File:

January 12, 1953

Dr. K.W. Smith

Industrial Hygiene Literature File.

Further to your letter to me of December 29 in which you call attention the January 1952 issue of the A.M.A. Industrial Hygiene and Occupational Medicine journal, I know that Mr. Jackson has accumulated a file of the occupational articles in connection with the various hazards in our various plants. Over the years I kept a file on the subject of pulmonary trouble caused by silica and I know that Dr. Cummins and Mr. Jackson likewise have a considerable accumulation along this same line.

I presume that you have in mind setting up a system such that medical and chemical literature will be combed regularly for articles of this type which are of interest to us and the subject material then properly indexed for reference.

I believe we told you that several years ago, more or less by chance, we had a discussion with Dr. Lanza on aluminum therapy which lead to our meeting with Dr. Irwin, of the Aluminum Company of America, which then resulted in our aluminum therapy program at Saranac. During this work at Saranac and following a discussion on the solubility and reaction of silica with specific aluminum powder, our laboratory at Manville carried out a considerable piece of work to determine the solubilities of our various materials in contact with the activated aluminum powder. During the course of this work and just as it was completed, Dr. Cummins obtained a list of all the articles shown the bibliography of one of these articles and on obtaining it we found that this same analytical work that we had just completed had been done at Tulane University in about 1939 on a selection of our own materials. Had any of us been in the Celite Division seen that particular article, it would have stimulated our interest in this subject some 10 years earlier and, at the same time, it would have given us information on the reactions of our diatoms which are of real interest and value to us.

Therefore, I hope that a part of the work of your office will be to obtain a complete indexed reference library for all items pertaining to occupational hazards incident to our various industries.

If there is any help that either Dr. Cummins or I can give you, will you please advise.

ARTHUR ELSENBAST.

cc: Dr. A.D. Cummins - Mvl.
H.M. Jackson

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