

## PITTSBURGH CORNING CORPORATION

Myrl M. Stout

C. L. Kelly

Tyler - Union Meeting

May 31, 1966

On Wednesday, May 25, 1966, we met with E. R. McAdams, International Representative and the local committee to informally discuss two items stated to be unsafe conditions. One involved a mill which was slow in opening and the other was accumulation of material on the building floor which was claimed to have resulted in back injuries to employees.

The mill in question is slow in opening when a release is tripped. This was covered in detail; the release operation was described as a protection to the mill in case of plugging and that no hazard to the employees existed.

The presence of hard material on the building floor resulted from the nature of the operations and was taken care of on a routine basis. It is possible that the build-up could be eliminated at more frequent intervals than at present. We did not, however, give this as a reply to the union.

The safety record at Tyler was reviewed and the causes of the recent injuries reported to the union. It appeared there was no support for the claim floor conditions were resulting in back injuries.

From the discussions, it was readily apparent there are serious inadequacies in the safety efforts. The impression was gathered, that, from the employee standpoint, no safety program exists. Safety suggestions from employees were stated to be not acted upon and inquiries as to their status were ignored.

Complaints were received on housekeeping. Unfortunately, they were well founded. Hydraulic systems on the lift trucks were badly leaking. Over-flowing carburetors were resulting in pools of gasoline accumulating under the trucks when idle. One such case occurred just prior to the end of our meeting and was observed when the union group and part of the management group began a plant tour.

A complaint was received on electrical hazards, with the question raised as to the qualifications of the maintenance people responsible for electrical repairs. It was stated that one night employees were using a wooden stick to punch the on-off buttons on a machine. This had been repaired.

The nature of the complaints were such that we must place in effect a formal safety program as quickly as possible. This program should include the following:

1. Safety suggestions, with a report back to the suggestors as to the action taken or the reason why no action could be taken.

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2. The establishment of a management safety committee with regular safety meetings to review and take action on:
  - a) Safety suggestions
  - b) Pattern of injuries
  - c) Housekeeping
  - d) Findings of Plant Inspections conducted on a regular, continuing basis.
  - e) Hazards arising out of worn equipment, work habits and the nature of the process.
3. Departmental safety meetings, held on a regular and continuing basis.
4. Proper reporting of the results of each meeting of the management safety committee.
5. Responsibility for the safety program to be delegated to Mr. C. E. vanHorne who should serve as Chairman of the Safety Committee.
6. Continuing follow-up of all suggestions, investigations and departmental safety meetings.
7. Involvement of all supervisors in a continuing emphasis on safety.

Much of the above has been discussed with Mr. McMillan and Mr. vanHorne. I have asked them to report to us in detail of the procedures established to set-up a formal safety program. Full details of the Sedalia safety program were sent to Tyler some time ago, and other assistance can be supplied as required.

The lift truck problem can be eased considerably by the replacement of the worst of the trucks. It is my understanding that two trucks are due for replacement this year. Greater attention to the remaining trucks should help to eliminate the oil and gasoline spills.

In view of the over-all maintenance requirements, and the need to return to a 40 hour work week, it appears a third Maintenance Man should be added as quickly as possible.

Yours truly,

*C. L. Kelley*  
C. L. Kelley

cc: J. W. McMillan  
C. E. vanHorne  
CLX/rh

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