

Minutes
GENERAL MEETING
Asbestos Textile Institute
June 4, 1965
Hotel Le Provence, Thetford Mines, Canada

IN ATTENDANCE:

AMERICAN ASBESTOS TEXTILE CORP.
J.W. Weber
J.L. Rainey
G.S. Fabel
J.W. Christenbury
Wm. Maaskant
D.F. Quealy

ASBESTOS CORPORATION LTD.
G.F. Jenkins
P.E. LeClerc (A.C.S. Ltd.)
E.L. Alexander (A.C.S. Ltd.)
W.W. Oughtred
M.P.Carson
A.L. Penhale
G.F.A. Brink
M.C. Pharo

BELL ASBESTOS MINES LTD.
G.W. Smith
F.P. Smith
Wm.J.W. Smith
R. Dodds-Hebron
Norman L. Barr

CASSIAR ASBESTOS CORP.
J.D. Christian
N. Gritzuk
T.T. Tigert
R. Harson (Ontario Research Foundation)

JOHNS-MANVILLE CORP.
W.S. Hough
E.A. Schuman
W.C. Atkinson
C.L. Sheckler
Dr. K.W. Smith

LAKE ASBESTOS OF QUEBEC LTD.
N.J. Messel
E.A. Farrell
K.W. Nelson

H.K. PORTER COMPANY, INC.
J.T. Griffis
J.D. McCluer
D.E. Childers

RAYBESTOS-MANHATTAN, INC.
J.A. Brown, Jr.
L.C. Williams
J.P. Wronski
F.W. Oliver
R.B. Smith
J.W. Hawkins

TALLMAN-MC CLUSKEY FABRICS CO.
Ted D. McCluskey

TURNER & NEWALL LTD.
Bernard Lincoln

U.S. RUBBER COMPANY
A.C. Link
D.T. Austin, Jr.
S.J. Peele, Jr.
B.D. Hubbard
J.H. Wolfsie (Dr.)

BRITISH BELTING & ASBESTOS LTD.
J.L. Mitchell

CADWALADER, WICKERSHAM & TAFT
P.Jay Flocken (Legal Counsel)

ASBESTOS TEXTILE INSTITUTE
H.E. Sunbury (Exec. Secretary)

SOCIETE ANONYME FRANCAISE DU FERO
Monsieur Collineau
" Decaestecker

U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
Dr. L.J. Cralley

JOHNS-MANVILLE CO. OF CANADA LTD.
H.W. Hendry

** GUESTS **

Karl V. Lindell, Chairman, Canadian Johns-Manville Co., Ltd.
J.O.Eby, Vice Pres.& Genl.Mgr., Jeffrey Mine, Can.Johns-Manville Co.Lt
R. Gagnon, Lake Asbestos of Quebec, Ltd.
L. Piuze, Mine Mgr., Lake Asbestos of Quebec, Ltd.
N.J. Messel, President, Lake Asbestos of Quebec, Ltd.
A.L. Penhale, Chairman & President, Asbestos Corporation Ltd.
G.F. Jenkins, Director, Asbestos Corporation Ltd.

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Guests:

L. Pontpetit, Manager, Nicolet Asbestos Mines Ltd.
Ivan Sabourin, Q.C., Montreal
C.B. Brown, Bell Asbestos Mines Ltd.
J.A.D. Marcotte, Director, Asbestos Corporation Ltd.
Dr. R.J. Merrill, Mgr., Carey-Canadian Mines Ltd.
F.P. Hodgson, Manager, Flintkote Mines Ltd.
[illegible] Lachance, Q.A.I.A. Dust Engineer, Thetford Industrial Clinic
R.S. Coleman, Manager, National Asbestos Mines Ltd.
Dr. L.J. Cralley, U.S. Public Health Service, Cincinnati, Ohio
Dr.K.W. Smith,Medical Director, Johns-Manville Corp.,New York, N.Y.
Dr.J.H.Wolfsie,Medical Director,United States Rubber Co.,New York,NY
Mr.N.L.Barr,Director,Bell Asbestos Mines Ltd.,Sales Mgr.,Atlas Asb.Co
Dr. R. Marson, Director, Ontario Research Foundation
M. Gritzuk, Asst. to the Genl. Mgr., Cassiar Asbestos Corp., Ltd.
Dr. Paul Cartier, Thetford Industrial Clinic, Thetford Mines
Geo. S. Fabel, American Asbestos Textile Corp.
A. Collineau, Societe Anonyme Francaise Du Perodo
M. Decaestecker, " " " " "

In addition to the above guests we were privileged to have thirty ladies accompany their husbands to our luncheon on Friday, June 4th.

