under way around the middle of January under the personal supervision of a general partner of that firm and to be completed in three or four months.

19. Home Builders Show - Our display used at the Chemical Exposition was re-designed and adapted for the Home Builders Show in Chicago where it will be used the week of January 19, 1958.

20. Activities for 1958 - The Advisory Committee of the Metallic Lead Products Division met to consider 1958 activities. It recommended that the survey mentioned in item 18 be undertaken and that pending a report of that survey activities be continued on the same basis as in 1957. These recommendations were approved by the Industry Development Committee and the Board of Directors.

21. Chemical Bulletin - A new Chemical Bulletin on the performance of lead equipment in the production of lead catalysts was circulated to members.

CERAMICS

22. Activities in 1958 - The Technical Steering Committee, Industry Development Committee and Board of Directors considered the recommendations of the Ceramics Technical Committee for 1958 activities and approved a substantially enlarged program. It provides for more advertising by adding two ceramic magazines to the two now being used. It also provides for six new graduate research fellowships in addition to the three established last year. Supplements to our ceramics manual and additional permanent college exhibits are included.

23. Supplement - The first supplement to "Lead in the Ceramics Industries" was circulated to all who have received the book. It greatly expanded the technical information available on glass colors.

24. Ceramics Technical Committee - This Committee met in December and established the theme of the advertising and supplements for 1958.

25. Advertising - Regular monthly page ads continued to appear in "Ceramic Industry" and "Bulletin of the American Ceramic Society."

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26. Another Supplement - A second supplement to "Lead in the Ceramic Industries," this one on low-temperature glasses, was approved by the Ceramics Technical Committee and is being readied for publication.

27. "Lead in the Ceramic Industries" Receives Printing Award - This book, published by L.I.A. about a year ago, has received a Certificate of Merit from the New York Employing Printers Association in their annual contest. The award will be presented during Printing Week Celebration, Jan. 13-17, 1958, at the Commodore Hotel, where it will be on display with other award winners. The award is made on the basis of design, printing quality, and over-all appearance and presentation of material. Our printers, Isaac Goldman Co. and L. I. A., who collaborated in production of the book, will each receive certificates.

RED LEAD

28. Activities in 1958 - The Industry Development Committee and Board of Directors approved an expanded program for 1958 based on recommendations of the Red Lead Technical Committee. It provides for more frequent page ads in color in "Engineering News Record," for publication of three new Red Lead Technical Letters, and for retaining a man part-time to contact highway engineers and other large metal protective paint users in the interest of red lead paint.

29. Consultant - Owen F. Shobe, who retired at the end of 1957 after 39 years with the Glidden Co., has been retained by L.I.A. as part-time consultant to provide paint engineering service to users of metal protective paints. He has been a member of the Red Lead Technical Committee since its organization in the early 1940's and is also a member of the Research Committee of the Steel Structures Painting Council.

30. A.W.W.A. Specification - The Red Lead Technical Committee met in December to consider the proposed revision of the American Water Works Association specification for the painting of potable water tank interiors. See Item 10 under Health and Safety for further particulars.

31. Steel Structures Painting Council - The chairman of our Red Lead Technical Committee attended a meeting of this group which dealt with a number of research projects involving red lead paint that the Council has under way.

RADIATION SHIELDING

32. A.S.T.M. Specifications - The A.S.T.M. Task Group, on which L.I.A. is represented, met for the first time in December to determine the good and basis for an A.S.T.M. specification on lead for radiation shielding. The subject is still under study by the group.

Respectfully submitted,



Secretary