Calidria ASBESTOS

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UC-318

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By H. B. Rhodes

Date 7/10/75

Full Name GDCI Executive Board Meeting Tulsa, OK Address Mfrs. of	Interviewed Howard Leederman, etc.

This was a special meeting of the GDCI Executive Board plus some committee chairmen. The writer was invited to attend by Mr. Leederman.

They had recently been treated to a report on Dr. Selikoff and his campaign against hazards in the construction industry in general and asbestos in particular as presented at the IBPAT meeting in Washington about two weeks ago. I was invited to discuss the asbestos-health situation from the other side and also to comment on OSHA activities.

Gave them a short discussion with the theme that asbestos is like many of the materials they deal with and can be hazardous if not handled properly, but it is not too difficult to use safely. Also, hit on the expected silica regulations, the general dust problem, and the revisions expected in the asbestos regulations. They are generally quite concerned about the overall situation and expect to continue to fight wherever appropriate. The point was also made that an asbestos-free mud equivalent to the present asbestos-containing products continues to be elusive.

Harold Leederman also mentioned that they had raised the question to Selikoff at the Washington meeting as to whether their NY City sanding exposure data are representative of other areas. They, the GDCI, had results that indicated this was not so. Selikoff took the position that it was representative and they look at other people's data but do not put much stock in it. (We can testify to that!)

I had the opportunity to talk with Mr. Frank Chebatoris, the new Safety Committee chairman for the GDCI, and supply him with the AIA/NA literature. Promised to send him some other things on toxicology.

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Also, had a very interesting talk with Mr. D. B. (Dave) Green, the Executive Director of the Gypsum Drywall Contractors Association of Minnesota. He reported that about two weeks ago there was a big meeting of business agents of the IBPAT in California. They came away all fired up against asbestos and he has had a rash of inquiries from contractors. He is a registered lobbiest in Minnesota and has asked a couple of his legislative contacts about asbestos and met with extreme hostility. He is looking very actively for a handle and for support to get legislative relief in Minnesota for the drywall industry. Incidentally, Mr. Green spent many years with Proko in Dallas and is well versed in drywall technology. I promised to put some information together and to stay in touch.

ACTION

HBR 1. Send more background information to Frank Chebatoris.

2. Discuss Minnesota situation with WCT, JLM, REB and develop plan.

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cjb

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