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# THE ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY

## The many uses of asbestos products by the Electrical Industry are described by E. L. Doty[1]

Asbestos is used extensively in the electrical industry for high temperature applications and where the fire hazard warrants the use of non-combustible material. It is applied for many purposes in the form of lumber, paper and fabric; as lint it is used to insulate wire by a felting process, and when pulverized and mixed with varnishes, gums or various other fluids, excellent flame proofing compounds and plasties are produced.

Commercial asbestos without process treatment is not a good insulating material, principally because of its tendency to absorb moisture from the atmosphere. That is, it is extremely hygroscopic. This characteristic, however, makes asbestos a particularly good vehicle for insulating varnishes and compounds, and when it is thoroly dried and impregnated with a suitable insulating fluid it may have excellent dielectric value under high temperature conditions.

Because of this absorbent characteristic, asbestos may be easily and firmly cemented to wire and strap electrical conductors or to various supporting surfaces to provide protection from heat or flame. The turns of large copper strap wound field coils for the salient poles of large alternating current rotating machines are separated and insulated from each other by strips of asbestos paper cemented to them. Asbestos sleeves and washers are cemented to the metal spools or shells of various types of magnet coils. Switch boxes and fuse boxes are sometimes lined with asbestos paper or fabric and there are many other similar applications that require "flameproof" insulation.

Entirely in-organic, electrical insulation, which is the highest class based on a temperature rating, may be obtained with pure asbestos and sodium silicate as an adhesive. This, like other asbestos plastic compounds may be

[1] E. L. Doty is Coordinating Engineer in the Service Department of Westinghouse Electric & Mfg. Co., East Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.



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compressed or moulded into various forms or shapes. These range from simple angles, channels, ferules and tubes to specially designed high temperature insulation pieces for electrical appliances.

In an emergency when commercial asbestos-cement lumber is not available, laminated asbestos board for high temperature applications may be made by cementing asbestos paper or millboard with sodium silicate under high pressure. Such materials are used in the manufacture of rheostats and resistors, electric furnaces and ovens and many other electric appliances.

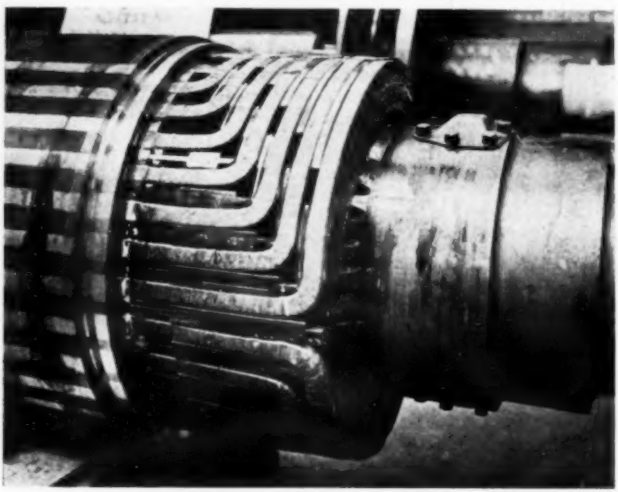


Fig. 1 Photo Courtesy Westinghouse Elec. & Mfg. Co.

The long fibre asbestos fabrics, fabric tapes and twines are used to a great extent as secondary insulation, that is, to secure or bind or protect other insulation. This applies particularly to the use of asbestos with mica, for altho mica is in many respects an almost ideal insulation, it does tend to disintegrate when exposed to high wind velocities, as when used in high speed rotating apparatus; or



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when in contact with vibrating rough metal surfaces. Further, the "binder" used in built-up mica will carbonize at temperatures considerably below those that will seriously affect the mica or asbestos. It is accepted practice in some applications, therefore, to protect and secure the mica with specially treated fabric asbestos. The insulated extended end turns of the field windings of high speed non-salient pole machines, particularly turbine generators, are representative of this type of construction. Figure 1 shows this application.

