



Smithsonian Institution

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Leo Baekeland Diary Volume 57, 1936 to 1937

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Afterwards went to visit Lowe in his office.

Bound Brook buildings

The upper floors of this building, which were put up at great expense and contrary to my orders, are now vacant since contrary to the belief of Rossi, the 3 Browns etc. that our main office should be in Bound Brook; - which George and I resisted. On the contrary we have now 2 floors of Bakelite at 247 Park Ave. and vacant rooms at Bound Brook. Invited Lowe, Brannon, Oates and Molinari at the Restaurant for luncheon. Then further inspection of plant. New building for Resibond is completed and extensive steel caged coating machine is now being installed. Called their attention as to possible danger of explosions of alcohol vapor caused by static electric sparks and recommended equipment to prevent this. Plant, storage rooms, and whole equipment, much improved and standardised according to modern standard, everywhere, and in better order. Building and yards well kept. Number of Automobiles parked near entrance and belonging to our employes has very much increased and gives sign of present improved conditions.

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We are now the largest consumers of formaldehyde, phenol, cresol, xylol and many other products. Am greatly impressed how the industry I created with such small beginnings has developed so much here and in other countries.

Back at Snug Rock at 6 P.M.

Aug 1. Pleasant weather. Spent morning writing letters, and studying various pending subjects. Restful beautiful day, without visitors. Excellent music on Radio.

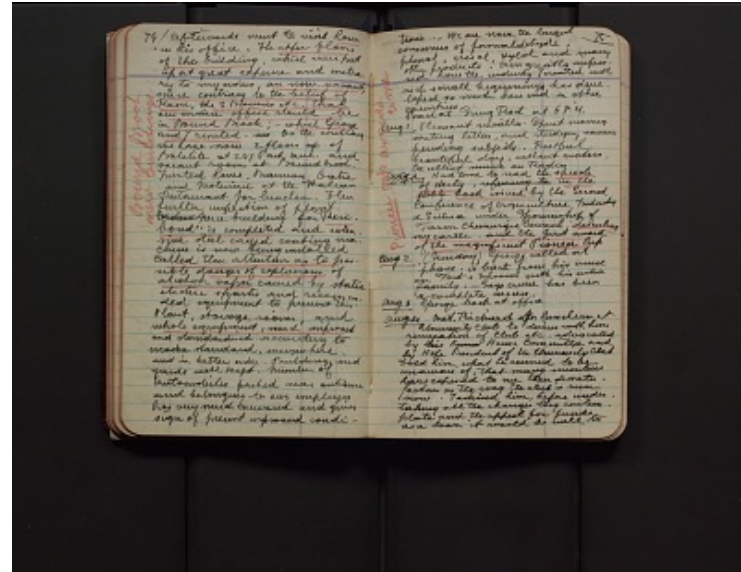
Pioneer cup awarded to me

Had time to read the speech of Herty, in the book issued by the Second Conference of Agriculture, Industry & Science under Sponsorship of Farm Chemurgic Council; describing my career, and the first award of the magnificent Pioneer Cup.

Aug 2. (Sunday) George called at phone, is back from his cruise on Ford's Schooner with his entire family. - Says cruise has been a complete success.

Aug 3 George back at office

Aug 4 Met Rickard after luncheon at University Club to discuss with him renovation of Club etc. advocated by this House Committee and by Hope President of the University Club. Told him, what he seemed to be unaware of, that many members have expressed to me their dissatisfaction on the way the club is run now. I advised him, before undertaking all the changes they contemplate and the appeal for funds as a loan it would be well to



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