

Manufacturing Chemists' Association, Inc.

(FOUNDED 1872)

1625 EYE STREET, N.W.

WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

LINK H. CARMAN
MEDICAL DIRECTOR

MINUTES OF MEETING -- PLASTICS COMMITTEE Manhattan Club, New York City December 9, 1958

PRESENT:

Messrs. R. A. Hoekelman, American Cyanamid Company
T. J. Kinsella, Allied Chemical Corporation
David L. Eynon, Jr., Koppers Company, Inc.
Elmer F. Hinner, Hercules Powder Company, Inc.
Harry Krehbiel, Catalin Corporation of America
R. K. Mueller, Monsanto Chemical Company
Russell C. Weigel (for Walter H. Salzenberg),
E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co., Inc.
G. L. Pitzer (for R. K. Turner), Union Carbide Corp.
F. H. Carman, Manufacturing Chemists' Association

Guests:

Messrs. C. B. Branch, Dow Chemical Company
E. J. Sullivan, Borden Chemical Company
Marx Leva, Manufacturing Chemists' Association

The meeting was called to order at 1:15 p.m. by Chairman R. A. Hoekelman. He explained that several former Committee members had been invited to attend and that Mr. Marx Leva, general counsel, was present to assist us in considering the scope of the Committee programs.

PLASTICS COMMITTEE PROGRAM

Members reviewed the suggestion that the scope of the Committee be enlarged to include synthetic elastomers and discussed at length the pros and cons of such a move and over-all activities that would be appropriate on behalf of the members. Comments of counsel as expressed in a memorandum of November 20 were enlarged upon during the meeting.

All present were asked to give their opinions. Some commented that member manufacturers of elastomers could have been included in the past if they desired to cooperate in the existing programs. Others felt that it would dilute the Committee's efforts in handling industry problems to the extent that we would not accomplish as much as is now possible; here it was mentioned the Plastics Committee is not now doing all it should in behalf of the industry.

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In view of the dilution that would occur, it was the general consensus that the scope should not be broadened at this time, but if MCA or those proposing such a step can point out advantages not known to this group, it should be brought up for further consideration. On motion, duly seconded, and by a vote of seven yes and one abstention, it was concluded that we do not wish to broaden the scope of activities for the Plastics Committee, but this question will be reopened if the Policy Committee finds it appropriate and desirable.

FOOD ADDITIVE LEGISLATION

Several commented on the problems raised within their organizations and concern over the FDA administration of the new food additives statute, particularly from a standpoint of plastics for packaging and food handling. Mr. Leva, who has been active with the MCA Committee, discussed the major aspects of the new law, the plans of the Food Additives Committee of MCA, and the proposed regulations just issued for review. The Secretary advised that a number of the technical representatives had voiced concern about the administration of the revised statute, and some had suggested that standard methods of test might be desirable.

It was the general opinion that most companies which have been working with the FDA on use of plastics for packaging will have no insurmountable problem in complying with the new regulations. Further, knowledgeable parties feel that standard test procedures are not now desirable; however, the Food Protection Committee of the NRC has published test procedures which will be useful to those not having a better procedure available to them.

This subject may become part of a proposed questionnaire to be circulated to the Technical Representatives in the near future.

APPLICATION RESEARCH

Results of the discussion on this subject in the recent technical meeting were briefly reviewed and a copy of the minutes of that meeting is enclosed. No further action was taken by the Plastics Committee.

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Mr. R. A. Hoekelman advised that recent changes in his company take him out of direct management of the Plastics and Resins Division, therefore he felt it necessary to tender his resignation from the Plastics Committee and as chairman effective immediately. His term of office would continue through May 31, 1960. Following discussion, the resignation was not accepted and by resolution, duly seconded, the Committee unanimously requested Mr. Hoekelman to continue his chairmanship at least through the current fiscal year (May 31, 1959) or until the next annual business meeting of the entire group. This action was taken with full knowledge of his change in official activities with the American Cyanamid Company.

Mr. Hoekelman thanked the members for their continued support and agreed to continue on this basis.

NEXT MEETING is scheduled for February 3 in New York City, beginning with luncheon at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

F. H. Carman
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December 18, 1958

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