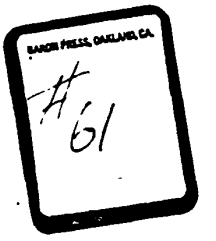
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SUBJECT: Minutes of the Asbestos Textile Institute Air Hygiene and Manufacturing Committee.

IN ATTENDANCE:

W. C. Atkinson	Johns-Manville Corporation
H. H. Jackson	Johns-Manville Corporation
A. E. May	Keasbey & Mattison Company
J. L. Mitchell	Southern Asbestos Corporation
H. E. Palm	Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.
R. B. Smith	Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.
J. W. Weber	American Asbestos Textile Corp.



The following items were discussed at a round table type of discussion:

I. The report, "An Epidemiological Study of Lung Cancer in Asbestos Miners" which was written by the Industrial Hygiene Foundation and sponsored by Quebec Asbestos Mining Association, was discussed in the committee. The following extracts taken from the "Summary and conclusions", page 649 of the report are self explanatory:

> "Interest in the question of whether there may be an association between lung cancer and exposure to asbestos has been evident since the report in 1935 by Lynch and Smith in a case in which lung cancer and asbestosis were both present. As additional cases in which the two diseases coexisted were reported, a casual association appears to have been gradually accepted by many authors, although some workers considered the correlation to be inconclusive. The present study was undertaken in an effort to determine whether a casual relationship did, in fact, exist between exposure to asbestos and cancer of the lung."

> "Comparison of the experience among the asbestos miners with that of various segments of the unexposed, comparable population shows that the observed number of deaths among the miners is not significantly greater than the expected number. The rate for proved cases among the asbestos miners (25.3 per 100,000) compares well with the rate of 22.5 per 100,000 for the rest of the Province, and 20.8 per 100,000 for adult males throughout the Dominion of Canada. It also compares satisfactorily with rates of 37.2, 25.3 and 28.0 obtained from various sources of adult males in the United States. Finally, in this matter of comparison, it would appear that the world-wide experience of persons exposed to asbestos dust is not worse with respect to lung cancer than that of the unexposed population."

Discussion of the report in the Committee centered on the following items:

1. All of the known and suspected deaths due to lung cancer were from the group of those that smoked.

2. The number of lung cancer deaths by exposure category:

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Exposure Category	Number of Persons	Number of Deaths Prevd	Total
I	2,031	4	4
II	2,150	3	4
III	1,772	2	4
Unkown	5	0	0
TOTALS	5,958	9	12

The exposure categories were established by a group of doctors and operators who made group I a minimum exposure, group II moderate, and group III heavy.

The committee members plan on giving copies of this study to their plant physicians and officials.

II. Discussion on Dust

a. One member company reports that a compensation award was made to a worker in a non-toxic area because visible dust was present. This company has established the policy that all areas in which the fiber counts are over 1 million particles per cubic foot must be eliminated as well as areas in which the dust count is over 5 m.p.p.c.f.

b. One of the committee members reported that one half of their indirect labor is on the incentive pay plan, also they have a clean-up crew whose duty is to clean all production machinery throughout the plant.

c. Mr. Mitchell brought photographs of the card, loom and tape loom hoods. The hoods on the cards and looms have been in use for some time and are very satisfactory. The dust counts in the areas of the hooded machines are well below the minimum allowable of 5 m.p.p.c.f. The tape loom hood is an experimental hood on which more work will be done.

d. One member of the committee reported that they have installed scrapper conveyors under their cards that move the droppings to a suction nozzle located at one end of the conveyor.

III. Compensation Cases

An award was made to a worker who had not worked in a dusty area for eight years, who was now employed in a dust free area but walked through a fiber preparation department and worked with material containing asbestos, one hour a week. The worker was operated upon and cancerous turnover of the spine was found. An award was given to the worker based on asbestosis.

Awards have been made to former coal miners who become sick in their present employment. The present employer is liable even though the sickness was contracted in the previous occupation.

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The above cases emphasize the necessity of thorough pre-employment and periodical medical examinations.

It was agreed that the following subjects would be discussed at the next meeting:

a. Dust control in fiber preparation
b. Dust control at the card condensers
c. Dust control at the cards and looms

Respectfully submitted,

A. E. May,
Chairman

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