

Manufacturing Chemists' Association, Inc.

(FOUNDED 1878)

1825 Connecticut Avenue, N. W.

WASHINGTON 9, D. C.

MINUTES OF MEETING

PLASTICS COMMITTEE

January 9, 1962

Manhattan Club, New York City

PRESENT:

Walter H. Salzenberg (Chairman),
E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co.
Martin Buck, Shell Chemical Company
H. R. Dinges, Spencer Chemical Company
John R. Eck, Monsanto Chemical Company
W. B. Humes, Union Carbide Plastics Company
T. J. Kinsella, Allied Chemical Corporation
E. L. Kropscott (for W. C. Goggin), Dow Chemical Company
A. R. Marusi, Borden Chemical Company
T. T. Miller, W. R. Grace & Co.
K. J. Nelson, Enjay Chemical Company
E. A. Terray (for H. W. Mason, Jr.), Reichhold Chemicals, Inc.
Glen Perry, E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co.
(Liaison-MCA Public Relations Advisory Committee)
Robert W. Boggs, Union Carbide Plastics Company
(SPI Public Relations Committee)
Lloyd Symington, MCA Counsel (Afternoon only)
William Demarest, Manufacturing Chemists' Association
F. H. Carman, Manufacturing Chemists' Association

Minutes of November 14, 1961 were approved.

PUBLIC RELATIONS LIAISON

Messrs. Glen Perry (Chairman, MCA Public Relations Advisory Committee) and Robert Boggs (Chairman, SPI Public Relations Committee) were guests of the Committee, particularly to discuss this subject.

The proposal of Mr. Perry had been discussed in previous meetings and a memorandum, submitted in the November session, was reviewed. Mr. Boggs voiced the opinion that designation of a man to act as liaison, as now proposed, would be a step in the right direction so far as liaison with the SPI was concerned, assuming a competent individual is so designated. He felt that such a procedure would insure against duplication of effort and guard against conflicting positions.

CMA 078484

A motion was then made that a public-relations representative be designated to meet with the Plastics Committee on a trial basis as proposed by PRAC Chairman Glen Perry and, on being duly seconded, this was passed unanimously.

The group then discussed procedures for appointment of this representative and questioned MCA policy as to whether or not the Plastics Committee could nominate a representative from the PRAC. Here it was emphasized there is no formal policy or procedure and that some mutually satisfactory working arrangement should be possible. Following discussion on proposals already made regarding a representative, motion was made that Mr. Emery Cleaves of Celanese be invited to sit with the Committee in this capacity for the balance of the fiscal year during which time the feasibility of this plan can be explored and procedures for rotation could then be considered. On being seconded, this was voted unanimously.

During the discussion of the above, the Secretary commented on rotation policy now in effect for Committee members, and it is understood this will also apply to the PR liaison representative. It was then suggested that terms of reference regarding this liaison representation would be appropriate and these will be drawn up.

ISO/TC 61 SECRETARIAT

The Technical Subcommittee recommendation for support of this Secretariat in the next fiscal year had been reported in the minutes. Mr. Symington, representing General Counsel, was invited to discuss the legal aspects of such support and the limitation which had been put on the financing during the present year.

Following a review of MCA policy on development of standards for chemical products, a previous Board action with respect to ASA and ASTM was reported as follows:

"It was agreed that previous MCA policy should be reaffirmed in that the Association could cooperate and participate in activities limited to the standardization of test methods, but that it should not cooperate in activities relating to the development of product standards".

For operations in the next fiscal year we have been assured that ISO/TC 61 will not work on product standards and on this point the Committee asked that we obtain information from the Chairman of ISO/TC 61 on the scope of their work in the coming year. It was generally agreed that a decision was not necessary at this time as to support of the Secretariat when they get into product standard activities.

COMBUSTION-TOXICITY PROJECT

A press release announcing establishment of this project at U/L was circulated to all present; this was subsequently cleared for release January 11th.

Mr. Demarest reported that the project had been activated late in December, pointing out that the timing of this was important to SPI code negotiators on the West Coast. It had been necessary for them to be able to assure the International Conference of Building Officials and the San Francisco code commissioner prior to the end of the year that these studies were being undertaken by the industry. He added he had recently called upon the U/L technician who will be in charge of the project so as to establish communications between U/L and the sponsor. At that time he had ascertained that U/L was entirely amenable to having the project publicized by MCA.

NAHB "HOW-TO-DO-IT" CARNIVAL

This subject was brought before the Committee because the Plastics in Building Committee, at its last meeting, had again urged industry participation in the NAHB show. Mr. Kinsella had been able to attend the recent "Carnival" and a report by him had been circulated. In addition, Mr. Demarest quoted from reports obtained from other MCA representatives who had also attended. These were uniformly disappointed by the "Carnival", citing the poor attendance and a number of distractions making it difficult for associations demonstrating materials to get their messages across.

In the ensuing discussion, it was agreed that the diversity of plastics building products might make such demonstrations more difficult to present than they are for other building-materials associations. Also, it was still felt that the SPI would be the logical sponsor of such promotions. At the same time, it was recognized that the home-building market is indeed important and that the NAHB convention could well provide a good platform for demonstrating plastics building products. Therefore, despite the seeming inadequacy of the "Carnival", the Committee requested the Plastics in Building Committee to explore means of exhibiting and demonstrating plastic products at future NAHB conventions.

TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Minutes of their December 14th Meeting had been circulated to the Committee. The Secretary asked for Committee action on the several recommendations and the following were agreed upon:

- a. The proposal that the Case project be terminated at the end of the current fiscal year, and they be advised that the funds are required for other purposes was affirmed.

b. The proposals for sponsorship and distribution of the SPE Engineering Handbook of approximately 1,000 copies along the lines set forth in the plan submitted by W. C. Goggin October 17, 1961 was affirmed.

c. The Secretary was authorized to advise MIT President Julius S. Stratton of the Technical Subcommittee's resolution re the Industry's appreciation of the excellent progress in building up MCA-MIT Plastics Laboratory originally sponsored by the material manufacturers through PMMA.

SURVEY ON BULK TRUCK HANDLING EQUIPMENT

A proposal of the Physical Distribution Subcommittee for a survey of material manufacturers was considered briefly, and it was suggested the Secretary circularize this Committee for comment on the necessity of such a study.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS STUDY

A December 27, 1961 letter from the Staff Director concerning this Committee's study of new types of construction materials and their uses had been circulated. It was not clear what the Committee was really getting at and how MCA membership could cooperate. Mr. Demarest, as the specialist on building, was asked to consult with the Staff Director to see how MCA could assist them.

PLASTIC PIPE

The Secretary commented briefly on a recent press release re F.H.A. approval of one material for drain and vent pipe in residential construction. He reported that close liaison had been maintained with the F.H.A. and other authorities by Mr. Demarest, and it was felt this was a major step in removing restrictions to wider acceptance of plastics in building.

NEXT MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE

It was agreed the next meeting of the Committee would be at the Manhattan Club, New York City, on February 13, 1962, beginning at 12 Noon.

WHEREUPON, adjournment was taken.

Respectfully submitted,

F. H. Carman
F. H. Carman
Secretary to
Plastics Committee

PHC/abs
January 11, 1962