

# Manufacturing Chemists' Association, Inc.

(FOUNDED 1872)

246 WOODWARD BUILDING

WASHINGTON 5, D. C.

M. F. CRASS, JR.  
SECRETARY

## MINUTES OF MEETING - PLASTICS GROUP MANHATTAN CLUB, NEW YORK CITY, MARCH 8, 1951

### PRESENT:

American Cyanamid Company  
Bakelite Division, U.C.C.C.  
Barrett Division, A.C.D.C.

Catalin Corp. of America

Celanese Corp. of America  
Columbia Chemical Div., P.P.G.C.  
Dow Chemical Company  
E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co.  
Firestone Plastics Company  
General Electric Company  
B. F. Goodrich Chemical Co.  
Hercules Powder Company  
Interchemical Corporation  
Koppers Company, Inc.  
Monsanto Chemical Company

Naugatuck Chemical  
Nixon Nitration Works  
Plaskon Division, L-O-F Glass Co.  
Rohm & Haas Company  
Shell Chemical Corporation  
Sylvan Plastics, Inc.  
M.C.A.

#### Guests at Luncheon:

N. P. A.  
Acme Resins Corporation  
Societe Italiana della  
Celluloide, Varese, Italy

James L. Rodgers, Jr.; C. J. Romieux  
Howard S. Bunn, Clinton Blount  
R. L. Cammann, A. H. Dean  
L. T. Sutherland  
Alan N. Mann, L. L. Beck,  
Alex Malashevitz  
W. S. Landes, E. W. Ward  
W. F. Newton  
D. L. Gibb, A. E. Young  
E. J. Pechin  
Frank J. Groten  
J. E. McMurphy  
J. R. Hoover  
E. G. Crum, C. W. Eurenus  
John P. Duane  
T. C. Keeling, Jr.  
F. A. Abbiati, J. R. Turnbull,  
Felix N. Williams  
John P. Coe  
Morris Breitkopf, Stanhope Nixon  
W. W. Knight, Jr.; Horton Spitzer  
D. S. Frederick, Louis Klein  
F. S. Swackhamer  
Edwin F. James  
R. L. Taylor, F. H. Carman

George H. Sollenberger  
Myron T. Bennett

Dr. Silvio Mazzucchelli

The meeting was called to order at 10:40 A.M. with Dr. D. S. Frederick in the Chair. The minutes of the meeting of January 11, 1951 were approved as submitted.

CMA 078224

TECHNICAL DATA BOOK

The recommendations of the Technical Subcommittee regarding re-issue of the Technical Data Book had been considered by the Plastics Committee and a questionnaire cleared to all Executive Representatives during February. Several details of the former publications, particularly costs and distribution, were again reviewed.

In a total of 21 replies to the questionnaire, 16 members were in favor of revising the book, 3 did not reply, and 2 were in the negative (one of the latter is not manufacturing materials now covered by the book). On financing by the plastics manufacturers, 15 replied that they would be willing to support the book to the extent of approximately \$500, while 7 replied in the negative or did not answer; it is known that one or more of these would be willing to contribute a proportionate share based on amount of production or sales.

The group was in favor of proceeds from sale of the book being cleared back to the members if possible. Thirteen approving re-issue of the book, voted for complimentary distribution as in the past; a number of comments were received from others suggesting a carefully screened complimentary list or that free distribution be to Government people only.

The Chairman reported that the Plastics Committee had considered the results of the survey in the previous day's meeting. They recommended that a revised edition of the Technical Data Book, if agreed upon and if financed by the materials manufacturers as a group, be distributed free only to qualified Government employees and that it be sold to all others.

Motion was then made: "That the book be republished as recommended by the Technical Subcommittee and the majority of those answering the questionnaire." On being duly seconded, this was passed unanimously.

A preliminary estimate of the cost of a re-issue of the book indicated that total cost of printing and mailing would be approximately \$9300 (6,000 copies), as compared with \$8236 in 1948. If allocated on a uniform basis to twenty manufacturers, this would be about \$460 each. Several commented that it would be desirable that all those interested in plastic materials be included in the text and support of this publication. Motion was made: "That the financing be handled by dividing the membership into possibly three groups based on value of plastic materials manufactured in the previous year, (as with dues' assessments in P.M.M.A.) and that each company then be asked by letter if they would contribute to the support, and the income from the sales be held in some special fund for future use by the materials manufacturers. It is the understanding that the three groups might be assessed approximately \$100, \$250, and \$500 for classifications as determined by the Washington Office." On being duly seconded, this was passed unanimously.

It is understood that the Technical Subcommittee will supervise re-issue of the Technical Data Book.

#### MANPOWER

Mr. Taylor, Executive Vice President, reviewed the M.C.A. Manpower Committee activities. Chemical industry requirements have been presented to the interested manpower groups and the Committee feels that they have been able to show the need for special skills and successfully stressed the importance of scientific personnel in any deferment policy. From contacts made with the Government groups handling manpower problems, it is the opinion that many industries have not presented their case well enough on deferment matters.

Apparently the picture on reservists is still uncertain; many companies have been successful in showing the essentiality of their personnel before notices of recall are actually received. It is suggested that such information be sent to the personnel section headquarters in Washington.

