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GEORGE SHARPLESS, Secretary
F. O. BAKER, Treasurer

United Rubber, Cork, Linoleum and Plastic Workers of America

Local No. 2

GOODYEAR

"Where the C.I.O. Was Born"

3 GOODYEAR BLVD.

AKRON 9, OHIO

February 24, 1959

Mr. James H. Fluker,
Supt. Division of Safety and Hygiene,
State Bldg.
Columbus, Ohio

Dear Sir:

I am writing you in regards to certain conditions existing at the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Plant here in Akron, Ohio, which we believe is in violation of the Safety Laws of our state and which I will list below:

1. A condition in Dept. 272-A, at the Belt Building tables. On this job there is a very severe static condition caused by friction and gum coated fabrics being pulled across metal tables from more than one large roll of fabric at a time. This condition has always existed, but in the past the builders have used heavy cements that flowed very slowly and when spilled or came in contact with the workers clothing did not spread at a rapid pace. We experienced many fires that were caused by static igniting the cement. These fires were kept under control due to the cement being of a heavy mixture that would spread very slowly.

In the past few weeks, Management has been using texine from cans and applying the texine with a hand swab while the fabrics are being pulled across the tables. We feel that this creates a very dangerous condition because of the static, and fumes from the texine cans, also due to the nature of texine to spread rapidly to the operators clothing when it comes in contact. When using the hand swab, the texine spreads and drips on the worker's clothing. The Belt Builders know that this is a hazzard to their safety and Management should not be allowed to impose upon the men to work under these conditions.

2. In Dept. 245 on the Sanax Operation, the fumes and dust from this material burns the operator's eyes and skin very severely.

This condition is so bad that the Department Management has agreed to work men on a one-day at a time basis.

3. In Dept. 245, there is a fallout from the exhaust stacks that causes burns on the worker when it comes in contact with their skin, this is an acid that burns severely and has discolored cars parked in the vicinity of the plant.

All of these matters have been taken up with Management and at the present nothing has been done to correct them. Therefore, in view of the facts which have been stated, our Local Union has authorized me to contact you immediately and request of you that a representative of the Division of Safety and Hygiene be assigned to make full investigation of complaints as stated and that we be advised of such date which investigation can be made.

Hoping for an immediate reply and kind consideration on the subject, I remain

Yours truly,

H. H. Ferguson, Chairman
Safety Committee
Goodyear Local #2, URCL&PWA
AFL-CIO

HH:ve
ociu-339
cc: David B McCann
Harry Doyle
W. W. Hale

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