CONFIDENTIAL

C O P Y

Asbestos, Que.,
Hospital,
June 11, 1951

C. M. McGaw

NOTED
V. B.

Industrial Hygiene

I believe that the Saranac report on experimental asbestosis has received a wide and adequate circulation. Dr. Vorwald has sent reprints to a wide circle of interested medical authorities; Mr. Sabourin sent copies to all members of the Q.A.M.A.; I personally contacted Dr. Vidal and the members of the Silicosis Board; I have discussed the article with Dr. Bellemare and know that the Quebec group of compensation doctors have read the report; also, this journal is in all libraries and reading rooms of the universities and medical schools. Hence I do not believe that we could bring this report to the attention of any others who are interested or who should read it.

The idea to develop a news story is a good one. Personally I would prefer to wait until the results of Dr. George Wright's examinations of our men are published; also we would be wise to wait until we have proof of no causal relationship between asbestosis and pulmonary cancer. Dr. Vorwald's report and favorable findings might be tempered by Dr. Wright's work and we might not wish to bring attention to the asbestos industry if the cancer research is not entirely favorable.

As a long term project, I believe that the results of these three studies might be compiled in booklet form when they are completed. Such a booklet, covering animal experiments, examination of workers, statistical and x-ray studies as well as cancer research, could well serve as a standard text in all medical centres.

(Signed)
Kenneth W. Smith, M.D.

KWS/h.n.

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