

Manufacturing Chemists Association

MINUTES OF MEETING

FOOD, DRUG, AND COSMETIC CHEMICALS COMMITTEE

MCA Conference Room Washington, D. C.

May 4, 1971

Members Present

T. W. Hanavan, Chairman
T. R. Aalto
R. S. Bryant
C. D. Fentress
 (for A. M. Schnitzer)
George Ingle
J. A. Korth
J. R. Mennis
W. H. Meyer
R. M. Miller
Peter Morison
K. E. Mulford
P. E. Neiman
R. F. Philpitt
M. B. Ver Nooy
 (for C. P. Carpenter)
M. M. Hoover, Secretary

E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Company
Tenneco Chemicals, Inc.
Stauffer Chemical Company
Phillips Petroleum Company

Monsanto Company
CPC International, Inc.
Merck & Co., Inc.
Procter & Gamble Company
Hercules Inc.
Eastman Chemical Products, Inc.
Atlas Chemical Industries, Inc.
Enjay Chemical Company
Olin Corporation
Union Carbide Corporation

MCA Staff

Guests Present

H. A. Birnbaum
D. F. Dodgen (PM)
R. D. Lambert (AM)

3M Company
National Academy of Sciences
MCA Staff

Members Absent

F. R. Barron, Jr.
Benjamin Borenstein
C. P. Carpenter
C. P. Hagan
W. A. Knapp

American Cyanamid Company
Hoffmann-La Roche Inc.
Union Carbide Corporation
Pfizer Inc.
Allied Chemical Corporation

Members Absent (Cont'd)

W. E. McCormick
 A. M. Schnitzer
 H. L. Schulman
 H. C. Spencer
 R. G. Troup
 Samuel Zuckerman

B. F. Goodrich Company
 Phillips Petroleum Company
 Mallinckrodt Chemical Works
 The Dow Chemical Company
 J. T. Baker Chemical Company
 H. Kohnstamm & Company

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1. MEETINGS

a. Minutes of Last Meeting - The minutes of the November 4, 1970 meeting were approved as distributed.

b. Next Meeting - It was decided tentatively to hold the next meeting of the committee November 16, 1971 in Washington.

2. PERSONNEL

The committee voted unanimously to recommend to the MCA Board of Directors that R. S. Bryant of Stauffer (succeeding R. N. Bell who has retired) and George Ingle of Monsanto (succeeding Jack Early) be appointed members of the committee.

3. LIAISON ACTIVITIES

a. MCA Board of Directors - The chairman reported on the National Center for Toxicological Research, which has been under discussion by the Board Liaison Committee for Environmental Quality and Control, saying that it is to be administered by the Food and Drug Administration and that the earlier proposal for joint government-industry support for this activity is dead. Dr. Birnbaum elaborated on plans for the center.

b. MCA Public Relations Department - Mr. Lambert reported on recent public relations activities involving food additives including a series of five two-minute TV films for distribution to daytime talk shows, updating of the narration guide for the slide-film presentation "Ann's Additive Story," and distribution of the article "Health Food: Why and Why Not" to food editors.

With regard to the basic reference on food additives for

laymen "Food Additives: What They Are, How They Are Used" which was recently updated by the committee, Mr. Lambert reported that no funds are available in the current MCA budget for publication of the revised edition, nor have such funds been recommended for fiscal 1971-1972 due to the economic squeeze. The committee registered dismay and shock at this, and it was decided that the chairman and secretary would prepare an action statement including the committee's reasons why the necessary funds should be made available.

