

A G E N D A

Executive Committee Meeting
11:00 A.M., Tuesday, March 9, 1943
Room 517, The Chemists' Club, 52 East 41st St., N.Y.C.

- I. Minutes of February Meeting
- II. Treasurer's Report
- III. Business Conditions Report No. 40
- IV. Department of Labor - Change in Base for Labor Statistics
- V. Labor Pirating
- VI. S. 702 - Socialization of Research
- VII. State Legislative Bills Effecting Chemicals
- VIII. Annual Meeting - Charles S. Munson, Chairman
- IX. Post-war Planning
- X. Miscellaneous

WARREN N. WATSON

Secretary

CMA 066495

The regular meeting of the Executive Committee of the Manufacturing Chemists' Association of the United States was held in Room 517, The Chemists' Club, 52 East 41st Street, New York City, on Tuesday, March 9, 1943 at 11:00 A.M.

The following members were present:

Messrs. Lamot du Pont, Chairman (Part of Meeting)

Charles Belknap

H. L. Derby

C. F. Hosford, Jr.

H.O.C. Ingraham

J. W. McLaughlin

George W. Merck

Charles S. Munson

Warren N. Watson, Secretary

Absent: E. M. Allen

L. T. Beale

R. H. Dunham

August Kochs

C. D. Marlatt

T. P. Walker

H. I. Young

Mr. H. L. Derby acted as chairman during the first part of the meeting.

I. MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY MEETING

The minutes of the February meeting were duly approved as sent to the members.

II. TREASURER'S REPORT

The report of the Treasurer for the period February 1 to February 28, 1943 was reviewed, and

On motion, duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: That the report be accepted and placed on file.

III. BUSINESS CONDITIONS REPORT NO. 40

Business Conditions Report No. 40 was reviewed.

IV. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR - CHANGE IN BASE FOR LABOR STATISTICS

The Commissioner of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor has changed the base from 1923-1925 = 100 to 1939 = 100 for the Employment Index and the Payroll Index. Because of this revision and certain changes in components and weighting, the new indexes are not comparable with previous indexes. Furthermore in comparing chemicals with all manufacturing a distorted relationship results due in part to the inclusion of shipbuilding and plane building in all manufacturing and the exclusion of explosives from chemicals. The result is that the figures on the 1939 base do not reflect a correct position for the chemical industry as illustrated by the following data:

	<u>Old Base</u>	<u>New Base</u>
Employment Indexes		
Chemicals	193.2	159.1
All Mfg.	148.2	154.2
Payroll Indexes		
Chemicals	307.4	231.0
All Mfg.	220.5	261.0

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Inasmuch as real weekly earnings figures are calculated in part from employment and payroll indexes, real earnings of the chemical industry which heretofore have been most favorable when compared with those of all manufacturing industries, will show up to a decided disadvantage.

A letter to the Acting Commissioner of Labor Statistics dated March 8 was reviewed in which we recommended that these series be re-established on the 1923-25 basis until a 5-year base recommended by the Bureau of Budget be adopted. Members of the Executive Committee will be advised of the response to our letter.

During the discussion of this matter, Mr. Lamot du Pont joined the meeting and took the Chair.

V. LABOR PIRATING

Labor-pirating activities of the Civil Service agents in Pittsburgh and other areas in recruiting men for government employment in Navy yards and similar activities, which involves the recruiting of mechanics from war plants, was reported. The employer is called upon to approve the transfer, but is in no position to deny a request once the employee is determined that he is going to accept a government job.

This has been called to the attention of the War Production Board.

VI. S. 702 - SOCIALIZATION OF RESEARCH

This bill, similar to its predecessor S. 2721, involves the federalization of research and has been referred to the Senate Committee on Military Affairs. No decision has yet been made in regard to public hearings.

A similar bill has been introduced in the House, H. B. 2100, and has been referred to the House Committee on Patents. The Secretary was previously authorized to file an appropriate statement and arrange for witnesses when and if hearings are to be held.

VII. STATE LEGISLATIVE BILLS EFFECTING CHEMICALS.

As a result of a poisoning case in an insane institution in Oregon from mixing food with household cockroach powder based upon sodium fluoride, a number of states have introduced bills calling for the colorization of poisonous chemicals, etc.

The Secretary reported that efforts had been made to obtain uniform legislation to permit interstate commerce, which would be in line with the forthcoming regulations under the Federal Insecticide Act of 1910, to limit the scope of white insecticides of a poisonous character which might be mistaken for food-stuffs, and to provide for distinctly colored rather than a particular color in order to avoid having a different color in each state.

Progress has been satisfactory on this difficult problem to date.

VIII. ANNUAL MEETING

The Executive Committee agreed that an annual meeting should be held in June in New York City and that our own talents should be utilized for the afternoon meeting. The question of a speaker for the evening session was not decided.

IX. POST-WAR PLANNING

Subject continued on docket.

X. MISCELLANEOUS

1. In regard to a query on the economic status of chemists, the Committee was advised that the American Chemical Society expects to issue in April an exhaustive report on this subject and that copies have already been ordered for distribution to members.
2. The Chairman stated that he would report at the next meeting of the Executive Committee the results of his special letter of January 27 asking for suggestions on matters appropriate to study.
3. Manpower Requirements for Uncompleted Plants. The Secretary was requested to distribute the report on this survey to the Executive Committee.
4. It was unanimously agreed that Mr. Lamot du Pont be appointed as National Councillor to the Thirty-First Annual Meeting of the Chamber of Commerce of the U. S. to be held in New York City on April 27-29, 1943.

There being no further business before the meeting, it was

On motion, duly made and seconded,

VOTED: To Adjourn

Adjourned Accordingly

A True Record

A T T E S T

WARREN N. WATSON

Secretary

APPROVED

Chairman

CMA 066498