Research has determined that asbestos fabric tape treated with a specially prepared, high resistance, conducting compound applied to the sections of the armature coils to be placed within the slots of high voltage machines will eliminate corona. The treated tape must have contact with the laminated steel structure and also extend a few inches beyond each end of the slots to prevent the concentration of corona which will result in discharges between the coils and the core.

Altho asbestos when specially processed is used for many purposes by the Electrical Industry as electrical insulation, it is probably used to an even greater extent as heat insulation. It is not only used to protect from heat, or keep it out, but also to conserve heat, or keep it in. That is, it is applied in both of what may be termed positive and negative operations.

Asbestos materials are used in the form of barriers, baffles, arc boxes, enclosing parts, etc., in the assembly of circuit-breakers, controllers, contactors and other circuit interrupting devices to prevent damage from arcs, flames and hot gases. They are also used in many ways to protect operators and apparatus during various manufacturing processes where the heat is intense or the fire risk is high. As an example, asbestos gloves are worn by the men doing some arc welding operations.

The applications for asbestos in the conservation of heat are so many and so varied that only a few that are peculiar to the electrical industry will be described here:

Modern hydro-electric developments require water-wheel generators so large and so heavy that they must be transported in many parts and assembled in the power



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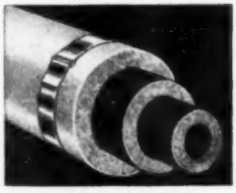
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house where they are to be installed and operated. These assembly operations may include placing the shaft in the rotor hub, building the rotor segmental rim, expanding the assembled rim, building the stator punchings, baking the assembled stator core punchings, winding the stator, drying out the windings, etc. Electric heat is used in all of these operations except in assembling the rotor rim and in building the stator.

Asbestos has a very important place in such heating operations. To use electric heat efficiently, it is necessary to enclose or cover the parts being heated, and asbestos is the most satisfactory material for this purpose. When hub bores or laminated rims are to be expanded, or when armature cores are to be baked, electric space heaters are secured against the parts to be heated. The heaters are usually connected for circuit temperature control. The complete assembly is then covered closely with asbestos paper and heated until the desired temperatures or physical condition is obtained. Either thermo-couples or thermometers may be used to indicate temperatures in various locations of the parts being heated. Manipulation of the electrical circuits may be required from time to time in order to equalize the temperature in an armature core or the expansion of a rotor rim. However, with a suitable asbestos covering and no objectionable under-drafts, very few temperature adjustments should be necessary, providing, of course, that the electric heaters have been properly applied.

The magnitude of some of these electric heating operations, and the advantage of covering the apparatus with asbestos paper to reduce the radiation may be indicated by reference to the assembly of the Boulder Dam generators:

**The rimless spider of each generator rotor weighs approximately 35 tons.**

**The generator shaft, integral with half-coupling, weighs approximately 50 tons.**

**The largest of the four diameters in the hub bore was 38 inches.**

**The corresponding shaft "fit" had a diameter of 38.012 inches.**

**Electric space heaters were arranged in contact with the spider and wired up so that the groups could be removed quickly in one operation.**

**The spider-heater assembly was then covered with asbestos**



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paper and heated until a satisfactory bore expansion was obtained. This required about 5 hours. Only a few minutes was needed to remove the asbestos and the heaters, and as slings were already in place and the crane was standing by, the spider was lifted from the heating location and lowered over the shaft very quickly.

Expanding the laminated rim of a large vertical water-wheel generator might be classed as a major electric heating operation. Asbestos paper has been found to be the most satisfactory covering for such rims while the heat is being applied. Material 36 inches wide and 3/32 of an inch thick is generally best for this purpose. This is cut into strips that will extend over the assembled rotor rim and allow about 6 inches at each end of the strip to lie on the floor so that it may be held down tightly with bricks or anything heavy enough to prevent serious "billowing". Two layers of this asbestos paper each with the strips spaced approximately 24 inches apart and with the outside strips overlapping the inside about six inches on each side, make an excellent covering. This arrangement permits inspection of



*Fig. 2*

*Strips of Asbestos Paper protect the rim while heat is being applied*

Photo courtesy of Westinghouse Elec. & Mfg. Co.

the rim by raising the strips which cannot be done without the danger of tearing the asbestos if the strips are "shingled" on the rim. Figure 2 illustrates the method of installing the rim heaters and the asbestos paper covering.