#### TARIFF AND RECIPROCAL TRADE

The recent Association activities in hearings on the Reciprocal Trade Act, which expires this June, were explained by Mr. Taylor. This included a report on the status of the Senate and House committee determinations.

#### CHEMICALS IN FOODS

The Congressional investigation of chemicals in foods will be continued in the present Congress with the re-establishment of the Delaney Committee. Mr. Taylor stressed the importance of this to the plastics industry since the committee probably will interest itself in food packages. Several members questioned the representation of the plastics industry on the M.C.A. Chemicals in Foods Committee, which has now been set up as a standing committee of the Association. The membership of this Committee is: H. C. Spencer, chairman, Dow Chemical Co.; T. R. Aalto, Heyden Chemical Corp.; Fred Bartenstein, Merck & Co., Inc.; J. H. Foulger, E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co.; J. M. Gillet, Victor Chemical Works; S. J. Hill, E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co.; Wilbur Miller, American Cyanamid Co.; R. D. Minter, Monsanto Chemical Co.; N. E. Rigler, Heyden Chemical Corp.; J. Philip Smith, Chas. Pfizer & Co.; Henry F. Smyth, Jr., Mellon Institute of Industrial Research; and G. J. Williams, Dow Chemical Co.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

The critical supply situation for plastic materials in the mobilization program and particularly the public misconception of plastics as substitutes will be discussed by Mr. Carman in the forthcoming meeting of the Commercial Chemical Development Association. The Plastics Committee had considered what industry program would be appropriate on this general subject, and the possibility of institutional advertising. The Chairman announced that an attempt would be made to release one or more articles on this general subject by Mr. Taylor in cooperation with Mr. Carman. Both the New York and Washington offices will welcome any suggestions the members may have on such an undertaking.

The recent changes in the N.P.A. Chemical Division were reported to the plastics manufacturers through a special bulletin. In the Plastics Committee meeting a representative of the N.P.A. had announced the imminent issuance of a general chemicals allocation order. This will be patterned very closely on the M-300 of W.P.B. and probably will be assigned the number M-45. This order will provide for general allocation of materials which will

be added as appendix schedules from time to time. There will be three general types of allocations: namely, (a) those materials requiring a report or request form from both supplier and user; (b) those materials requiring a report form from the supplier but nothing from the user except possibly an end use certificate being supplied the producer; and (c) a combination of these procedures wherein large quantities of material will require a report form from both producer and user, while small quantities will require forms from producer only. The separate schedules of this order may carry special restrictions over-riding all other orders of the N.P.A. The allocation order will set aside priority ratings, there will be small order exemptions, special provision for stockpiling and import items, special provision to reduce the reporting by brokers and sales agents, and perhaps some provision for small business.

The Washington Office is having an increasing number of inquiries from the N.P.A. small business and consumers durable goods groups on general supply problems for plastic materials and the use of these in place of metals.

In the list of basic chemicals, it is possible that sulfur and sulfuric acid and benzene will be the first to be put on the new allocation order; industry advisory committees on these materials are scheduled for meetings on March 14 and 19, respectively.

Although military requirements for plastics are not well clarified, there does appear to be better liaison between the Services, Munitions Board, and the N.P.A. Huge requirements of the Engineer Corps for polyester laminated products are still questionable; as a result of the recent Chicago meeting of the S.P.E., an industry group is meeting with the Engineer Corps in Washington on March 19.

The issuance of certificates of necessity on chemicals has been delayed by the D.P.A., though recent information indicates some chlorine expansion programs will be cleared within the next few weeks. A recent publication by the Joint Committee on Economic Report (Congressional) listed all certificates cleared through January 30, 1951; most of these were for steel facilities, the total amortization was approximately 93% of the amount requested.

#### OYSTER HARBORS MEETING

Chairman Frederick again called members' attention to the scheduled meeting of the Plastics Group at Oyster Harbors Club, September 9 to 12, 1951, and announced the following Arrangements Subcommittee for this annual meeting had been appointed: J. R. Hoover, chairman; E. F. Schumacher, and Howard S. Bunn.

#### PLASTICS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Frederick appointed the following as a Nominating Subcommittee for members of the Plastics Committee for the coming year: Alan N. Mann, chairman; James L. Rodgers, Jr., and W. S. Landes. A report was requested during the May meeting of the Plastics Group.

#### M.I.T. RESEARCH

The Technical Subcommittee recently visited the Institute to consider the progress on this research program. Eight materials manufacturers are now sponsoring this work with funds provided through June 30 of this year. Some consideration should be given to future financing of this and Chairman Frederick asked Messrs. F. A. Abbiati and S. E. [unclear] to consider appropriate action regarding this research and possibly determine if the group wants to continue financing this work.

NOTE: Mr. G. H. Sollenberger of N.P.A. Chemical Division, Plastics Section, was a guest at luncheon, at which time he outlined some of the problems now confronting that group, particularly the requirements of small business and the complications arising in distribution of materials for other than defense orders.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Plastics Group will be Thursday, May 10, 1951 at the Manhattan Club, New York City, business session to begin at 10:30 A.M.

WHEREUPON, adjournment was taken at 2:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

*F. H. Carman*

F. H. Carman  
Assistant Secretary

PHC/mw