Minutes of the Asbestos Textile Institute Air Hygiene and Manufacturing Committee - March 5th and 6th, 1959

In Attendance:

W. C. Atkinson	Johns-Manville Corp.
H. M. Jackson	Johns-Manville Corp.
A. E. May	Keasbey & Mattison Co.
J. L. Mitchell	Southern Asbestos Co.
H. E. Palm	Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.
W. C. Seeds	Johns-Manville Corp.
R. B. Smith	Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.
U. D. Torrance	Johns-Manville Corp.
J. W. Weber	American Asbestos Textile Corp.

Guest: Mr. Charles Carrol Porczynski - Lake Asbestos Co. of Quebec

The following items were discussed in a "Round Table" type atmosphere with all members participating:

1. Report of the Asbestosis Research Council

The committee received the first annual report of the Asbestosis Research Council in which it was noted that a program was being established to evaluate the use of the Thermal Ottway Precipitator for use in taking dust counts in the asbestos textile tile industry. Although the Greenberg-Smith Impinger is the official sampling device of health authorities in the United States some of the users are not thoroughly satisfied with the impinger. The committee has requested that full information be obtained on the Ottway Thermal Precipitator and that the Asbestosis Research Council be asked for details of their program for the evaluation of the Precipitator. One of the member companies indicated that they might purchase a Precipitator for their own use.

2. Dust Control

One member company reported that their insurance carrier has asked them to establish a very elaborate dust test and control program. The program requested is far more elaborate than that recommended by the National Safety Council. No agreement has been reached as yet on a program which will be satisfactory to both.

A. E. May brought a copy of "The Industrial Environment -- its Evaluation and Control" Public Health Service publication #614 on sale by the U. S. Government Printing Office, Supt. of Documents, Washington 25, D. C., Price $2.75. This syllabus contains the reference materials, lecture outlines and problems which are the basis of a training course given to industrial hygiene engineers and chemists at the Occupational Health Field Headquarters in Cinn., Ohio. Valuable parts of the publication are a "Selected List of General Reference Sources" and the references given at the end of each lecture.

The use of recirculated air was discussed because by its use considerable savings in heating can be made. One company reported that they have been doing this for some time with the approval of their insurance carriers and the state. It was mentioned that one state forbids the use of recirculated air if it contains more than 200,000 to 250,000 parts per cu. ft. of asbestos particles.

One member reported that his company has started a study to determine if the Midget and Standard Greenberg Smith Impingers give comparable samples in all cases. It has been the practice to use either of the two instruments

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interchangeably.

Mr. Atkinson advised that when installing the dust collecting equipment on their frames it was necessary to replace the counterweights with springs which are very satisfactory.

The Welkra Bag Dumper is now in use in the plants of two member companies with very satisfactory results from the dust control standpoint and saving in fiber.

The Wilson 600-A Respirator which is similar in design to the Dust flow is well liked by one of the member companies.

3. Industrial Health

The policy of member companies regarding x-rays and health examinations is given below:

Company A
1. Pre-employment x-ray - size 14" x 17"
2. Yearly x-ray - size 6" x 9", taken by mobile unit of the State
   a. Employee & Company notified of positive cases
   b. Company advised of doubtful cases
3. Lung capacity tests given certain employees
4. Annual health exams given to all employees
5. In cooperation with an Electro-Cardiogram group, cardiograms are made on certain individuals

Company B
1. One 14" x 17" x-ray yearly - more often in suspicious cases
2. Annual health examination
3. Upon reports of occupational disease, a careful check of the work environment is made, and any poor conditions promptly corrected

Company C
1. One 14" x 17" chest x-ray yearly
2. one 14" x 17" pre-employment x-ray

Company D
1. One 35 mm yearly
2. a 4" x 5" x-ray in suspicious cases

This company will have their own 4" x 5" unit in operation in the near future.

Company E
1. Chest x-ray yearly
2. Annual health examination

Company F
1. One yearly chest x-ray

Respectfully submitted,

A. E. May,
Chairman

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