OWENS-CORNING FIBERGLAS CORPORATION

INTRA-COMPANY CORRESPONDENCE

General Offices—Toledo, Ohio

RECEIVED
OCT 19 1956
OWENS-CORNING FIBERGLAS CORP.

Attention of Mr. John Black - Toledo

October 18, 1956

From Mr. W. L. Bowes - Boston

cc: J. A. McKay - New York
H. T. Williams - Toledo

Subject ASBESTOS WORKERS UNION

This week we were given a tip by John Murphy, Business Agent of the Asbestos Workers Union in Hartford, Connecticut. He informed us that the Boston Local of the Asbestos Workers Union are conducting an investigation into the lung conditions of their members and that some of the results they found were detrimental to fibrous products.

Yesterday we called on Mr. Abram Goldberg and Mr. Henry Anderson. Mr. Goldberg is the President and Mr. Anderson is the Business Agent of the Boston Local. We found that Mr. Goldberg had just recently undergone a lung exploratory operation. This operation had been performed by Dr. Richard Sweet of the Mass. General Hospital. They also informed us that another member, Mr. William Shaw was undergoing medical treatment at the Overholt Clinic of the Deaconess Hospital. They also stated that they recently had had X-Rays of over 50 percent of their members and that they found quite a few of their members showed a cloudiness in the lungs. The expression was that there was more shadowy substance in their lungs than in the average persons. They claim they have another young man who may have to leave the business because of this. Recently one of their members died and they are having an autopsy performed to determine if he suffered from what they call "asbestitous". They also informed us that they are working with Mr. Ernest Johnson, the Labor Commissioner of the Sate of Massachusetts, on a program to determine whether their industry should be classified as a "hazardous one".

My great concern is that they keep talking about glass in their lungs. We did determine that Mr. Goldberg had an infected vertebra and took X-Ray therapy treatments to correct this situation. He also told us that he had not had a chance to discuss the findings of the exploratory operation with his docter in as much as the docter had gone out of town immediately after the operation and was not expected back for two months (that was about eight weeks ago).

During our conversation they also brought out the fact that other parts of the country, including Albany, New York and Syracuse, are concerned about this problem and they too are conducting investigations.

We thought that you would want to have this in writing and we will await word from you as to any further follow-up on this situation.

W. L. Bowes

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1 Year
6 Months
Destroy Now
Other

WLB:cu

WHY FILE THIS?

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