Manville Factory
Feb. 13, 1941

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. A.R.Fisher, V.P.
General Headquarters

JOSEPH GURNICK

I am attaching herewith a report from Mr. Hite to me in regard to the above mentioned employee. I do not think there is anything that we should do at this time, except to sit tight and await developments. It may develop into another one of those annoying cases which we have experienced in the past, but I do not think that we can do a thing to alter the course of this case at the present time.

I have checked with Freas Hess, who has informed me that a Dr. Wegroski of Essex County has prepared and is planning to submit a bill, making occupational disease compensable in New Jersey. Mr. Hess has not seen a copy of this bill as yet but promises to get me a copy just as soon as it comes before the committee. He advises that the representative of the Manufacturers' Association lobbying at Trenton says that they are ready to submit a counter bill, just as soon as Wegroski's is submitted. Mr. Hess has promised to get me a copy of this bill just as soon as he can.

I do not know whether the bill arranged by the Association of Manufacturers is one that we would favor, as I do not know the names of the people who are behind it. Mr. Hess is going to try to find out for me. This, however, does seem to be important: something should be done in the State of New Jersey on making occupational disease compensable. There is no doubt in my mind that a few of the cases we have had recently and settled by compromise have received unavoidable publicity (more than likely passed from employee to employee orally). The indications are definite that toomany of our employees know that they can get consideration on these occupational disease cases.

Please let me know the status of the bill on compensable occupational disease which our Company is working on in connection with some other business interests. If there is anything that we can do through Mr.Hess on this subject, please let me know that, also. I will keep you advised of the activity in Trenton through Mr. Hess.

JEB:MES

J.E.Begert, Mgr.

enc.

CC: Mr. Vandiver Brown, G.H.
Mr. J.P.Syme, G.H.

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