



Smithsonian Institution

Archives Center - NMAH

Leo Baekeland Diary Volume 53, 1933

Extracted on Mar-28-2024 10:02:51

The Smithsonian Institution thanks all digital volunteers that transcribed and reviewed this material. Your work enriches Smithsonian collections, making them available to anyone with an interest in using them.

The Smithsonian Institution (the "Smithsonian") provides the content on this website (transcription.si.edu), other Smithsonian websites, and third-party sites on which it maintains a presence ("SI Websites") in support of its mission for the "increase and diffusion of knowledge." The Smithsonian invites visitors to use its online content for personal, educational and other non-commercial purposes. By using this website, you accept and agree to abide by the [following terms](#).

- If sharing the material in personal and educational contexts, please cite the Archives Center - NMAH as source of the content and the project title as provided at the top of the document. Include the accession number or collection name; when possible, link to the Archives Center - NMAH website.
- If you wish to use this material in a for-profit publication, exhibition, or online project, please contact Archives Center - NMAH or transcribe@si.edu

For more information on this project and related material, contact the Archives Center - NMAH. [See this project](#) and other collections in the Smithsonian Transcription Center.

2/

[entry in left margin in red]

Quarrels & Blunders of BG in Germany

[/entry in left margin]

making molding powder etc for others and will limit itself to molded articles and laminated, both of phenoplastics and aminoplastics.

[underlined] June 18 [underlined] (Sunday) [red underlined] Stauss [red underlined] made an appointment for 4 P.M at Kaiserhof.

Described [red underlined] his troubles with Sachs and Weger. [red underlined] - and their [red underlined] stubbornness [red underlined] in sticking to their methods in face of increasing competition since our patents expired.

[black and red underlined] Novack [black and red underlined] have brought out a [red underlined] cheap molding mixture [red underlined] made from Cresol with which they are underselling Bakelite and taking customers away. [red underlined] Weger [red underlined] has brought out a similar mixture but of such low grade qualities that customers turn it back. - It sticks and softens and smells badly of cresol. [red underlined] Weger and Elbel [red underlined] try to minimise the defects notwithstanding complaints of customers and are trying to improve the defects without much success. Stauss advises Sachs to sell the good phenol product at reduced price instead of [strikethrough] jeopardizing [strikethrough] incurring the loss of dissatisfied customers until the cresol product is of sufficient good quality. [red underlined] Sachs gets excited etc etc. Stauss [red underlined] is outspoken in criticising the refractory selling methods of Sachs and his organisation. Repeats me what Sachs told me already, that the [red underlined] Deutsche Bank which bosses Rutgers [red underlined] has sent one of their business experts to examine

[end page]

[start page]

3

[entry in left margin in red]

Dissent at Bakelite Gesellschaft

[/entry in left margin]

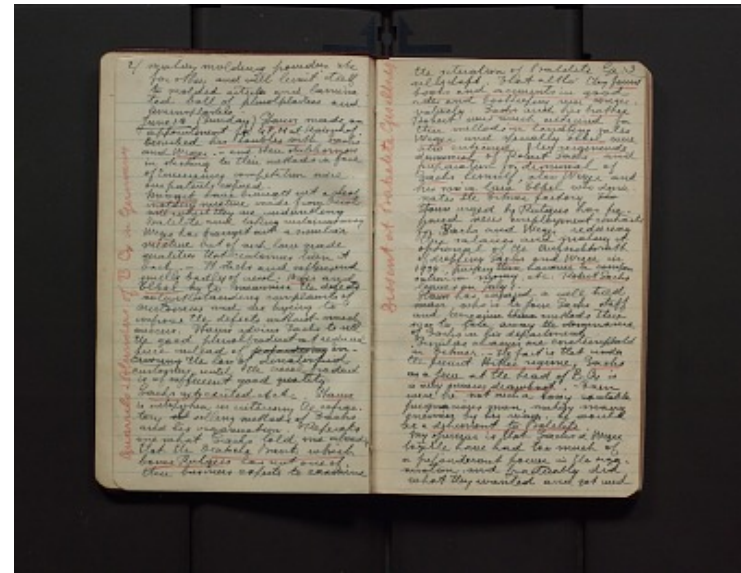
the situation of Bakelite Gesellschaft. That altho' they [red underlined] found books and accounts in good [red underlined] order and bookkeeping run conservatively, [red underlined] Sachs and his brother Robert were much criticised [red underlined] for their methods in handling sales [red underlined] Weger and specially Elbel were also criticised. They recommend dismissal of Robert Sachs and preparation for dismissal of Sachs [red underlined] himself, also Weger and his [red underlined] son in law Elbel [red underlined] who dominates the Erkner factory [strikethrough] Tho [strikethrough]

Stauss urged by Rutgers has prepared new employment contracts for Sachs and Weger reducing their salaries and making it optional of the Aufsehtsrath of dropping Sachs and Weger in 1934, paying them however a compensation in money etc. [red underlined] Robert Sachs leaves on July 1. [red underlined]

Stauss has enjoyed a well tried man who is to join Sachs staff and reorganize [strikethrough] them [strikethrough] methods there soon to take away the dominance of Sachs in his department.

Similar [red underlined] changes are contemplated in Erkner. [red underlined] - The fact is that under the present [red underlined] Hitler regime, Sachs as a Jew [red underlined] at the head of B.G. is a very [red underlined] serious drawback. [red underlined] - Even were he not such a bossy excitable pugnacious man, making many enemies by his ways, he would be a [red underlined] detriment to Bakelite. [red underlined]

My opinion is that Sachs & Weger together have had too much of a preponderant power in the organization, and practically did what they



wanted and got used

Leo Baekeland Diary Volume 53, 1933
Transcribed and Reviewed by Digital Volunteers
Extracted Mar-28-2024 10:02:51



Smithsonian Institution

Archives Center - NMAH

The mission of the Smithsonian is the increase and diffusion of knowledge - shaping the future by preserving our heritage, discovering new knowledge, and sharing our resources with the world. Founded in 1846, the Smithsonian is the world's largest museum and research complex, consisting of 19 museums and galleries, the National Zoological Park, and nine research facilities. Become an active part of our mission through the Transcription Center. Together, we are discovering secrets hidden deep inside our collections that illuminate our history and our world.

Join us!

The Transcription Center: <https://transcription.si.edu>

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SmithsonianTranscriptionCenter>

On Twitter: [@TranscribeSI](https://twitter.com/TranscribeSI)

Connect with the Smithsonian

Smithsonian Institution: www.si.edu

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Smithsonian>

On Twitter: [@smithsonian](https://twitter.com/smithsonian)