

Manufacturing Chemists' Association, Inc.

(FOUNDED 1872)

1825 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20009

OHC-10

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting

Offices of Celanese Corporation, New York City
June 14, 1967

PRESENT

W. L. Sutton, M.D., Chairman
E. E. Christofano
C. U. Dernehl, M. D.
E. M. Dixon, M.D.
Mac Roy Gasque, M. D.
H. H. Golz, M. D.
L. C. Haslam, M. D.
G. J. Levinskis
W. E. McCormick
R. W. McNab
J. A. Pendergrass
G. J. Stopps, M. D.
T. R. Torkelson
J. H. Wolfsie, M. D.
F. G. Stephenson, Secretary

Eastman Kodak Company
Hercules Incorporated
Union Carbide Corporation
Celanese Corporation
Olin Mathieson Chemical Corporation
American Cyanamid Company
Canadian Industries Limited
American Cyanamid Company
The B. F. Goodrich Company
Wyandotte Chemicals Corporation
Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing Co.
E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Company
The Dow Chemical Company
Uniroyal
Manufacturing Chemists Association

GUEST

W. M. Dixon, M.D.

Fisons Ltd. (representing Medical Committee
of Chemical Industries Association
of the U.K.)

ABSENT

N. V. Hendricks
M. N. Johnson, M. D.

Standard Oil Company (New Jersey)
Monsanto Company

Chairman W. L. Sutton opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. He introduced Dr. W. M. Dixon of Fisons Limited, Harvest House, Felixstone, Suffolk, England, who was attending as a guest. Dr. Dixon, responding to the chairman's remarks, extended greetings to the Occupational Health Committee from the Medical Committee of the Chemical Industries Association of the U.K. and hoped appropriate liaison could be established between the two committees. This matter was discussed and exchange of minutes was thought, in most cases, to be possible.

1. Minutes of the May 15, 1967 meeting were approved as distributed.
2. Occupational Health Workshops

The committee discussed the response to the questionnaire which had been sent to approximately half of the persons who attended the March 14 workshop.

CMA 039808

It was voted to use the same format at the next workshop despite arguments that a more "organized" format, including speeches on selected topics, be developed.

The chairman appointed Mac Roy Gasque and G. J. Levinskas to prepare a recommendation for the date and place of the next workshop.

Revision of the publicity folder was considered desirable in order to more specifically define the audience and the objectives of the workshop.

The secretary advised that an invitation had been received from Ohio to hold a workshop in that State. It was considered that since the first had been in Dearborn, Michigan, and that a number of persons from Ohio had attend some other location for the second workshop is desirable.

4. Epidemiological Study

It was reported that, at the request of the University of Michigan, the contract had been revised to extend the completion date from June 30 to August 31, 1967.

It is understood that most of the plant visits have been completed and that the submission of X-ray photographs and completion of questionnaires by participating companies has gone according to plan.

Mr. McCormick advised that a B.F. Goodrich Company article has been accepted by the American Medical Association for early publication. A second article is being prepared at the Kettering Institute dealing with clinical aspects. This will also be submitted to AMA for publication.

It was agreed, on the recommendation of the chairman, that members of the OHC task group (C.U. Dernehl, W. E. McCormick and J. H. Wolfsie) should visit Dr. Magnuson at the University of Michigan to discuss the progress of the study.

5. Subcommittee Reports

Reports were made on behalf of the Industrial Hygiene, Medical and Toxicology Subcommittees. A recommendation that a questionnaire be prepared and sent to member companies requesting detailed information on company medical and industrial hygiene organizations and practices was discussed at length. Some considered a questionnaire necessary if the committee is to move in the right direction. Others questioned the value of a questionnaire and considered that the results would simply support, statistically, facts which are already known. In lieu of a questionnaire it was recommended that committee documents describing recommended health organizational practices and listing sources of information be prepared

Following the discussion which continued to reveal divergencies of opinion, a motion was carried that no action be taken at the present meeting, and that each subcommittee should prepare a detailed list of proposed activities in its specific area of interest. These lists, when approved by the subcommittee involved, should be forwarded to the secretary for distribution to the whole committee prior to the next meeting.

Toxicology Information

Mr. E. E. Christofano stated that a preliminary approach has been made to the Director of the Advisory Center on Toxicology of the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences regarding the possibility that the Council, through its Advisory Center, would respond to toxicology questions raised by MCA on behalf of member companies. The proposal, if developed, would involve financial support by MCA of the toxicological activities of the Council. It is not known whether such sponsorship by an industrial group would be acceptable since current sponsorship is entirely by military and other U.S. Government groups.

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend no further action at this time and that the MCA Subcommittee on Toxicology should, prior to the next meeting, prepare a statement as to the anticipated needs of the chemical industry for toxicological information and as to the capability (and willingness) of the Council to provide the necessary service.

6. Statement on Air Quality Criteria

A draft statement for an Association policy on ambient air quality criteria prepared by the Air Quality Committee was distributed to committee members on March 30, 1967 for comment. Responses were now discussed.

Some members believed that the air quality criteria contained in the draft were satisfactory since they would not result in adverse health effects. However, it was generally agreed that the levels suggested would probably result in public complaints of odor and irritation, and that the effects of such adverse sensory responses may not be known. It was pointed out that the proposed concentration criteria are higher than those proposed by other groups.

Dr. C. U. Dernehl agreed to prepare a statement to this effect for transmittal to the Air Quality Committee.

7. Election of Officers

The committee voted to propose to the Board of Directors that the following officers be appointed for a two year period June 1967 - June 1969.

Chairman: C. U. Dernehl, M.D.

Vice Chairman: E. M. Dixon, M. D.

8 Membership(a) Resignations

The following resigned from the committee in accordance with the rotation policy contained in the rules of organization and procedure:

H. H. Golz, M. D., American Cyanamid Company
L. C. Haslam, M.D., Canadian Industries Limited
W. L. Sutton, M. D., Eastman Kodak Company

(b) Appointments

It was resolved to recommend to the Board of Directors that Dr. F. Drennan Gassaway of Gulf Oil Corporation be appointed a member of the committee.

Other official nominations for membership will be considered as received.

9. Threshold Limit Values

Dr. W. M. Dixon stated that the British government adopts ACGIH threshold limit values for use in the U.K. and requested cooperation of the OHC when the TLV for any particular commodity is being questioned. It was stressed, in response to Dr. Dixon's statement, that only quantitative experience data is acceptable to the ACGIH committee and that other statements not based on quantitative facts are usually rejected. It was agreed to maintain liaison between CIA and MCA in this matter by exchanging copies of any correspondence addressed to ACGIH.

10. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on a date to be selected from September 14, September 28 or October 3. It will be held in Michigan if this is considered desirable, otherwise in Washington, D. C.

11. Vote of Thanks to Retiring Chairman

Members gave a standing ovation to Dr. W. L. Sutton who has served the committee so well and so wisely both as a member and as chairman.

Minutes subject to approval

FGS:cm
6/16/67