--- Minutes of the Meeting ---

1. The meeting was called to order by President J.A. Brown, Jr., who expressed our appreciation for the opportunity of holding this meeting in Thetford Mines, and thanked our hosts, Asbestos Corporation, Ltd.; Bell Asbestos Mines Limited; Canadian Johns-Manville Co., Ltd.; Cassiar Asbestos Corporation Limited; and Lake Asbestos of Quebec Limited, for their wonderful hospitality and meticulous handling of the many details incidental to the meeting. The miners' committee who handled the local arrangements consisted of M.F. Carson, Asbestos Corp.; H.W. Hendry of Can. Johns-Manville Co.; Roland Gagnon, Lake Asbestos of Quebec; Wm.J.W. Smith of Bell Asbestos Mines representing Cassiar Asbestos Corp.; and F.Parker Smith, Bell Asbestos Mines, who was Chairman of the committee. To all of these gentlemen we extend individual thanks for a job that was exceedingly well done!
President Brown then introduced a number of the special guests who were attending this meeting, following which he explained that due to the fact that some of the men had to leave before noontime in order to catch a midafternoon flight out of Montreal, the usual agenda had been reversed to enable them to hear our several guest speakers.

2. Our first speaker was Mr. M.J. Messel, President of Lake Asbestos of Quebec, Limited, who welcomed the members of A.T.I. with these remarks: "President Brown, Members of A.T.I., Guests: It is a pleasure, on behalf of the Canadian Asbestos Miners, to welcome you to asbestos country with its man-made mountains and to tell you how pleased and honoured we are to have you hold your meeting in Thetford Mines.
While I have not been very active in A.T.I., I have followed its work very closely through the reading of the fine and comprehensive reports which your Secretary so ably puts together. I have also followed closely the cooperative work which your technical committees have been doing with the Quebec Asbestos Mining Association, which

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is much appreciated and mutually beneficial. I know the work of an association such as yours is a difficult one due to wide range and complexity of problems that have to be dealt with and wish to congratulate your association in the splendid and effective way that it conducts its affairs and copes with your industry problems.
As yet there is no shortage of Group 3 spinning fibres from the mines in Canada, as I can still see plenty of order-takers around. However, there are indications of possible shortages in some of the asbestos cement grades. At one time the spinning fibre grades were the mainstay of the asbestos producing industry, but this has now been supplanted by the asbestos cement fibre grades together with expanded uses of the shorter fibres.
During 1964, the Canadian Asbestos producing industry employed over 6000 people and exported approximately 1,333,000 tons of asbestos with an approximate gross value of $155,000,000. Of this total only 34,607 tons were crude and spinning grades with an approximate total value of $14,000,000. The U.S.A. market consumed approximately 14,600 tons of crudes and spinning fibres with a value of approximately $6,400,000, and this has remained rather constant for the past 3 or 4 years. The only other large suppliers of spinning fibres are Russia and Rhodesia. The figures we obtained during our visit to Russia would indicate approximately 20 to 25 thousand tons of spinning fibres out of an estimated total production of 1,600,000 tons; so Canada still holds its dominant position as supplier of textile fibres.
The cooperative work that is being carried on for improved fibre testing methods and standards should lead to a better understanding between the producing and consuming asbestos industries.
Mr. Sabourin, as attorney for C.A.M.A., will tell you something of the work that is being considered with respect to the health of the workers in our industry. I feel there should be room for cooperative work between the A.T.I. and C.A.M.A.
I hope your visit among us will be a most happy and pleasant one and will result in a better understanding of our mutual problems, and I know the Local Committees of A.T.I. and the Canadian Asbestos Miners have done a splendid job in making your stay amongst us both happy and memorable."

3. President Brown then introduced Dr. Kenneth W. Smith, Medical Director of Johns-Manville Corporation, who stressed the desirability, indeed the necessity, of the asbestos industry telling the truth about the health of its employees and giving meaningful reports as to company experience. He pointed out that some of the more prolific writers on so-called "asbestosis" have relatively little background of actual "cases" on which to base their theories or conclusions, as compared with our collective and also individual company experience over many years time. Dr. Smith urged full cooperation on the part of various companies to open their records, and full cooperation with the work of the U.S. Public Health Service. He stated that the general overall health of Johns-Manville longtime employees compared favorably with industry in general, and pointed to the steadily expanding membership in their 25 year club as evidence of this fact.

4. President Brown then introduced Mr. Karl V. Lindell, Chairman, Canadian Johns-Manville Co., Ltd., who expressed his pleasure at having the opportunity to attend this meeting, and said that he would like to have Mr. Ivan Sabourin, Q.C., attorney for the C.A.M.A., tell us about the work that has been done in past years to protect the

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health of asbestos workers, and about the outline planned for the newly formed Q.A.M.A. program for Research in Mining Pathology for the Study of Respiratory Diseases as related to Chrysotile Asbestos. Some of the very interesting points brought out by Mr. Sabourin were: In the year 1935 the mining industry started X-raying their employees at regular intervals in order to safeguard their health. The North Carolina State Board of Health was contacted to compare methods for dust counting and for X-ray procedures. Also worked with those hospitals in Canada that had compiled background experience in the field of respiratory diseases.

