# Manville Internal Correspondence

To See Below* Date April 3, 1985

From Lois Gaul, 2-20

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Subject MINERAL WOOL

Mineral Wool is the title of Bureau of Mines Information Circular I.C.6984R, written by J.R. Thoenen and published in June 1939.

We have only the pages on "mineral wool as a health hazard" which describe a series of experiments at Harvard School of Public Health. Also included is part of a letter the author received from Dr. R.R. Sayers, Chief, Division of Industrial Hygiene, U.S. Public Health Service:

> From some experiments we have performed, using mineral-wool fibers, we have found that particles remain in the tissue, producing an inert foreign body reaction similar to that of asbestos and we have been considering dust from mineral wool as potentially harmful, that is, capable of producing a diffuse pulmonary fibrosis, when inhaled.

The author of the circular concludes that "the results of these experiments indicate there is a definite danger from inhaled mineral-wool dust, but its action is mechanical rather than pathological."

LG/ks

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