

Exchange of Factory Operating Data

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Exchange of operating data has been practiced for many years in the sugar industry. In the raw cane sugar industry the practice has been enlarged to the extent of circulating weekly and monthly reports among the factories cooperating.

A few years ago I. S. J. published a tabulation "Average Manufacturing Results from Natal, Mauritius, Trinidad, British Guiana, Hawaii, Queensland, Puerto Rico and India." A few copies of this tabulation are circulated.

For several years the data for the California beet sugar factories have been tabulated into two reports: Straight and Steffens houses. Copies of these are distributed.

In the present form this report is rather bulky and should be condensed. I would like to suggest that each one interested in the exchange take his copy home and study the arrangement with the idea of eliminating those items which are not of particular interest. Return the report within a reasonable time with recommended omissions or additions. Also include suggestions on format.

The Spreckels office has been collecting, tabulating, mimeographing and distributing these comparative reports for the California factories for several years and can continue this practice. It is suggested that in other geographical areas these data should be compiled and circulated. The practice is to send to each company sufficient copies for distribution to each factory participating.

In connection with the exchange of factory operating data some steps should be started toward exchange of analytical methods with the objective of having some uniformity in reporting.

Before the war the California operating personnel was loosely organized into a California Sugar Technologists' Association which met annually. One of the accomplishments was a compilation of the methods of analysis used by the four companies. This is out of print and also about out of date and should be reviewed on a larger scale.

Uniform methods of analysis are particularly desirable where data are freely exchanged.

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