The rims of the rotors of the Boulder Dam generators each weigh approximately 350 tons. The inside diameter of the built up rim was 211 inches. The rim was expanded approximately .140 inches. It was then keyed to the ends of the spider arms and allowed to shrink back on the keys. With a carefully applied electric space heater arrangement and a satisfactory asbestos paper covering, the required rim expansion was obtained in approximately 5½ hours.



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After the stator punchings are built in the frame they are heated and thoroly varnished and the core assembly is tightened. The method of covering the stator with asbestos paper and applying the heat is similar to that described for the rotor rim.

When the armature coils are placed in the core slots of a large, high-voltage machine it is sometimes desirable to heat the insulation to soften it somewhat. This may be done by circulating current thru a coil or a group of coils, but facilities are not always available for such procedure. Furthermore, many experienced winders prefer to heat the coils in an improvised oven. This is made by simply lining one of the coil shipping boxes with asbestos paper and placing some space heaters in it, with a thermometer inserted thru a hole in the cover.

Asbestos products may be used in many ways in enclosing or protecting electrical apparatus while it is being dried. Much depends upon the ingenuity of the individual responsible for getting or keeping the apparatus dry. Anything from asbestos tape to old theatre curtains may be used when an emergency occurs in the electrical industry.

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# TWO FAMOUS BRIDGES--

## Use Asbestos-Cement Conduit. Special Conditions met by Asbestos-Cement

*By Lucius S. Flint*

San Francisco's two world famous bridges have put asbestos-cement conduit "on the map" along the Pacific Coast. Since the installation of some three carloads of this conduit on the San Francisco Bay Bridge and the Golden Gate Bridge, it has been adopted for certain types of street light wiring in both San Francisco and Oakland and this has resulted in the development of interest in the material among industrial plants.

In both bridges, light and power lines are laid in three and four inch diameter conduit of the asbestos-cement type. In the Bay Bridge, the asbestos-cement conduit also provides protection for railway switch and signal lines, which will be used in a few months in a fast rail service across the bay. These lines traverse the complicated system of approaches, swing out thru a tunnel in Yerba Buena Island, terminating at the portal.

The Golden Gate bridge installation is shorter than the other, but has the distinction of being part of the longest single span bridge in the world.

The asbestos-cement conduit was selected because of a difficult soil condition. Much of the ground used in the bridge approaches had been reclaimed from the bay — with the result that it had a high salt content. The asbestos-cement conduit met the requirements of strong corrosive resistance and a low coefficient of friction. In both cases the conduit lines were laid under the sidewalk slab in a concrete envelope.

Similar soil conditions — salty soil and highly corrosive soil — in certain other localities in the bay district have led to the specification of the material for street lighting use.

In a number of cases, the asbestos-cement conduit has been used in installations requiring attachment to the sides of industrial buildings as well as for underground use. For instance, the conduit made it possible for the Shell



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Chemical Co., in its four million dollar Nitrogen Fixation plant at Shell Point, Calif., to use bare busses on runs thru process buildings. Each bus bar runs thru a separate pipe, the pipes being spaced about four inches apart. For each run between junction boxes, two sections of 2" conduit, each threaded for approximately 6" at one end, served as end sections. The space between was filled by standard lengths plus one section sawed to proper length. Each threaded end of conduit was fastened at the junction box by means of two threaded hex nuts cut from 1½" thick pieces of asbestos cement. One nut was used on the outside and another on the inside, each drawn tightly against asbestos gaskets. Screwed couplings were used thruout.

Material for both the bridge jobs and the Shell Point installation was Johns-Manville Transite conduit. The bridge material was supplied thru the Western Asbestos Company of San Francisco.

