MINUTES OF THE ASBESTOS TEXTILE INSTITUTE

AIR HYGIENE COMMITTEE MEETING

DECEMBER 7, 1955

IN ATTENDANCE WERE: D. R. Holmes
J. W. Weber
R. B. Smith
J. D. Beatty
B. W. Luttenberger
H. H. Jackson

The agenda for this meeting was as follows:

#1. Discussion of Methods and Problems of Fibre Conditioning.

Two Companies are now using an oil spray emulsion. One is using a Sprayco compressor with an American stray engineering head. This spraying is done on a conveyor after the mix is laid out. The spraying is done on top of the fly, and, this method gives satisfactory results in this plant.

The other member Company is using the Bourne Schrymer Process with cotton processing oil. In using this system, the oil is sprayed from two sides within a totally enclosed chamber. This method gives satisfactory results.

It was suggested that we experiment with spraying fly separately when it is being cleaned; then, add the fly to the mixing. This may give us the best results.

We also discussed the health problem involved with oil sprays. We will procure information from the proper sources in order to control this problem. It was suggested that we procure information from the Garlock Packing Co., and the Asbestos Textile Company at which a Mr. Gatke should be contacted. We understand that both of these companies use an oil spray continuously.

Dr. Maier of Raybestos-Manhattan at Manheim, Pa. is experimenting with varying amounts of oil used in stock. He will make a report later, the results of which will be available to the Air Hygiene Committee.

PART II

In relation to Dr. Shaw's project, B2, entitled, "Investigate the Percentage of Asbestos Dust in Asbestos Fibre with a View Towards Establishing a Standard Procedure", it is our opinion that we should coordinate this problem with the Technical Committee as it is a joint problem. As we all agree, if we do not purchase as much dust in the fibre received from the Mines in the future, as we are now doing, we will have less dust to eliminate in our plants.

Dr. Maier is again making a survey of wet vs. dry methods of dust sampling. The results and percentage of dust in fibre as received will be reported by him to both the Technical Committee and the Air Hygiene Committee in about six months time.

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## COMMITTEE PROGRAM - 1956

It has been suggested and adopted by the Committee that we use the following guide for our Committee for a program for one year:

1. Adopt uniform medical examinations for both pre-employment and yearly examinations; Compare.
2. Make continual and complete studies of dust control.
3. Continue the study and problems concerning fibre conditioning.
4. Continually work toward a lowering of dust counts.
5. Determine the percentage of dust in virgin fibre.

## PROGRESS ON DUST CONTROL

Two member Companies reported definite improvements in their dust conditions. One Company has converted a large part of their work from twister to flyer frames. This Company reports lower dust counts in this area; however, figures will not be presented until perhaps the next meeting.

The other Company has completely hooded their wide looms, and, this Company reports that their weave room dust counts have been lowered from six to nine million per cu. ft. down to one million. This is a remarkable accomplishment and this Company deserves much credit for making this correction in the Weaving Dept.

Mr. Luttenberger submitted a report on a #62, Type CH3 self-cleaning bag collector, sold by Pangborn. After eight months of experimenting and three months in full operation, the unit, out at Manheim, handles two cards and a total of 3,000 cu. ft. and now shows good results. Each member was given literature on this type collector for his own perusal.

Mr. Weber submitted pictures of a fibre bag loader which he is now using. However, he advised that there are still a few changes to be made on this unit before it will satisfactory for production purposes. When these changes are made to his satisfaction, he will give us a complete report on this unit.

## AGENDA FOR MARCH 1956 MEETING

1. Current experiences in the problem of fibre conditioning.
2. Each member shall prepare for a dust count survey, either through the Travelers' Insurance Co. laboratory at Hartford, Conn. or the Industrial Hygiene Foundation at Pittsburgh, Penna. (The chairman will contact Dr. Wallmer of the Industrial Hygiene Foundation and request that he determine the cost of their making dust counts only which would be part of the survey which they undertook several years ago.) This survey should be completed by June. The survey should show improvements made in dust control in the last two years.
3. Reports by members on recent improvements in dust elimination by whatever means.

D. R. Holmes
Chairman
Air Hygiene Committee

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