General Headquarters
February 20, 1933

Mr. S. A. Williams,
9th Floor.

Referring further to the Concurrent Resolution adopted by the New Jersey Legislature providing for the appointment of a Commission to make a study of silicosis and pneumonoconiosis, a copy of which I have already sent you, the folllowing points should be noted:

1. The Commission has not yet been appointed and requires action by the Governor, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, each of whom will appoint three members. Since there is an additional proviso that there shall be one representative of labor, one of industry, one of the medical profession and one of the legal profession it will be necessary for the three individuals to cooperate in the making of their appointments. This will mean some delay but we shall endeavor to keep in touch with the situation and be advised as to personnel of the Commission.

2. The Commission's job will be to prepare a bill for introduction at the "next ensuing session of the Legislature", that is, in January of 1934.

3. In the interim between the appointment of the Commission and the convening of the next session of the Legislature the Commission will doubtless hold hearings or otherwise permit the various interests involved to give the Commission the benefit of their experience and suggestions.

It will be recalled that about a year ago when we discussed the position Johns-Manville Corporation would take in regard to the bill then pending in the Legislature that would have made pneumonoconiosis a compensable disease, the chief argument advanced against our supporting such legislation was that we desired a little more time in which to set our house in order. As matters have developed it will be seen that we are now assured of an additional year within which to do whatever may be necessary. It is my recollection that this is the amount of time specified as adequate by those most

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familiar with the situation at Manville.

I am advised by Mr. Hobart that the resolution being a concurrent one does not, under the New Jersey procedure, require the approval of the Governor but becomes effective immediately upon adoption.

VANDIVER BROWN
Legal Department.

VB:T

Copy to: Mr. E. M. Voorhees