MINUTES OF THE AIR HYGIENE COMMITTEE MEETING

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PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

ATI-207

'N ATTENDANCE WERE: J. W. Weber
R. B. Smith
J. D. Beatty
D. R. Holmes
H. M. Jackson

1. The research proposal received from Saranac Laboratory pertaining to the relationship of pulmonary cancer to asbestosis was reviewed in detail.

There is increasing publicity both in the professional and popular literature concerning the relationship of asbestosis to cancer. Several articles tying the two together were cited by the committee. For example, in the Consumers' Reports, a popular publication of national distribution, one of the member companies reported that they currently have a workmen's compensation case claiming that pulmonary cancer was caused by exposure to asbestosis.

It is obvious from the Saranac proposal that research into this field is exceedingly complex; that the techniques are difficult; and that a considerable length of time and a large number of experimental animals are required. The Saranac proposal covered a three year period.

It was the consensus of the committee that an additional proposal be obtained from another research agency and reviewed before making a definite recommendation to the Board of Governors. It was also suggested that when our thinking became crystallized, other asbestos industries, such as the asbestos cement, the insulation and asphalt tile groups, be approached to cooperate in the financing of the research

2. It was recalled that in Dr. Schepers' visit to the committee, mention had been made of the carcinogenic properties of certain oils and lubricating products that might be involved in the fibre conditioners. Recommendation was made that further information concerning this potential hazard be obtained and forwarded to each committee member. Toxicological information pertinent to other materials commonly used in member plants (solvents, degreasers, etc.) would also be obtained and disseminated.

3. The Committee reviewed the practices and methods of maintenance and operation of dust control systems. Since the standard dust survey methods are lengthy and costly procedures, it was the consensus that assurance of the effective operation of a ventilation control system could be obtained through frequent and regular checks of air flow and pressures.

It was recommended that an initial relationship between satisfactory dust counts and operating pressures of the system be established. Subsequent

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checks of the system with the manometer would indicate whether the system was operating as designed. Such a test procedure is both simple and rapid.

The techniques of systematic inspection were reviewed and it was unanimously agreed that regularly scheduled, periodic inspection was an essential element in maintaining the efficiency of the system. A corollary of this was the preventive maintenance approach to bag, hood and pipe replacement.

4. John Beatty reported an effective design of dust control at the looms. Drawings and pictures will be distributed when received.

H. K. Jackson
Chairman
Air Hygiene Committee

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