MINUTES OF THE ASBESTOS TEXTILE INSTITUTE'S

[redacted]

December 3, 1959

In Attendance:

W. C. Atkinson - Johns-Manville Corp., Manville, N. J.
H. M. Jackson - Johns-Manville Corp., New York, N. Y.
A. E. May - Keasbey & Mattison Co., Ambler, Pa.
J. L. Mitchell - Southern Asbestos Co., Charlotte, N. C.
H. E. Palm - Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., Manheim, Pa.
R. B. Smith - Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., No. Chas., S. C.
Hans Walter - American Asbestos Corp., Norristown, Pa.

The following items were discussed:

DUST COLLECTING EQUIPMENT:

Under this heading we discussed the types of filter cloth available and the permeabilities of various filter fabrics also a few of the suppliers of filter cloths were mentioned. Vacuum cleaning of filter bags was described by one member, this being done to reduce the static pressures which are developed through a build up of dust in the pores of the fabric. It was agreed upon that regular inspection of Dust Collectors for mechanical wear should be scheduled as preventative maintenance. Also discussed was the desirability of having a permanently mounted Manometer in the Dust Collector showing the resistance in the collector at all times. Several of the member companies have such an installation.

Also under this heading we discussed the re-circulation of air from Dust Collectors. One company has recently installed a return air system in their Card Room. This system is complete with cooling, heating and humidity controls. The cooling is accomplished by refrigeration coils, heating is by steam coils and humidity is induced by atomized steam. When the return air passes through the duct, it is automatically conditioned so that the Card Room maintains 80° temperature and 40% humidity at all times during the year. To assure these conditions, all windows were bricked up and 1/4" insulating material was sprayed over the outside of the entire building producing a stucco surface. This was an expensive installation, however it has increased their yields throughout their process.

COMPARISON OF DUST SAMPLING EQUIPMENT:

After a considerable amount of discussion it was decided that the data to date indicated that there appears to be a comparison between the Standard and the Midget Greenberg-Smith Impinger. This study will continue and is being conducted by Johns-Manville for us.

GENERAL ENGINEERING SUBJECTS:

Photographs of Southern Asbestos's Blending Feed System were shown by Mr. Mitchell who also explained its operations including the proposed dust removal system. The blending of fibers in their Preparation Department is accomplished by a series of automatically controlled hoppers which dump upon a feed apron. This apron moves the blended fibers into a beater section which prepares the fibers for their Card Room.

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Mr. Atkinson distributed a drawing of the spray nozzle which Johns-Manville is using on their looms for wet weaving. This was discussed along with experiences of other companies.

As a matter of interest, it was announced that we have written a letter to the Asbestos Research Council of England concerning the exchange of information on dust removal systems and are now awaiting their answer.

PLANT SAFETY PROGRAMS:

Mr. Jackson explained the frequency rating policies at the National Safety Council. Also discussed were several accidents which had occured at various plants. A more complete discussion of accidents and safety programs will be discussed at the next meeting.

FELLOWSHIP PROJECTS:

We have asked the Board of Governors that Dr. Shaw add the following two projects to the Fellowship Program:

(a) That Dr. Shaw conduct a publication survey on publicized material concerning all aspects of Air Hygiene. These publications, editorials, etc. would be catalogued and maintained by the A.T.I. at its headquarters thus affording its members a library from which this valuable information could be secured.

(b) That Dr. Shaw investigate the infiltration qualities of various cloth which are recommended for use in Asbestos Dust Collectors.

AGENDA FOR MARCH 3, 1960 MEETING:

1- Review of the factors which would be involved in an environmental health survey.

2- Plant Safety Program- Individual members are to bring their frequency ratings for the past 2 years with a description of the accidents which were involved in these ratings. Also to be discussed is the function of each Plant Safety Program and the composition of Safety Committees.

3- Continued discussions of Dust Collecting Equipment and Systems.

4- Discussion of New Manufacturing Equipment that is available.

Respectfully submitted

Ralph B. Smith, Chairman
Air Hygiene and Manufacturing Committee

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ACL Doc 12932 · Page 2 of 2 **asbestosclaims.law/library/12932/2**