

Manufacturing Chemists' Association, Inc.

(FOUNDED 1872)

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

MINUTES OF MEETING

PLASTICS COMMITTEE

Baltusrol Golf Club
Springfield, New Jersey
May 5, 1966

PRESENT:

Messrs. W. C. Brown (Chairman), Hercules Incorporated
G. L. Pitzer (Vice Chairman), Union Carbide Corporation
R. G. Askew, Phillips Petroleum Company
E. S. Ebers, U. S. Rubber Company
J. E. Donalds (for W. C. Goggin), The Dow Chemical Company
G. M. Hale, Shawinigan Chemicals Limited
C. A. Setterstrom (for R. M. Knight), Rexall Chemical Co.
L. B. Kuhn, Firestone Plastics Company
T. B. Nantz, B. F. Goodrich Chemical Company
F. H. Carman (Committee Secretary), MCA

and

W. F. Bartoe (Chairman, Weatherability Project Steering
Committee), Rohm and Haas Company

Plastics Financial Package

Costs for this fiscal year should be within the estimates previously circulated to the Committee. Question was raised on the need for continued memberships in the three leading national conferences of building officials (approximately \$800 per year annual fees), and support of the West Coast consultant through the SPI (\$2,500 per year), since most activities in the building field had been turned over to the SPI's Plastics in Construction Council. It was the general consensus that these expenditures may no longer be appropriate, and it was agreed the SPI Council would be consulted as to whether these should be continued. Mr. Pitzer agreed to assist in making this contact with the SPI.

Taking into account the anticipated surplus and level of assessments in the previous year, it had been estimated an 8 per cent increase in fees would be required. Following discussion, motion was made that the assessments for the next fiscal year be in the range of \$485 minimum to \$5675 maximum (an increase of 8 per cent over the 1965-66 range). This was duly seconded and passed unanimously.

MCA Semi-Annual Meeting

The Committee reviewed suggestions made in the past year regarding a panel program that would be oriented specifically on plastics. The pros and cons of such a session in the Semi-Annual Meeting were considered at length. There was no unanimity of opinion that a panel specifically on plastics would be appropriate for an MCA meeting; but, if the Program Committee specifically asks about a panel of this nature, it would again be reviewed. During this discussion, the Committee suggested the Program Committee might well consider panels on chemical marketing, GATT negotiations, oil import regulations for petrochemical operations, FTC position on joint ventures, FDA regulations on chemical additives, and capital investments in relation to balance of payments.

New Committee Nominees

The Nominating Committee, composed of Glenn L. Pitzer, Chairman, Earle S. Ebers, and Frank M. Norton, recommended: (1) E. J. Sullivan of Borden Chemical, D. C. Williams of Eastman Chemical, and H. B. Sutherland of Shell Chemical to replace Messrs. Knight, Kuhn, and Richards, respectively, who have completed their two-year terms; (2) John Ryan of Hercules to fill the unexpired term (one year) of Werner Brown, who is resigning at the close of this fiscal year; and (3) Thomas B. Nantz of B. F. Goodrich Chemical to be the Vice Chairman of the Committee in the next fiscal year. These nominees were approved by the Committee and will be reported to the membership in advance of the June meeting.

SOCMA News Release on Plastics

Attention was called to the news release covering a study by members of the SOCMA Plastics and Resins Task Force (another copy is being supplied each member with these minutes). In limited discussion it was mentioned that in regard to GATT negotiations affecting plastic materials, this release stated that foreign concessions are not likely to increase U. S. exports. This position on increasing U. S. exports is consistent with the Association's statement to the Trade Information Committee and in hearings on the Trade Expansion Act of 1962; however, no objection was taken to the 50 per cent reduction of domestic duties as long as reciprocity is obtained, and the Association generally endeavored to support the Act in principle. Members were then reminded that U. S. exports of plastics and resins are far in excess of imports (\$424 million versus \$40 million); and, although imports increased 29.3% while exports increased but 8.8% in 1965, there is still an

exceedingly favorable trade balance. Very few industries have such a favorable position. Members were asked to review this news release for further discussion in the June meeting.

Weatherability Project

Dr. W. F. Bartoe, Chairman of the Steering Committee, reported that the administration of the program at the NBS had been materially improved through consultations with Dr. W. W. Walton, Chief of the Materials and Composite Section of the Bureau's Institute for Applied Technology, and with the Research Associates. Shortly after June 1, the Steering Committee plans to re-evaluate the project progress from the standpoint of administration and leadership. In discussing the objectives, Dr. Bartoe stressed the importance of finding ways of reliably accelerating the types of failure found in weather. He stated that immediate attention is being given to use of high-intensity light sources to detect the onset of failure and the factors of the weather that are known to cause failure. Even though within the next year a "black box" for evaluating all plastic materials in accelerated test methods may not be possible, it still may be feasible to have a test or tests which with certain adjustments will be useful for different generic types of materials. This in part can be based on information already available on the first weathering effects on various plastic materials and those types which have a good history of weather resistance.

By March 1967 it is expected that definite information on the importance of various components of radiation, the effect of atmospheric contaminants, specific limits on UV effect on thin materials, and the general effects of infrared and heat on aging can be evaluated.

The Chairman then reminded the Committee that a "hard look" is to be taken of this project in March 1967 and asked for comments on the program. It was brought out that (1) generally, the advantages of the program outweigh the disadvantages for a group activity of this nature; (2) there is considerable data available in the various members' laboratories which would be useful in the project; on this it was pointed out that considerable information has already been supplied but that continued liaison with member company laboratories could prove very useful; (3) one comment stressed the need for making sure those on the job are following the right avenues of research, that the objectives are good for the industry, and support is correct on the part of the industry. Several joined in this latter comment.

The discussion was concluded with the following resolution unanimously adopted: The Plastics Committee wishes to express

appreciation to the Steering Committee and the Liaison Committee for their attention being given this project. The importance of this program and the fact that it is a big undertaking for the industry is recognized; and, to those working on the program as well as members of the steering group, the Committee wishes to reiterate their continued interest and support of the project.

Miscellaneous

Following discussion, it was concluded that the fall meeting should continue at Oyster Harbors with the same general format and attendance limitation as in the past.

To assist in awarding of prizes for the Golf Tournament at Baltusrol, the Chairman had requested the assistance of Messrs. D. P. Jones of Shell and Zenas Crocker of Nixon-Baldwin Division of Tenneco Chemicals.

The next meeting of the Committee will be June 9 breakfast at the Greenbrier, and it was understood this is to include present and new Committee members for the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,

F H Carman

F. H. Carman, Secretary
Plastics Committee

FHC/bk

Enclosure

cc: Plastics Committee -

Members and Alternates

New Committee Members

Dr. W. F. Bartoe

Mr. Lloyd Symington

Mr. Harry B. Warner, Board Liaison

May 16, 1966