Important
Please note

Johns-Manville BULLETIN

New York, N. Y.
June 10, 1935

TO: ALL HOME INSULATION SUB-LICENSEES (UNITED STATES AND CANADA)
ALL DISTRICT MANAGERS - (BLDG. MTLS. DEPT.)
ALL SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVES - HOME INSULATION

Respirators
Home Insulation

Under the dates of June 12, 1933 and January 16, 1934 a bulletin was sent out to you with reference to the use of dust masks and respirators for men on your blowing crews.

For your information we are quoting below this bulletin:

"Every now and then for the past three years a workman, who has been either let out or who has become dissatisfied with the Home Insulation Contractor with whom he has been working, gets a "shyster" lawyer to bring an action for alleged injuries sometimes described as .Silicosis, resulting from breathing dust particles in the blowing operation of Home Insulation.

Recently, two actions were brought against the Home Insulation Company Incorporated of New Jersey by former employees, which resulted in decisions favorable to the Home Insulation Company. In order to escape the charge of negligence in possible future cases of similar character the <u>following steps should be taken immediately.</u>

(1) A mask of standard recognized make suited for the particular type of dust condition should be provided each employee as each job is commenced. The mask should be numbered and loaned to the employees at the commencement of each job. In each such case the employee should sign a receipt for his mask and these receipts should be carefully preserved.

(2) In every case where work is done indoors, the employees in addition to wearing their masks should see that the windows are kept open and they should be advised as to the desirability of having as much ventilation as possible.

(3) The Home Insulation Contractors should affix notices on each machine reading somewhat as follows:- "Safety First - Wear Your Masks".

There have been no judgments that we know of to date awarded to the workmen, but it behooves all of the contractors to take these precautions so as not to have any precedent established in court. We are making these recommendations to you because we believe they will be helpful, but, at the same time, we want it understood that in making them we do not assume any responsibility as to possible claims that may be made, whether meritorious or otherwise, so far as the Approved Contractor is concerned in the event difficulties arise.

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Several of our contractors have printed instructions on their Foreman's Instruction Sheet on each job reading as follows:

'All men handling wool including man at nozzle of hose must be furnished with respirators by foreman. Respirators for this purpose are in tool equipment of each unit and foreman is responsible for keeping these in good condition for use.'".

We suggest that you again caution all your foremen and workmen to follow these instructions.

N. B. SHERRILL, JR.,

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