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Archives Center - NMAH

Leo Baekeland Diary Volume 17, 1915

Extracted on Apr-18-2024 09:23:29

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124

April 11-1915 (Sunday). Rather heavy warm weather. Day spent reading and sleeping. Rest needed.

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April 12. All day in Brooklyn experiments for affidavit before patent office. Charge one day. Evening there is meeting of Inventors Guild. Ward Leonard has died since last meeting. After ending meeting I gave short talk about past and future of Photochemistry. Mr. West of Bethlehem Steel Company tells us that his company has accepted order for over a 1000 guns for France, each gun costing \$27000. delivered to begin in 4 months and latest deliveries as late as 18 months. This does not look as if war is to be over soon.

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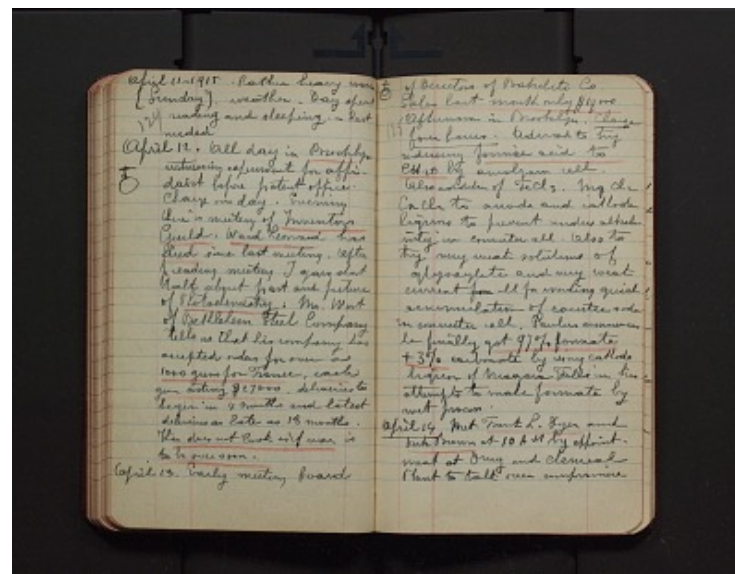
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125

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April 13. Early meeting board of Directors of Bakelite Co. Sales last month only \$19000. Afternoon in Brooklyn. Charge four hours. to try reducing formic acid to CH₂O by cell. Also addition of FeCl₃. MgCl CnCl₂ to erode and to prevent alkolinity in converter cell. Also to try very weak solutions of glyoglate and very weak current for avoiding quick accumulation of soda in connector cell. Paulus announces he finally got 97% formate + 3% carbonate by using cathode of Niagara Falls in his attempts to make formate by wet process.

April 14 Met Frank L. Dyer and Kirk Brown at 10 AM by appointment at Drug and Chemical Plant to talk over compromise



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