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THE RAYBESTOS DIVISION

of RAYBESTOS-MANHATTAN, INC.

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO Mr. M. F. Judd

DATE Dec. 22, 1937

SUBJECT Report of Visit to Stratford Plant on Dust and Fume Control 1:30 P.M. December 22, 1937.

Visitors:- Mr. Cowdrey, Chairman of the Citizens Committee
Mr. Dunbar
Mr. Schow from the Town Manager's Office
Mr. Pope and Mr. Bullock for the Raybestos Division.

Purpose of visit, as expressed by Mr. Cowdrey:- "Mr. Shea asked me to take Mr. Dunbar and Mr. Schow around the plant and show them the equipment and conditions that were covered by the report of the Citizens' Committee regarding Raybestos Stratford plant."

1. PREVENTION OF FUMES FROM THE SATURATING TANKS

Mr. Cowdrey did most of the talking and showed Mr. Schow and Mr. Dunbar the fume pipe along the side of the building of the blower house, and described to them the action.

At the moment there was visible vapor coming out of the top of the stack, and Mr. Cowdrey remarked that that was more than he saw the last time he visited us. Mr. Pope explained that when a rack of rings was taken out of the tank, the volume of fume would be the greatest, and would diminish from then until a new rack was removed from the tanks, and therefore the visible volume at the top of the stack which they were looking at, at the moment, was probably the maximum.

Mr. Pope also stated that we figured we were recovering about 80% of the oil at the present time, and explained that further closure on the tanks was going to be made, and a water cooler added to the duct pipe. He also stated that in the opinion of the Raybestos engineers the amount of fume now coming out of the stack was not sufficient to be detected as an odor anywhere in the neighborhood, and the further changes contemplated were designed to help clear the room quickly so as to make conditions better for the workmen.

2. ELIMINATION OF GRINDING DUST

Mr. Cowdrey explained to the Town Engineers what had been done regarding the installation of wet type roto clones, and that in his opinion this was a very satisfactory way to take care of the grinding dust.

Mr. Cowdrey asked Mr. Pope what was going to be done about the dust that was now coming out at the dump. Mr. Pope replied that there were no plans for doing anything at that point inasmuch as the Raybestos engineers were satisfied that the small amount of dust coming out at the dump never got off the Raybestos property, and

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(1 of 3)

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2. ELIMINATION OF GRINDING DUST (CONT'D)

was therefore not in any way a nuisance to the neighborhood. Mr. Cowdrey remarked that Mr. Judd told him that we were going to put the old bag collector, which was no longer needed on the roof of the large building at the dump, and use it in connection with the dust house. Mr. Pope replied that that was the original plan, but it had been changed, first because we did not believe it necessary, and second because we needed it on the roof of the small building #6 where we were getting dust occasionally from the use of the pulverizer.

Later we looked at #6 building and it was explained to the Town Engineers that the dust from that point was from the occasional use of the pulverizer, and the kind of dust which came out of the cyclones on the roof was quite visible, and in fairly large aggregates of white asbestos, and that the installation of the bag collector would take care of that point.

3. SMOKE AND FUME FROM THE OVEN STACKS

At the moment when we were looking at these stacks during the visit a very slight haze was coming out of #1, a visible streamer, perhaps two or three feet long, out of #2, and none visible out of #3.

The new heater installation on the central bank of ovens was explained to the Town Engineers by Mr. Cowdrey, and what we expected from it, that is, that it would entirely consume its own smoke. Mr. Cowdrey asked if it was working yet, and he was told that it was not yet satisfactory, and the Ross Engineering Co. engineers were still working on it, in fact two of them were there at the moment. Mr. Cowdrey explained to the Town Engineers the working of the main fume pipe, and asked questions in regard to the dampers to the pipe, and to the stacks, and from there we went to the boiler house.

At the boiler house Mr. Schow and Mr. Cowdrey looked at the pipes connecting the main fume pipe to the breeching, and to the boilers, and Mr. Cowdrey remarked that the size of the pipes to the boilers indicated that we would only be getting about 30% of the fume under the boilers. It was explained to him by Mr. Pope and Mr. Bullock that although the pipes to the boilers were only between 20 and 30% of the total area yet the situation was that 100% of the fume was going under the boilers, which could be ascertained from the position of the main damper at the breeching. This main damper was in a fully closed position and stayed that way all the time. The purpose of the damper and the connection to the breeching was one of safety so that if the volume became too great for the boilers to handle the damper would open slightly and the excess would go directly up the stack. This, however, had not happened since the installation was made, and we did not see any reason why it should happen except in the case of extreme emergency.

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(2 of 3)

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Dec. 22, 1937.

Mr. M. F. Judd - Page #3.

3. SMOKE AND FUME FROM THE OVEN STACKS (CONT'D.)

Mr. Bullock remarked that it was costing us considerably more per lb. of steam with the stoker fired boilers than it was with the pulverized boilers. Mr. Cowdrey wanted to know whether it was not possible that the cost per day under the present system might not be after all more than it would have cost us per day to run the waste heat boiler which we had planned for in the beginning. Mr. Pope replied that the waste heat boiler expense per day for operating would be far and above any difference in cost of steam per lb. which we might have with the present system.

At the conclusion of the visit Mr. Schow said that Mr. Shea had in mind that he or his engineers would plan to visit the plant every two weeks or month and keep track of the situation that way, and Mr. Pope replied that the Company would be glad to have them do that under any arrangement they saw fit. Mr. Cowdrey remarked that he himself, as representing the Citizens' Committee, had suggested to the Town Manager that inasmuch as he had an engineering department it would be better to handle it from now on in that manner.

This report covers the accents and points taken up as well as can be remembered.

Geo. E. Pope.

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RM 100
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(3 of 3)

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