

LEAD INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

60 EAST 42ND STREET

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

April 2, 1958

QUARTERLY REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

January 1 to March 31, 1958

The following report covers the highlights of Association activities during the first quarter of 1958. More detailed information on these activities or others not enumerated will be supplied on request. No attempt has been made herein to cover such routine activities as statistics, information bulletins, general publicity and the like.

GENERAL

1. "Lead" - The first 1958 issue of our quarterly went to press and will be mailed to our list of nearly 50,000 early in April. Sufficient funds were made available for this publication in 1958 to increase our mailing list substantially.

2. Research - The Technical Steering Committee met twice during the quarter. At the first meeting it evaluated the Battelle report and sent its evaluation to the Industry Development Committee. At the second meeting it drafted a specific research budget and transmitted its recommendations to the I.D.C. The latter Committee is scheduled to consider these recommendations on April 3rd.

3. Address - The Secretary addressed the Mineral Economics Division of the Society of Mining Engineers of A.I.M.E., at its annual meeting in New York and the Colorado Mining Association in Denver on the future possibilities of lead and market development and research plans of the Association.

4. A.B.M.S. Yearbook - The introductory summary of the 1957 lead situation was prepared for the Yearbook of the American Bureau of Metal Statistics.

5. Annual Reviews - The annual review of lead in 1957, prepared by the Secretary, appeared in "Engineering and Mining Journal" and reprints were distributed to members. A briefer review appeared in the January 6th issue of "Steel."

6. Expanded Research Organization - Several meetings of the organizing committee of seven representing both L.I.A. and American Zinc Institute were held and progress made toward establishment of an expanded joint research organization. Search for a research director is under way.

7. Technical Service - An additional technically trained man has been added to our staff and will permit us to provide broader technical service to users and potential users of lead.



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EXHIBIT

HEALTH AND SAFETY

8. Red Lead Paints in Potable Water Tanks - The adverse allegations relative to the safety of using red lead paints in coating the interiors of potable water supply tanks, mentioned in our last report, have continued to be a major problem. Though the seven-year study conducted for us by Dr. H. B. Elkins of Massachusetts and certain supplementary tests just completed by him have provided most valuable countervailing ammunition, we are still faced with the threat of an official governmental publication highly damaging to our interests. Efforts to adjust this difficulty have involved two recent conferences in Washington and one in Boston, as well as discussions with the American Water Works Association, the Steel Structures Painting Council and our own Red Lead Technical Committee.

9. Childhood Lead Poisoning - The seemingly unending problem of lead poisoning in small children, mainly confined to the slums of our older cities, is a continuing subject of study and preventive effort. Correspondence with the health authorities of four major cities have brought us the following 1957 figures: New York City 85 cases, 9 deaths; Baltimore 55 cases, 3 deaths; Philadelphia 32 cases, 3 deaths; Chicago 86 cases, 11 deaths; the last named a shockingly high fatality rate of 42.3 per cent. Though these numbers may not seem large, it must be borne in mind that every such case is a potential source of most damaging publicity, and that many of the surviving children may be permanently mentally retarded.

10. Warning Labels - Though the commercially motivated "Japanese toy" scare referred to in the last two quarterly reports was thought to have been successfully allayed, it has had its aftermath in a labeling law enacted by the State of Kansas and in similar enactments proposed by New Jersey and by the Board of Health of New York City. Efforts to secure modification of the two last are under way. At our request, six of our member companies which manufacture lead compounds and are not members of the Manufacturing Chemists' Association have been invited to send representatives to a Precautionary Labeling Conference to be held by the M.C.A. at Houston on April 30th.

11. Threshold Limit for Lead in Air - It was reported three months ago that 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, had been called into question. This discussion has now been satisfactorily resolved by the incorporation of the higher figure into a Hygienic Guide for Lead about to be issued by the American Industrial Hygiene Association. General acceptance of this increase of 33-1/3 per cent in the allowable limit, highly advantageous to our membership, seems thus assured.

