

Manufacturing Chemists' Association, Inc.

(FOUNDED 1872)

246 WOODWARD BUILDING

WASHINGTON 5, D. C.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE

MINUTES OF MEETING
PLASTICS COMMITTEE
MANHATTAN CLUB, NEW YORK CITY
November 15, 1951

PRESENT:

Bakelite Company
Barrett Division,
Allied Chemical & Dye Corp.
Celanese Corporation of America
Dow Chemical Company
E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co.
General Electric Company
B. F. Goodrich Chemical Co.
Metal & Thermit Corporation
Monsanto Chemical Company
National Starch Products, Inc.
Naugatuck Chemical,
United States Rubber Co.
Plaskon Division,
Libbey-Owens-Ford Glass Co.
Reilly Tar & Chemical Corp.
Shell Chemical Corporation
Manufacturing Chemists' Assn.

H. S. Bunn
A. H. Dean
W. S. Landes
A. E. Young, D. L. Gibb
E. D. Ries
J. L. McMurphy
J. R. Hoover
Herbert Hirschland
F. A. Abbiati, J. R. Turnbull
A. A. Halden
John P. Coe
John A. Morse
P. C. Reilly, Jr.
F. S. Swackhamer, T. G. Nock
R. L. Taylor, F. H. Carman

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 P.M. with Mr. Abbiati in the Chair.

The Chairman advised members that Mr. Milliken was convalescing from recent operations and would shortly be released from the hospital. It was the unanimous decision of the group that a note be forwarded to Mr. Milliken expressing regrets that he could not be present and to wish him rapid recovery. (This was handled by the secretary on November 16.)

CHEMICALS IN FOODS

The Chairman then called on Mr. R. L. Taylor, Executive Vice President of M.C.A. to advise the Committee and other representatives on the Association program on this subject. For background information, the history and the political aspects were detailed briefly and the plans of the Public Relations Committee and

Counsel as well as the Chemicals in Foods Committee were outlined. The Association is concerned about the possibility of restrictive legislation and the criticisms in the public press that are directed against the chemical industry as a whole.

As opposed to legislation for control of chemicals in foods (introduced by one or more members of the Congressional Committee), a less restrictive but entirely adequate proposal has been prepared by M.C.A. The group is taking the position that the responsibility for evaluation of new chemicals to be used in food should be on the industry and that government agencies should be permitted only to delay the use of new materials through legal channels when there is some question and following due notification by the producer. Mr. Taylor distributed copies of a release of the Chemicals in Foods Committee stating the position of the industry on this general subject.

It is apparent from legislation proposed to date that many plastic materials will be included in any definition of chemicals used in or in processing and handling of food. The plastics representatives were unanimous in the opinion that the legislation proposed by the Association was a constructive step and they were pleased to know that such a plan was to be sponsored by the chemical industry.

TECHNICAL DATA BOOK

The Technical Subcommittee has recommended that the revised edition continue the practice of listing all commercially available materials by their trade names and producers even though the company may not be an Association member. Following discussion and on motion unanimously approved, it was agreed that all sources of plastic materials should be included in the data book regardless of membership and that the various sections of the book should carry the listing of non-member's names and products differentiated in some manner from those of the regular members.

SAFETY FORUM

The Chairman and secretary reviewed briefly the safety activities of the P.M.M.A. and the suggestion of one member that safety forums on matters concerned with plastic materials be continued in the future. It was the consensus of the Committee that more aggressive action on the part of the material manufacturers and the M.C.A. in this respect would be helpful. On motion duly seconded and passed unanimously, the Committee approved a resolution urging the M.C.A. General Safety Committee to become more active on safety matters of general interest in manufacturing and that they seriously consider safety forums as were the practice in P.M.M.A. The Plastics Committee feels this is essential since this is one of the activities absorbed by the overall safety group acting as a functional committee.

MOBILIZATION PROBLEMS

The status of the first quarter allotments of structural steel and problems encountered with controlled materials were reported briefly to members. On recommendations of the M.C.A. Defense Advisory Committee, a survey of second quarter requirements of CMP materials and possible preparation of a form for certificate of necessity reports was being undertaken.

The recent amendments to the price order CPR-22 and action that must be taken by December 19 were explained to members. One of the major policy decisions now before O.P.S. Chemicals Division concerns a problem of the phenolic resin and molding powder producers who have requested relief for increases since July 26 (the cut-off date in the Capehart Amendment). Copies of the orders and general information on further amendments to be expected have been cleared to all members by the Washington office.

There is no major change in problems of N.P.A. concerning plastic materials. In discussion of allocation or limitation orders on plastic materials, members were again urged to endeavor at all times to take care of direct defense needs so that allocations or limitations to provide material for specific civilian uses can be properly resisted. This is the only way that pressure groups can be prevented from obtaining an unwarranted and more favorable position, but, more important it permits the manufacturers to continue distribution of their products to the proper end uses.

Following a report on recent industry advisory committee meetings, particularly those leading to the delay of a sulfuric acid order, members were questioned about the need for advisory committee meetings concerned with various plastic materials. It was the general opinion that there were no problems requiring a special meeting at this time.

The need for replacement personnel for WOC appointees in both O.P.S. and N.P.A. chemicals divisions was again stressed by the M.C.A. representatives. A limited number of suggestions have been received as a result of letters cleared by M.C.A. Chairman Charles A. Munson, and it is known that a number of members are still surveying their organization. It is possible that direct requests will be made to executive representatives for personnel if a sufficient number of suggestions are not forthcoming from the industry on a voluntary basis.

DECEMBER 12th MEETING

The next meeting of the Plastics Group will be held on the evening prior to the General M.C.A. Meeting of December 13, 1951.

Respectfully submitted,

F. H. Carman

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Assistant Secretary

FHC/mw
November 19, 1951