

DSF/BAK/77

6th October, 1961

R.S. Wade, Esq.,  
P.O. Box 6500,  
MONTREAL.

Dear Bob,

Thank you for your letter of 2nd October with the information regarding the curing chambers used by Vickery at Delhi and that designed by yourselves. We shall look forward to hearing from you after you have visited him in the middle of this month. So far, we have not heard from the American Instrument Company in answer to our earlier letter, but it appears from your letter that they may be a little puzzled. I had understood from Bill Brock that they built the chambers for Vickery, whereas it now appears that Vickery has incorporated their conditioning units. I have, therefore, asked them to send us copies of their Bulletin.

From your sketch of your curing chambers, we note that the operation of these is the inverse of the ones which we have built based on Weybrew's design. We humidify the air first and then warm it, whereas you warm the air first and then humidify it. This may be an important factor in the operation of our chambers and when our present curing studies are finished, we propose to look into this aspect. We do not employ humidistats and instead of this we divert a variable proportion of the circulating air over the surface of warm water tanks. We arrive at our settings of the valves by trial and error, and have found that the conditions achieved are then reproducible. However, we would be grateful if you could send details of the humidistats which you employ.

We were interested in your comment that light should be excluded during the earlier part of the yellowing stage of curing.

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R. S. Hance, Esq.

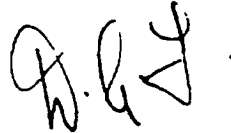
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in order to prevent photosynthesis. Our curing chambers have only small windows in the doors which we could cover, but so far, have not done so. The possibility of some complication like this occurred to our people, but they have asked me to enquire from you precisely what photosynthesis reactions you envisage could occur. Our cured tobacco grown in the greenhouse has a very high sugar content (greater than 30%) which could indicate fixation of carbon dioxide, but we would appreciate your views in this respect.

By now, you will have been to Philadelphia and I hope the Conference was a success. We shall look forward to hearing about it from Wally and Miss Iverson on their return. While Wally is with you, could you please make a point of explaining to him how you have been able to show that nicotine in smoke escapes retention by Cambridge filters. I have noted this in the report by Bruce Stirling on the collaborative smoke analysis study, sponsored by the Tobacco Chemists' Research Conference. I think that Wally will tell you that our experience has been that we have been unable to show nicotine passing Cambridge filters.

Kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,



R. S. FELTON

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