12. Meetings and Visits - Attended during the quarter have been meetings of the Academy of Medicine in Washington, the Congress on Industrial Health of the A.M.A. in Milwaukee, the New England Hospital Assembly and a conference on Medical Control of Lead Workers under the joint auspices of the Massachusetts Division of Occupational Hygiene and the Committee on Industrial Health of the Massachusetts Medical Society, the two last in Boston. A medical representative of one of our members also participated in the Boston conference. Visits have included one each to a hospital, a union headquarters and a governmental agency, and three to installations of our members in Milwaukee, Chicago and Boston.

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13. Lead Hygiene Conference - Though any statement with regard to the program of our Lead Hygiene Conference to be held in Chicago on November 6th and 7th would be premature, preliminary arrangements have been made and 33 industrial medical men and hygienists, whose participation is particularly desired have received individual advance notification.

METALLIC LEAD PRODUCTS

14. N.A.C.E. Paper - A paper on the use of lead in chemical construction with particular reference to lead-acid brick linings was presented by our technical director before the National Association of Corrosion Engineers at its annual meeting in San Francisco.

15. Construction Survey - The survey of the use of lead in building construction by Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, architects and engineers, got under way in January.

16. Home Builders Show - We exhibited lead products used in home construction at the Home Builders Show in connection with the annual meeting of the National Association of Home Builders at Chicago.

17. Specification Writers - Mr. Borcina addressed the New York Chapter of the Construction Specification Institute on the proper use of lead in building construction and how to specify it.

18. Articles - Articles based on material supplied by the Association or reprinted from Association publications appeared in "Air Conditioning, Heating and Ventilating," "National Roofer," "Heating & Plumbing Engineer," and "Chemical Processing."

CERAMICS

19. Advertising - The new campaign comprising monthly one-page ads in "Ceramic Industry," "Ceramic Age," and "Bulletin" of the American Ceramic Society, and six pages in "Ceramic News" started in March and will continue through March, 1959.

20. Research - Arrangements have been completed for new graduate research fellowships at Rutgers, Illinois and Penn State in addition to continuation for another year of the existing fellowships at Rutgers, Illinois and Ohio State. Negotiations are in progress for additional fellowships at Alfred, California and Clemson.

21. Supplement - The second supplement to "Lead in the Ceramic Industries," dealing with low temperature glasses for bonding crystals, was printed and mailed.

22. Educational Displays - Twenty permanent educational displays on the use of lead in ceramics were completed. So far these have been offered to 18 accredited ceramic schools and in 10 days after the offering 12 acceptances were received. They were from Alfred, Illinois, Penn State, North Carolina State, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, West Virginia, Texas, Washington, Iowa State, Missouri School of Mines, Utah and Rutgers.

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RED LEAD

23. Research - A new series of exposure tests involving a new wetting additive for red lead paints and combinations of red lead and lead silico-chromate have been initiated by the Red Lead Technical Committee.

24. Field Work - A new program of technical service in the field has been started. Contacts are being made with highway engineers, government officials and other large users and specifiers of metal protective paints with offers of assistance in solving their painting problems in terms of red lead.

25. Advertising - Our new campaign of 11 one-page ads in two colors in "Engineering News-Record" started in February to run through December, 1958.

26. A.W.W.A. Specifications - Efforts were continued to defend the red lead specifications jointly with our Health and Safety Division. See Item 6, Health and Safety.

27. Article - A three-page article on maintenance painting with red lead appeared in the Canadian publication, "Manufacturing and Industrial Engineering" as a part of L.I.A.'s publicity program.

RADIATION SHIELDING

28. Clearance - Steps are being taken to obtain secret "Q" clearance for a second member of our staff.

29. Field Work - A number of visits to installations involving the use of lead were made and considerable valuable data obtained. The data are being used for publicity purposes. Some new applications have been unearthed and will be publicized.

30. Atom Fair - We were represented at the annual Atom Fair held this year in Chicago.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert L. Ziegler
Secretary.