68 Wrecking Work on Bridges as Cause of Severe Lead Poisoning.
K. Humperdinck. Med. Klin. 44, 841-848 (June 30, 1949) German.

The high temperature of the welding torch used in wrecking bridges vaporized the lead on the paint covering the iron work and produced lead oxide vapors. One man engaged in the work suddenly experienced paresis in both legs, generalized weakness and mental irritability. No lead line was visible on the gums, but a grayish pallor and changes in the blood picture suggested lead poisoning. Removal from exposure and administration of vitamin B and ascorbic acid was followed by considerable improvement. One other man who had done the same type of work for eight months showed signs of lead poisoning. Another, who had worked for four months showed no changes. Severe types of lead poisoning have been observed in men who do similar work in the wrecking of ships. -- J. Am. Med. Assoc.

69 Solubility of Lead Compounds in Human Pleural Fluid and Blood Serum.
G.C. Harrold. J. Ind. Hyg. & Toxicol. 31, 327-335 (Nov. 1949).

The solubility of lead oxide and lead carbonate in human lung fluid and blood serum has been found to be comparable to that observed with other animal serum when temperature, solvent media and other different factors are considered. Solubility of these compounds is of a higher order than that found for the chromate and the titanate. The solubility of the purified insoluble lead salts, such as the chromate and the titanate, in body fluids will vary from that of impure commercial products, owing to the greater solubility of the impurities in lung fluid and blood serum. The fact is complicated by the influence of impurities on solubility due to common ion effects. In triple distilled water, impure lead titanate is over twice as soluble as purified lead titanate. In the case of impure chromate, the solubility is lowered because of the soluble chromate ion impurities. -- Condensed from Author's Summary

70 Cardiovascular Changes in Industrial Lead Poisoning. L. D'Ambrosio.
Folia Med. 32, 241-256 (1949) Italian.

Among thirty-five subjects with lead poisoning four had generalized sclerosis, seven prevalence of aortic lesions, nine myocardial damage, some with coronary involvement and fibrillations. -- Chem. Absts.

71 Plumbism Simulating Acute Appendicitis. E.L. Coodley
Ann. Western Med. & Surgery 3, 42-46 (1949).

A man of 38 showed symptoms of appendicitis, with aching of arms, elbow joints, and back, but no fever. An appendectomy was performed, but no evidence of acute or sub-acute inflammation was found. The man had worked for three years in a lead factory. Evidences of plumbism found were, a black line on the gums, abnormal blood, lead and porphyrin in the urine. No abnormal basophilic stippling was found. The author's discussion of the etiology of plumbism and its manifestations gives no new information which would help to distinguish between plumbism and appendicitis.
-- Condensed from Bull. Hyg.