

W.S. Palmer

File

January 18, 1929.

Mr. _____ Superintendent

_____ Works

Subject: Safety Contest

CHANGE IN METHOD OF DETERMINING STANDINGS.

In 1927 a change was made in the rules governing the Harvester Works Safety Contest. This change provided for the establishing of three groups of plants and for the awarding of a safety banner to the winner in each group.

The success of this plan has been demonstrated without a doubt by the enthusiastic interest with which the various plants have competed for the honor of winning the safety banners assigned to the three groups.

In its desire to further perfect the conditions of the contest, and in response to constructive suggestions from superintendents and safety inspectors the Central Safety Committee has decided to make a change in the method of calculating the relative standing of the contesting plants. The present method of awarding the banner to the plants in each group showing the greatest percentage of reduction in severity hours lost during the current year over the average it lost during the preceding five years, as shown by the bogey, will be discontinued as of January 1, 1929.

Under the new plan the plant that has the lowest accident severity rate in its group for the year will be awarded the banner. The severity rate is based on the number of hours lost per 1000 hours worked.

It is hoped that this change will minimize the element of luck and will show to good advantage the results of constructive safety measures now in effect in many of our plants, and will serve as an incentive to other plants contemplating the introduction of new and constructive ideas in Safety and Accident Prevention.

In the accompanying copy of the revised report will be seen the change referred to. In addition it will be noted that a slight rearrangement of the three groups has been made in order to more properly classify the plants according to the number of workers employed. The exception to this rule is that of the Iron and Coal Mines, which, because of their unusually hazardous work, are shown with the larger plants in Group #3 as before. The new classification places Richmond Works, Illinois Northern Railroad and Chicago, West Pullman and Southern Railroad in Group #1, while Hamilton Works has been placed in Group #2.

Under the new arrangement Group #1 consists of those plants or operations having 100 to 1000 persons employed. These plants are Chatham, Chattanooga, Chicago, West Pullman and Southern Railroad, McCormick Twine Mill, New Orleans Twine, Rock Falls, Richmond, St. Paul Twine, Deering Rolling Mill, Hamilton Twine and Illinois Northern Railroad.