Paid tribute to Dr. Paul Cartier of the Thetford Industrial Clinic, pointing out that Dr. Cartier had contributed many valuable papers and reports on asbestosis over a span of many years. Also that Dr. Grainger of Canadian Johns-Manville Co. Ltd., Dr. George Wright of Cleveland, and Dr. A.J. Vorwald of Detroit deserved much credit for their work and contributions to the increasing fund of general knowledge regarding asbestosis.

Stressed that the mining industries require their doctors to keep up with the work being done by others on pneumoconiosis research, and to attend meetings both here and abroad, and participate in the discussions at those meetings. He stated with great emphasis that the knowledge possessed by the industry's doctors on the biological effects of chrysotile asbestos was not surpassed elsewhere in the world. Mentioned that contacts have been made with doctors in Russia, East Germany, Finland, Italy, England and other countries.

Expressed his belief that cancer is not necessarily involved due to association with asbestos. Pointed out that the A.M.A. article that appeared only about two weeks ago was not convincing - only informative - indicates much further work is needed - regrets adverse publicity that results from such articles.

Expressed the opinion that while the welfare of the worker should be the responsibility of management, we need to know more about the worker's environment after he leaves the plant.

Explained that the Q.A.M.A. program is still in the formative stage. They seek alliance with some university, such as McGill, for example, so that authoritative background for publicity can be had. The program will start modestly, with competent men coming into it - men with a vast background of actual experience. They recognize the need to consolidate experiences, and also having traveled widely in other countries, they find that research units are usually located adjacent to a large, well equipped hospital. Frequently, the worker has a condition that is not attributable to association with asbestos, discovered through cooperation with the hospital staff.

In conclusion Mr. Sabourin expressed the thought that it would be wonderful if the Asbestos Textile Institute could join their efforts to the Q.A.M.A. program for the benefit of all - deplored the isolation of efforts and poor liaison between research laboratories and research units. Suggested that a common-council as a governing body might be the answer and result in more rapid progress.

5. The next speaker was Dr. L.J. Cralley, of the U.S. Public Health Service, who for the past several years has been supervising the extensive Environmental Study of asbestos employees in textile plants in the U.S.A. Dr. Cralley said that the Study was going well, and fine cooperation from both management and employees has been experienced. The U.S. Public Health Service is now extending their work into other asbestos industries such as asbestos-cement, etc. Feels that the results to date certainly justify the program and its further expansion.

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In other areas of activity the U.S.P.H. Service presented a paper at the recent American Industrial Conference at Houston, Texas, which summarized their study experience in five plants. Draft copies of two papers were distributed to our Air Hygiene Committee on June 3rd. The first paper by Jeremiah B. Lynch of the Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare, titled "Asbestos Study - Procedure and Findings" and the second paper, titled "Relationship of Impinger Counts to Fibre Concentration by Membrane Filters in Asbestos Textile Plants". (Both of these papers are covered more fully in the report of our Air Hygiene & Mfg. Committee which is attached to these minutes.)
Dr. Cralley plans to speak at Seminars frequently in the future, such as University of Texas, insurance companies, etc. Mentioned that since the conference on "Biological Effects of Asbestos", held in New York last October, the New York Academy of Sciences has now established a "Division of Environmental Sciences". At the conclusion of his talk Dr. Cralley answered several questions from the audience.

6. President Brown then asked Mr. W.W. Hendry, General Sales Manager for Canadian Johns-Manville Asbestos Limited, to report for the Fibre Committee.
Mr. Hendry stated that inventories of spinning fibre are ample but substantially below the levels of one year ago. Demand for Group 3 fibres remained relatively flat in 1964 in most countries of the world with the exception of the U.S. and Europe. The increase in demand in the latter area was considerably greater than in the U.S. Business conditions in Japan are fair, Italy poor, Germany fair, United Kingdom good, and the remainder of Europe relatively good in the asbestos textile and asbestos-cement fields. It is expected, however, that the second half of 1965 will show an improvement over the first half in those areas of the world in which business conditions have been below average.
The average reduction in the -200 mesh McNett content of spinning fibres from 1953 to 1965 is in the order of 50 - 75 per cent.
New asbestos fibre production projected from new properties in Canada includes the Clinton Creek property of Cassiar in 1968, Asbestos Hill of Asbestos Corporation in 1970, and the possible Reeves property of J.M. in Northern Ontario. This new production will supply the asbestos-cement market principally. Russian production in 1964 at 1,000,000 tons exceeded that of Canada for the first time and this trend is expected to continue in the forward years.

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