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UNITED STATES ASBESTOS DIVISION

of Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.

MANHEIM, PENNA.

November 24, 1944

Mr. S. Simpson, President
Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.
Bridgeport, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Simpson:

I am enclosing herewith a copy of the report dated November 20th and issued by the Department of Health, Bureau of Industrial Hygiene, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, covering a recent survey to determine the effectiveness of our dust removal system for the maintenance of satisfactory air hygiene in the textile mill.

You will note that there were only two points at which there were over 5,000,000 dust particles per cubic foot; Johnson Grader 5.2 - Foster Winder 5.5. When we have installed all of the spinning frames now on order, we shall discontinue the use of the Foster Winders but in the meantime we are increasing air velocity at this point which should reduce the concentration of dust to less than 4,000,000 particles per cubic foot. We are also working on the Johnson Grader and the condensor attached to this machine for the reduction of dust.

I think the most important point is made in the last paragraph of the report of November 20th in which it is stated- "This Company is well aware of the hazardous nature of the dust and has taken remarkable measures for the correction of dusty operations----No recommendations can be made for this plant since the results of the dust survey indicate that the company has done everything possible".

Yours very truly,

O. H. Cilley

O. H. Cilley

mrs.
encl.

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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
BUREAU OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE

REPORT OF ENGINEERING STUDY OF ASBESTOS HAZARD

U. S. Asbestos Division
Raybestos-Manhattan Incorporated
Manheim, Pennsylvania

At the request of Mr. John M. Fewkes, Chief of the Industrial Health and Safety Section of the War Production Board, a survey was conducted in the plant of the U.S.Asbestos Division of the Raybestos Incorporated to determine the extent of the asbestos hazard present. The survey was made during November, 1944 by members of the personnel of the Philadelphia District Laboratory, Bureau of Industrial Hygiene.
The plant is engaged in the manufacture of asbestos cloth and tape and the operations of carding,weaving,twisting,etc. are all typical of the industry.

Sampling methods

Samples for the determination of dust concentrations were collected with a Greenburg-Smith impinger, using 25 per cent alcohol solution as the collecting medium. Dust counts were made by the light field technique.

Discussion

The accompanying table shows the concentration of asbestos dust at various locations in the plant.To arrive at those concentrations it has been assumed that the dust created by an operation is approximately the same composition as that of the parent material. The total dust concentrations have been converted to asbestos dust concentrations by multiplying them by the percentage of asbestos present in the parent material.

When the results are compared with the toxic limit for asbestos dust of 5 million particles per cubic foot of air,as suggested by the United States Public Health Service,the conclusion can be made that the hazard in this plant at the time of sampling is en-

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tirely negative. The concentrations may very from time to time, but it is believed that with the protective measures taken by the company they will never greatly exceed the limit.

This company is well aware of the hazardous nature of the dust and has taken remarkable measures for the correction of dusty operations. They are continually improving upon the present exhaust system and keep the plant in a very clean condition. No recommendations can be made for this plant since the results of the dust survey indicate that the company has done everything possible.

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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
BUREAU OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE

Table 1

Asbestos Dust Concentrations
U.S. Asbestos Division
Raybestos Manhattan Incorporated
Manheir, Pennsylvania

Sampling location	Sample number	Total dust concentration (millions of particles per cu.ft. of air)	Approximate asbestos concentration (millions of particles per cubic foot of air)
Card room			
Machine #1	334	2.0	1.7
Machine #13	335	3.5	3.0
Machine #24	336	2.4	1.8
Machine #30	337	2.0	1.7
Machine #4	368	2.9	2.2
Mule Spinners			
#4 & 5	338	3.3	2.5
"	339	2.3	1.7
#2	366	2.4	1.8
"L" spinners			
#1 & 3	340	2.3	1.7
"L" spinners			
#2 & 4	341	4.1	3.1
"L" spinners			
#5	367	2.9	2.2
Breaker room			
Lap machine	342	3.5	3.0
Lick machine	343	2.4	2.0
Picker room			
Picker	344	2.8	2.4
Rim wheel crusher	345	3.2	3.2
Saco-Lowell verticsl opener	346	2.9	2.9
Shaker screen	347	1.5	1.5
Johnson grader	348	5.2	5.2

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Table I(cont'd)

Sampling location	Sample number	Total dust concentration (millions of particles per cu. ft. of air)	Approximate asbestos concentration (millions of particles per cubic foot of air)
Tape weaving room			
Loom #2	349	2.3	1.8
Loom #21	351	2.5	1.9
"L" spinner #13 & 14	350	4.4	3.3
Cloth weaving room			
Twister #16	352	4.3	3.2
Twister #5	353	4.9	3.7
Twister #9	361	2.7	2.0
Twister #15	362	2.9	2.2
Foster Winder	354	5.5	4.1
Foster Winder	363	4.9	3.7
Universal winder	355	3.3	2.5
Universal winder	360	2.2	2.5
Cop winder	364	1.1	0.8
"L" spinner	365	1.1	0.8
Weaving machines #3 & 4	356	0.8	0.6
Weaving machines #19 & #20	357	1.2	0.9
Weaving machines #6 & 7	358	0.5	0.4
Weaving machines #14 & 15	359	0.8	0.6

November 20,1944
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