# JAPANESE DRAFT STANDARDS

*By Herbert Leopold*

A draft plan for Japanese Engineering Standards as applied to asbestos slates was recently completed by Dr. Shunichi Karino, professor at Tokyo Engineering University, to whom the work has been assigned by the Department of Commerce and Industry.

According to the draft standards, the slates are divided into three grades — small flat, large flat and corrugated. Small flat slates are subdivided into three shapes — square, half square and octagonal.

The draft standards also cover in detail standard sizes[1] (width, length and thickness), requirements of bending test[1] and arrangements for hygrometric tests and tolerable maximum values for each grade.

[1] Details as to sizes as well as to the bending test requirements (metric measure) will be supplied by "ASBESTOS" upon request.



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# WATCH YOUR STEP!

*An Editorial By C. J. Stover*

On May 21, 1938 all business becomes further exposed to drastic control by the Federal Trade Commission.

Selling and advertising practices may thereafter be challenged by the Federal Trade Commission *without* a complaint from a competitor or customer. An order to cease becomes *final* unless an appeal is taken within 60 days and after that further violation entails a $5000 fine.

In deciding upon selling methods ask yourself this question: "If I were a competitor, would I consider this method unfair, or, if I were a consumer, would the method have the tendency to mislead me?" Be sure that consumer organizations, social service agencies and, above all, your competitors, will be on the qui vive to complain to the Federal Trade Commission on any of your methods open to even slight criticism, because the F. T. C. will not reveal the complainant's name.

Conversely, if you think your competitor is employing unfair methods it is your privilege to complain, with the same protection of source.

Fictitious prices and terms, false invoicing, coercion, commercial bribery, finance charge packing, remotely false branding, incomplete description in advertising, use of phoney trade or firm names, are all items of interest to the F. T. C.

Then, too, under the Robinson-Patman Act much closer scrutiny by the F. T. C. is to be expected.

The old, old practice of taking a cash discount weeks and months after the proper date is held to be a violation by both buyer and seller. The seller should make every effort to collect such improperly taken cash discounts *in his own defense*. The buyer should remember that both buyer and seller are vulnerable under the Discrimination Act.

Quantity discounts are permissible but the terms and conditions must be made available to all buyers who compete with each other. Even so, the quantity discounts may not exceed such a sum as represents the actual saving resulting to the seller from manufacture, distribution and



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sale of the larger quantity.

The F. T. C. has already held that where cumulative quantity discounts are given on the total of individual sales to one customer over a period of time, the only quantity discounts allowable are such as represent the savings resulting from each sale separately considered. This last point is subject to clarification by the Courts.

We have here the laws, rulings, interpretations and decisions and, while not claiming to be authority, will gladly consider any reader's problem and give you our best opinion.

In any case one tiny drop of prevention is worth tons of cure. These are Federal Laws!

## BUSINESS VS. GOVERNMENT[1]

Compare a 1910 Four-Cylinder Packard Limousine, with, for instance, the 1937 Eight-Cylinder Packard "120" Five Passenger Streamlined Sedan.

The 1910 model sold for $5,550; the selling price of the 1937 car is $1,075.

Besides the very obvious improvement in appearance, performance, comfort, fittings and every other factor, the price of the 1937 Packard is just 19.37% of the 1910, or a decrease in price of 80.6%.

Now note the following figures comparing Government costs for the two years mentioned.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Federal Tax Payments by Michigan Taxpayers | (1910<br>(1937 | $5,361,998<br>$323,748,961 | + 5,938% |
| Cost of Federal Government | (1910<br>(1937 | $693,617,000<br>$8,105,158,000 | + 1,068% |
| Per Capita Cost of Federal Government | (1910<br>(1937 | $7.52<br>$62.69 | + 735% |
| Public Debt of Federal Government | (1910<br>(1937 | $1,146,939,000<br>$36,424,613,000 | + 3,075% |
| Per Capita Federal Dept. | (1910<br>(1937 | $12.69<br>$281.63 | + 2,120% |

Which needs reforming — Business or Government?

[1] Credit is given to The Detroiter for the information and tabulation contained in this article.



