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FROM: H. W. BELLAS *H.W.B.*

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Assembly Area

The quatrefoil extrusions made during a development run by Harvey Machine Company have been examined and compared with two earlier foils produced from the same die. The new tubes show marked improvement but Harvey have more work to do in die control. Finish on Harvey tubes is good. Rib contact surface is equal to production from other vendors but rib form needs improvement. Non-uniform wall thickness indicates shifting of mandrels during extrusion and would seem to indicate added strength needed in the die. It is of interest that this first die to produce near-acceptable foils has failed structurally at the end of the experimental run. The failure was a collapse of the bridge of the die. These dies work near the annealing temperature and this type of failure is common.

The presentation conveyor in K Area is the first of the redesigned conveyors to be used through a regular plant shutdown. With minor exceptions due to the newness of the construction, the conveyor performed very satisfactorily. The opinions of operating personnel regarding this conveyor are favorable.

Charge and Discharge Machines

The L Recharge was completed in 81-3/4 hours elapsed time with 52-3/4 actual operating hours. The reduced operating time is attributed to a speeded up Z motion drive as covered by T/A 1-248. Of the 29 hours lost time, approximately 10 hours were accounted for by minor electrical and mechanical faults in the machines. The major item was an electrical wire which was pulled apart because it was too short to allow for an infrequently used overtravel in the machine. The wire was pulled apart a second time before it was realized that the length of wire was at fault. The balance of the lost time was caused by auxiliary equipment. The major loss was occasioned by a damaged DE conveyor.

While the performance of the C&D machines is much improved in recent months, discussion in recent Sub-Committee meetings on the subject emphasizes many weaknesses that need correction. The program includes 25 major items of study and a number of items of lesser magnitude.

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MASTER



Reactor Control

Plugging of the strainers of the Hoke dual valves under the monitor pins has been experienced in L and K Areas. The strainers in L Area have been replaced with new ones of the existing design. In K Area they are being replaced with new ones of the existing design modified with a hole punched in the outlet end of the screen. During P Area shutdown it is planned to have a group of strainers made up the same as the existing design except that the filter paper that now covers about 75% of the screen area will be eliminated, and a hole will be punched in the outlet end. For R Area it is planned to either duplicate the strainers in P Area, or to use a totally new design providing much more area and incorporating filter paper, if the new design can be manufactured in time for installation.

Purification

A high spot estimate of \$20,000 including distributives has been obtained from the Engineering Department for the proposed moderator processing facility in 105-P. Product drums would be vented to the stack through small pipes attached by means of quick-disconnect couplings. This appears adequate, since there is now good general ventilation of the resin preparation room. A hood system for the drums would, according to Engineering, add \$20,000 or more to the cost. They have been requested to do no further work in this connection until advised by AED.

Disassembly

Preliminary design of the monitor basin arrangement for sorting and storing LM slugs has been reviewed with the Engineering Department. This design includes facilities for dumping buckets onto a sorting tray, elevating the tray, tonging LM slugs and scrap into their respective containers, and sweeping target slugs from the tray into buckets. The arrangement requires considerable movement of buckets back and forth on the monorails, because of lack of space for storage in the monitor basin. However, in view of the small number of hours of operation and the temporary nature of the requirements, costly modification is considered unjustified. Engineering is proceeding with more detailed design, which will be discussed with plant personnel.

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