AIR HYGIENE FOUNDATION OF AMERICA, INC.

4400 FIFTH AVENUE

PITTSBURGH, PA.

April 5, 1939

Mr. S. Simpson, President
Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.
Bridgeport, Connecticut

APR 10 AM'39

Dear Mr. Simpson:

At the meeting of the Board of Trustees of Air Hygiene Foundation, held in Pittsburgh on March 15, 1939, one of the members spoke of the advisability of a company securing information from a disinterested and recognized authority in the medical and engineering field of industrial health, as to its prevailing working conditions, for example, dust, fumes, etc. In this way, if under the laws recently passed by many States, an employee filed claims before a Compensation Commission or in the Courts, a strong defense against an unjust claim could be made, based on actual conditions prevailing before or at the time of the alleged injury.

It was emphasized that if information of this type was not available, then a company would either be forced to incur the heavy expense of employing so-called "experts" to make a survey of the conditions and prove that the results so found were the same as at the time of the alleged accident, or submit data subsequently collected by its own operating personnel. Unfortunately such data are often disregarded in the belief that the results so obtained may be prejudiced.

It was also brought out at the meeting, that, disregarding for the moment the legal advantage mentioned above, and the possibility of securing lower insurance rates through having competent data, the experience of the particular member indicated that the results of surveys of dust and fume conditions made by disinterested parties, or by the company's own employees, usually resulted in operating savings that more than compensated for the expense of the study, and often even for the cost of equipment that the study indicated was necessary to improve working conditions.

If any members are interested in work of this character, please write to the Managing Director, as Air Hygiene Foundation has already made a number of such surveys, and is in an excellent position to complete studies for its members at a rate far below the sum usually charged for such services, and at a cost, which in certain cases might possibly be even less than if handled by the member's own organization.

Copy to Fabian Brown

Very truly yours,

H. B. Meller
Managing Director

HBM:D

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