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# JAPAN'S ASBESTOS TRADE

*By Herbert Leopold*

Asbestos is one of the commodities for which Japan depends almost entirely on imports — Canada, the United States, Russia, Cyprus and Africa being the major suppliers. On the other hand, exports of manufactured asbestos products have reached a sizable volume.

While asbestos deposits in Japan are very scarce, hope is held that Manchukuo and North China will soon contribute to the meagre supply. Considerable activity has been displayed recently by Japanese asbestos interests in these territories.

In Manchukuo two firms have been established in asbestos mining lines — the Nichiman (Japan-Manchukuo) Asbestos Company and the Miyoshi Asbestos Mining Company, both firms being jointly financed by leading Japanese asbestos importers and manufacturers.

Miyoshi Asbestos, the older of the two was originally incorporated as a Manchukuo subsidiary of the Miyoshi Asbestos Engineering Company, Osaka, but recently some of the importers of the mined mineral were allowed to buy up part of the shares in accordance with the desire of the Japanese Navy to keep "big business" out of this trade and have it run along the approved national policy lines.

Miyoshi controls about ten mining lots in the eastern frontier districts of Manchukuo near the Korean border. Altho deposits of medium-staple asbestos are reported to be considerable, actual operation of the mines has turned out to be quite a difficult job owing to the rampancy of bandits and the lack of transportation facilities.

The Nichiman Asbestos was established with a capitalization of 300,000 yen, jointly put up by several asbestos manufacturing firms.

An asbestos firm is also being promoted by Yoshindo Zeida, Osaka financier. This enterprise, to be known as Manchu Asbestos Manufacturing Works, will not undertake mining but intends to confine its business to manufacture.

As an industry closely allied with warfare, asbestos



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mining and manufacture is exempt from the restrictions of the Capital Adjustment Law of Japan, so that new enterprises as well as capital increases of existing ones will be licensed unconditionally by the Fund Adjustment Commission.

Asbestos is one of the mineral resources of China which the Japanese hope will place them among the "halves". Actual output is rather limited as yet, being estimated as 300 piculs for Hopei and at the same amount for Suiyuan, but deposits are claimed to abound in both provinces, especially in the latter. In Hopei, Laiyuan-hsien is the center of asbestos mining with four companies operating. The output is shipped to Tientsin, where the Tientsin Asbestos Company, a 300,000-yuan concern, is engaged in manufacture and export.

## OLD ENGLISH THATCH--

### Uses Asbestos Felt as a Base

Many people do not know that real thatch is being used for roofing in this country, not on lowly cottages as in foreign countries, but on expensive homes, country clubs and other places where the English type of architecture is used and the thatched roof carries out the English idea.

The manufacturers[1] of thatch in this country have devised methods which make thatch a real competitor of other types of roofing used in the United States.

Our interest in thatch, of course, lies in the fact that an asbestos product is used with it. Old English Thatch is made up in shingle form with an asbestos felt base, four plies of asbestos felt being used, with four coats of asphalt, and then on top is placed Palmyra fiber grown in India. The Palmyra fibers or reeds are chemically treated so as not to burn nor hold a spark or glow, and with the asbestos felt underneath, the roof is claimed to be completely fireproof.

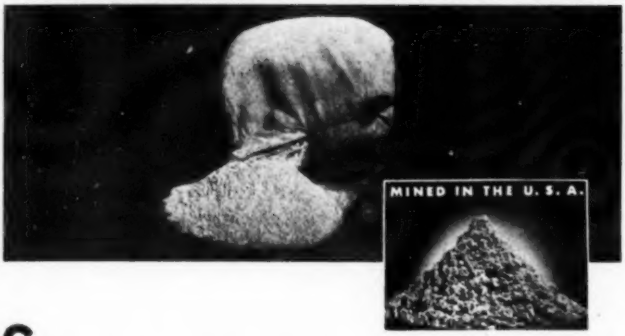
Another point of interest is the insulating quality—it is said that the thick layer of thatch serves as a fur robe to keep the heat in during the winter and in summer becomes a shade tree to keep out the heat of the sun.

