~~Copy of Survey~~

2 - File - Asbestos Pit

COPY

MINISTRY OF HEALTH
Division of Industrial Hygiene
QUEBEC

REPORT ON SURVEY MADE AT THE CANADIAN JOHNS MANVILLE COMPANY LTD

ASBESTOS, QUE.

This inspection was made on October the 27th, 1944. It was at the invitation of Mr. Ivan Sabourin, C.R., secretary of the Asbestos Producers Association of the Province of Quebec, that we accompanied Mr. Wm. Fehnel, chemist of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., who had come at the request of the different mining companies to make dust surveys in their respective plants.

The officials of the Company we met were Mr. Sherry, general manager, Mr. McCaw, personnel manager, Mr. Molson, engineer of the textile plant.

This concern operates a mine for the production of asbestos and also an asbestos textile plant. Our survey took place only in the textile plant leaving the work in the mine and the mill for a later date. Seven air samples were taken, of which one was broken in transit. The M.S.A. Midget Impinger was used to collect these samples. The rate of our sampling was 0.1 of a cu.ft. per minute. The concentrations obtained on these samples were as follows:

Sample	Location	Concentration particles per cu.ft.
1	Near carding machine	broken
2	Break-band weaving	36,300,000
3	Cannon spinning machine	16,620,000
4	Spooling No. 1-2-3-4	16,180,000
5	Spinning (Cannon) (Nos.2.3)	4,600,000
6	Spooling Nos. 5-6-	5,530,000
7	Weaving on mezzanine	7,520,000

These samples were taken in the vicinity of the various machines mentioned above, thus giving a concentration of the general atmosphere, rather than the air breathed by the operators at each machine.

Considering that 5,000,000 particles per cu.ft. is the maximum allowable concentration for this type of dust, it is evident that some improvements are necessary to bring conditions down to this limit.

Actually the machines such as weaving, carding are provided with hoods, but it was apparent that the exhausts were operating efficiently. We have been informed by Mr. Sherry, general manager of the Company, that a new exhaust system was being installed as to improve this situation. It would also certainly help to improve conditions if better housekeeping was organized. A vacuum cleaning machine could could be used very efficiently for this. The operators of the spinning machine clean their floor with ordinary brooms; this also should be done by vacuum.

100255

Published by AsbestosClaims.Law
asbestosclaims.law/library/11789/1

It would be well to study the feasibility of installing exhaust hoods over these spinning machines.

From this it is possible to recommend the following:-

a) Improve housekeeping in the textile department. The use of a vacuum cleaning machine is suggested. This would eliminate the use of the broom.

b) Increase the exhaust capacity on the hoods, already installed over some of the machines.

c) Install exhaust hoods on the machines not provided with any.

It was understood with Mr. Sherry that we could repeat this work when the new exhaust will be installed. We will take this opportunity to make a survey in the asbestos mill operated by the same Company to obtain an idea of the conditions prevailing in that part of the plant.

Sarto R. Plamondon,

Industrial Hygiene Engineer

100255

Published by AsbestosClaims.Law
asbestosclaims.law/library/11789/2