

LEAD INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

480 LEXINGTON AVENUE

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

July 2, 1956

QUARTERLY REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

April 1 to June 30, 1956

The following report covers the highlights of Association activities during the second quarter of 1956. More detailed information on these activities or others not enumerated herein will be supplied on request.

GENERAL

1. Annual Meeting - The second joint Annual Meeting with the American Zinc Institute was held in St. Louis on April 24 and 25. Minutes and copies of all papers and reports have been made available to members.

2. A.C.S. Monograph - Work on the Monograph on Lead is progressing. Authors have now been obtained for well over half the material and a few sections are already in our hands.

3. Encyclopedia Americana - The section on lead for this work was prepared and was so well received by the editors that three times as much space will be devoted to lead in the new edition as in the past.

4. Cable Sheathing - Prior to a visit by one of its members to Europe, the Cable Sheathing Task Group again met to outline suggestions for research that foreign cable press manufacturers might pursue.

5. Industry Development Committee - This Committee met and generally agreed in principle that producers of pig lead alone should be responsible for financing industry development activities of the L.I.A. in the future.

6. Radiation Shielding - A bulletin was sent to members calling attention to the availability of a new Reactor Shielding Design Manual prepared by the Atomic Energy Commission.

7. Storage Battery Conference - As usual the Association was represented at the annual Storage Battery Conference sponsored by the Signal Corps and a report of the conference was made to members.

8. A.B.M.S. Yearbook - The introduction for the lead section of the Yearbook of the American Bureau of Metal Statistics was prepared and other information was supplied.

9. Building Science Directory - Copy for a page on the services offered the building industry by L.I.A. was supplied for this Directory to be issued by Building Research Institute of the National Academy of Sciences and National Research Council.

10. Association of American Battery Manufacturers - The Annual Meeting of this Association, representing the largest lead consuming industry, was attended by the secretary of L.I.A.



HEALTH AND SAFETY

11. Plumbism Reporting - Pursuant to a New Jersey legislative enactment requiring that lead poisoning be reported to state authorities, a request has come from the Department of Health of that state for assistance in preparing a form for this purpose. The opportunity to minimize hardship to our New Jersey members through simplification of reporting procedure has not been ignored.

12. "EDTA" - A bulletin dealing with EDTA therapy was mailed to members and efforts continue to promote proper use of this potent drug. An inquiry in behalf of one of our Australian members, looking toward possible EDTA research in that country, has called for the expenditure of a somewhat unusual quota of time and effort.

13. Effect of Altitude on Plumbism - Arising from unexplained incidence of plumbism in a manufacturing plant in Colorado, an inquiry was received as to whether accelerated respiration rates at altitudes of 6,000 feet and over might be causative of increased susceptibility to this occupational disease. To focus data and informed opinions on this question, an informal conference was held in Philadelphia with Dr. A. M. Baetjer of Baltimore, Dr. M. R. Mayers of New York, Dr. S. S. Pinto of Denver, Dr. P. S. Richards of Salt Lake City, Dr. T. L. Shipman of Los Alamos and our health and safety director, as participants, and a discussion was subsequently arranged with Dr. Hugo Chiodi of Argentina, a leading authority on the effects of high altitudes on human physiology, currently in this country. The conclusion was reached that the factor of altitude alone would be most unlikely to have any influence on the incidence of lead intoxication.

14. Air Pollution - Cooperating actively with the Associated Industries of New York State, our members having manufacturing installations in this state have been apprised of a current effort to secure modification of air pollution bills scheduled for consideration at the next legislative session, and they have been urged to participate therein.

15. Expert Testimony on Lead Poisoning - Reference was made in the last quarterly report to expert medical defense testimony having been furnished at our suggestion in a Maryland court case based on allegations of lead poisoning caused by paint. This was repeated in May in a North Carolina case, the lead product indicted in this instance being litharge.

16. Meetings Related to Health and Safety - Annual meetings attended by the health and safety director during the quarter have included those of the American Industrial Hygiene Association, the American Medical Association and the National Tuberculosis Association. Material was furnished for a lecture at the N.T.A. meeting.

17. Health and Safety Inquiries - It is perhaps of interest to note that, of the inquiries on subjects of health and safety responded to during the quarter, 29 percent came from physicians, 29 percent from member companies, 20 percent from non-member companies, 10 percent from universities, and 12 percent from miscellaneous sources.

CERAMICS

18. Manual on Lead in Ceramics - The draft of the text for the Manual on Lead in Ceramics was completed and will probably go to the printers in July. The intention is to distribute it in September after the summer holiday season. The Ceramic Technical Committee met once during this period.

19. Address at Ceramic Meeting - An address on "The Future Availability of Lead Supplies" was prepared by the secretary for delivery before the Annual Meeting of the American Ceramic Society. Because of a conflict with L.I.A.'s own Annual Meeting, it was delivered for the author by Dr. John C. Koenig, head of the Rutgers School of Ceramics and consultant to L.I.A.

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20. Porcelain Enamel Institute - So important does the P.E.I. consider the future of porcelain enameled aluminum that it has organized an Aluminum Division, which held its first annual meeting in Cleveland. It was attended by the secretary, since this may become an important outlet for lead, and both the aluminum and porcelain enameling industries expressed great confidence in the future of this product. It was announced that a new building on Fifth Avenue, New York, will have 60,000 sq. ft. of this material on its exterior walls.

METALLIC LEAD PRODUCTS

21. Lead Building Construction Bulletin - The first of this new series of bulletins was issued and mailed to about 17,000 architects and 5,000 building contractors and others interested in construction. It dealt with lead connections to water closets and similar fixtures. It was also mailed to about 10,000 plumbing contractors with a letter suggesting how these Bulletins might be used in their negotiations with architects. Over 500 extra copies have been requested by members for their own use.

22. Plumbing Exhibit - The Association exhibited at the Annual Convention of the National Association of Plumbing Contractors in the Milwaukee Auditorium. Featured were the use of lead in combination with conventional cast iron and newer copper, apprentice training, ready-to-install lead plumbing with the union label, and X-ray room linings.

23. Lead as an Engineering Material - For the sixth successive year two lectures on this subject were delivered before more than 100 graduate students at the Newark College of Engineering.

24. Corrosion Control in the Chemical Industry - At a symposium on this subject in Buffalo sponsored by the local section of the National Association of Corrosion Engineers and the University of Buffalo, a staff member delivered the lecture on lead.

25. "Plumbers' Forum" - One issue was published during this period and mailed to about 25,000 plumbing contractors, journeymen, instructors, inspectors and jobbers.

26. Article for "Journal of Plumbing, Heating and Air Conditioning" - An article describing the contributions of the Association and the lead industry to plumbing was prepared for the 75th anniversary issue of this magazine to appear in August.

RED LEAD PAINTS

27. Red Lead Technical Committee - The Red Lead Technical Committee met for an inspection of its exposure tests at Sayville. It also completed work on the newest Red Lead Technical Letter which will be distributed in the early Fall.

28. Red Lead Article - Material was supplied the editors of "Factory Management and Maintenance" on the painting of galvanized surfaces with red lead. This material was the basis of an article in the April issue of that magazine.