[1] Old English Thatch, Stamford, Conn.



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# VERMONT ASBESTOS




SEND for a sample of this well-fiberized Vermont Asbestos. You will appreciate its bulk, uniformity, and freedom from foreign substances. Prices will interest you.

IDEAL FOR MANUFACTURING

Shingles
Millboard
Brake Lining
Clutch Facing
Roofing Paint
Asbestos Paper
Boiler Coverings
Moulded Products

## VERMONT ASBESTOS CORPORATION

HYDE PARK, VERMONT

Sales Office, 500 Fifth Ave., New York City ● Mine, Eden, Vermont




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# MARKET CONDITIONS

## GENERAL BUSINESS

"The business reports during April have shown no material improvement. The situation at the end of the Winter indicated that, while the decline in industrial activity had plainly flattened out, there was little reason to expect a Spring rise this year; and developments during the month show that this indication was correct. The increase in automobile production, which usually has a pronounced Spring pickup, has been slight, and all business feels the lack of automobile buying. Steel mill operations have dropped a little from the March rate; this is the usual seasonal trend, but is nevertheless disappointing because the March peak was only 36 per cent of capacity. The trade reviews say that new orders for steel have fallen off slightly and this reflects both the depression in general manufacturing activity and the hand-to-mouth buying policies that are still being followed. Building contracts slackened during the first half of April, after showing a more than seasonal gain in March.

"The most important developments of the month, for the long run, have been not in the trade and industrial news, but in Washington. The monetary measures taken by the Treasury and the Federal Reserve Board, the President's message requesting appropriations for a spending and lending program, the defeat of the reorganization bill, and the completion of tax legislation which is substantially less obstructive to business enterprise than the existing law, are all measures of far-reaching influence. Their immediate effect, however, has been limited.

"Evidently business men, if more hopeful for Fall, are not counting upon early or rapid improvement, and are indisposed to anticipate it in the markets."

These are just a few paragraphs taken from the National City Bank letter for May, but give, we believe, a very fair idea of the overall business situation.



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## ASBESTOS - RAW MATERIAL

There has been a falling off in the demand in the United States for Spinning Fibres. This can be attributed directly to the decrease in the output of motor cars. The European demand however for Spinning fibres has increased more than the falling off in the United States. Therefore Canadian Mines are all running at utmost capacity.

Importations into the United States from sources other than Canada, have shown a marked falling off for the first four months of this year. Prices, however, are still firm.

## ASBESTOS - MANUFACTURED GOODS

*Textiles.* Very little change in this market from month to month. Volume remains about the same, with prices fairly firm. A number of Government inquiries which run into very large volume are making their appearance and will probably tend to hold the market steady for some time to come.

*Insulation. High Pressure.* Volume in this market continues at depressed levels. No definite indications of immediate future trend have as yet become evident. Prices are firm.

*Insulation. Low Pressure.* This market is very slow, partly due to seasonal demand, the heating season being slow in developing. Prices are steady.

*Paper and Millboard.* As this market, particularly in paper, generally follows the Low Pressure Insulation trend, we find very slight demand, with prices firm.

*Asbestos-Cement Products.* Two comments which reach us on this market are interesting because they so closely parallel each other. One says:

"There has been some slight upturn in the sales of Asbestos-Cement products during the month of April, but the sales are definitely running behind in the last week or so. There has been some increase in the sale of Industrial Asbestos-Cement products."

The other comment is perhaps just a bit more encouraging:

"Asbestos Shingle sales have improved during the past month due both to seasonal demand and somewhat



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better business conditions. Other asbestos-cement products, such as Wallboard, Flat and Corrugated Cement Sheets, are also selling in satisfactory volume."

Comments are always welcome. Send them in on the particular market in which you are interested.