This decision remains

With regard to Mrs. Walton's request at the last meeting that a standing group be formed to (1) field requests for information from the public, and (2) to originate informational material that the committee feels should get to the public, the secretary reported there is no objection within MCA to the establishment of such a group provided there are committee members willing to serve. It was decided to request Mrs. Walton to delineate specifically the nature of inquiries received from the public, including how many are product oriented, so as to better evaluate the need for the standing group.

c. MCA Ad Hoc Committee on Chemicals Regulation - The chairman reported on the April 29 meeting of this ad hoc committee, which was formed for the purpose of dealing with legislative and regulatory proposals concerning environmental protection which embrace the purview of several existing MCA committees. Currently under consideration by this group are the administration bill "Toxic Substances Control Act of 1971," and Senator Muskie's bill S. 573. The chairman stated that it is difficult to establish the target of these bills when the stipulated exceptions are removed from consideration, and that the target might be consumer waste disposal. He asked for insight from FDCCC members.

d. NAS Food Protection Committee - The secretary reviewed his report mailed to the FDCC Committee April 26, and reported on two subsequent items: (1) the request to MCA from the Office of Management and Budget for comments on the draft NAS GRAS List Survey Form, mailed to the committee April 29, and (2) the industry briefing on this form to be held May 27 in New York.

With respect to the OMB request, it was decided that MCA cannot comment on the form in the absence of the instruction sheets and that OMB should be so notified.

With respect to the May 27 industry briefing, the secretary said copies of the program would be mailed to committee members

and to appropriate contacts in other MCA member companies not represented on the committee.

Mr. Durward F. Dodgen, staff officer in charge of the GRAS List Survey, attended the meeting and answered questions from committee members concerning execution of the form. He said the form will be sent to companies around the middle of June, and that there may be staggered deadlines for return. He also said that food additive manufactureres will be the group expected to supply most of the safety information, that food processors will have better information on usage, and that the confidentiality aspects will be detailed in the letter accompanying the form. Several changes to appear in the final form versus that sent to the committee April 29 were specified by Mr. Dodgen.

The secretary reported on the meeting of the Industry Committee on the GRAS Questionnaire held April 27 in Washington at the instigation of the Grocery Manufacturers Association. At this meeting, the program for the May 27 industry briefing was reviewed, and support of the interested associations for this event was solicited. MCA agreed to have its name listed as a cooperating association, and to distribute copies of the program to its members who will be affected by the survey. An industry group was appointed to discuss the handling of prior sanction items, and the secretary indicated he would inform the FDCC Committee of any report from this group.

e. U.S. Department of Agriculture - Mr. Morison highlighted the contents of his summary of recent USDA activities in areas of interest to the committee, which was distributed at the meeting.

f. U.S. Department of HEW (FDA) - The secretary referred to his report mailed to the committee April 26 concerning the events which led up to the MCA statement of January 21 to FDA on the subject of "Eligibility of Substances for Classification as Generally Recognized as Safe in Food." A copy of this statement was mailed to the committee.

It was reported that the FDA Commissioner has signed the final regulation on GRAS criteria, and that the date of publication is unknown. The secretary was requested to send the regulation as published to the committee for immediate comments so that the need for a task group to consider further action (such as a request for hearing) may be ascertained.

g. U.S. Congress - After considerable discussion of the

pros and cons of participating in the current congressional hearings involving food additives, it was unanimously voted to recommend that MCA request time before congressional committees conducting hearings on food additives to express industry views. The chairman indicated he would appoint a task group consisting of Messrs. Meyer, Ingle, Morison, and Zapp to develop the basic material to be used for testimony. (See also Minute 3c.)

h. FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission - The secretary referred to his report mailed to the committee April 26 which related activities since the last meeting. Included was mention of the solicitation of data for the June 1971 session of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives, and of industry comments on some of the specifications already developed by this committee. Mr. Korth reported receipt of working papers on caramel and modified starches, and Mr. Morison of the draft monograph on antioxidants.

4. OTHER ACTIVITIES

a. GMP for Food and Drugs - Mr. Mennis reported that his task group was of the opinion that the current situation did not call for drafting of proposed good manufacturing practice regulations covering chemicals for use in both food and drugs. He mentioned the exclusion of drug chemicals from coverage of the current GMP regulations as one factor, and Dr. Aalto reported that the importance of developing proposed regulations for drug chemicals was de-emphasized at a recent PMA meeting. It was the consensus of the committee that the project be tabled until there is an indication it should be pursued.



M. M. Hoover, Secretary

MMH:gr
May 10, 1971

Distribution "A"
cc: Board Liaison Committee - Environment