# CURRENT RANGE OF PRICE

## on Canadian Crudes and Fibres

| | Per ton (2000 lbs.) f. o. b. Mine |
|---|---|
| Group No. 1 (Crude No. 1) | $700.00 to $750.00 |
| Group No. 2 (Crude Run-of-Mine and Sundry[1]) | 150.00 to 350.00 |
| Group No. 3 (Spinning or Textile Fibre) | 110.00 to 200.00 |
| Group No. 4 (Shingle Fibre) | 57.00 to 76.50 |
| Group No. 5 (Paper Fibre) | 40.00 to 45.00 |
| Group No. 6 (Waste, Stucco or Plaster) | 30.00 |
| Group No. 7 (Refuse or Shorts) | 12.00 to 25.00 |

1 Crude Run-of-Mine refers to a crude asbestos produced in certain mines where Crude Fibre is not graded into regular No. 1 and No. 2 Crude. Crudes Sundry refers to certain odd lots of off grade material which do not conform to the regular standards of No. 1 Crude or No. 2 Crude.

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Printed copy of the Chapter on Asbestos from the Minerals Yearbook, 1938, issued by the U. S. Bureau of Mines, can now be obtained, this containing practically the same information as the advance mimeographed sheets issued a month ago. Copies of this printed chapter can be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C., at the price of 5c.

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Very little has been published in "ASBESTOS" concerning asbestos mined in Italy. Our June number will contain an informative and interesting article on this subject.

**SALE—ASBESTOS SCRAP**

For reclamation, woven brake lining material, from loom, unused, not impregnated. Write for Sample.

METLAB COMPANY

1000 E. MERMAID LANE
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

**WANTED**

Thoroughly experienced and capable man as brake lining sales manager. Address Box No. 5J-W, "ASBESTOS", 16th Floor Inquirer Bldg., Philadelphia, Pa.



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# CONTRACTORS AND DISTRIBUTORS PAGE

## Air Conditioning

1937 was the biggest year for the air conditioning industry to date, according to the article "Air Conditioning — A Review of Progress and Trends during 1937" recently issued by J. J. Donavan, Manager of the General Electric Air Conditioning Department at Bloomfield, N. J.

"Builders of homes in the medium-price field, representing the biggest portion of the domestic market", says Mr. Donavan, "have been quick to discover the advantages to comfort and health that can be obtained thru a combination of automatic heating, humidification, filtration, and circulation of air—at little more expense than was formerly involved in the installation of heating alone.

"The field for the installation of winter air conditioning equipment, both in existing houses and in new construction, appears to be considerably greater at present than that for the installation of year-around systems, including cooling.

"It is significant, however, that in the installation of winter conditioning systems, provision is usually made for the inclusion of cooling at a later date, should it be desired. This should hasten the adoption of year-round air conditioning in the residential field.

"In the commercial field the recognition of cooling and year-round conditioning as a vital competitive tool by the smaller retail stores, restaurants, and similar establishments was so marked that the industry had difficulty in meeting schedules during the peak of the season.

"One beneficial result of this increased interest has been the accumulation of valuable experience in surveying, installing and servicing jobs by contractors and distributors. Another result has been the beginning of an effort to level off this seasonal peak by convincing potential buyers of the advantages of making an installation during the cooler months, with resultant savings in labor costs, more time in which to plan the job and more favorable "customer weather" in which to carry on the work."

While the last paragraph above was written directly concerning air conditioning, the suggestion for "leveling off" applies equally as well to insulation contractors in the sale of insulation or asbestos paper, Careyduct or Dux-sulation or any other of the asbestos materials directly concerned in servicing the air conditioning industry.



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## National Housing Act Amendments

The National Housing Act Amendments, signed by the President on February 3, 1938, greatly broaden the field of credit extension by private approved lending institutions where loans for both modernization and repair (Title I) and mortgages (Title II) are made.

These amendments make possible a number of good talking points for the sale of various asbestos building materials, particularly insulation, roofing, asbestos-cement products, among which talking points are

Three year payment plan instead of two years under the previous housing act;

The low monthly installment payment of $7.50, instead of $10.00;

The low finance rate of 5%.

There is little doubt, in view of the success of the previous Act, that these 1938 Amendments will greatly increase building activity.

You insulation contractors, roofing contractors and others interested in the sale or application of asbestos building materials are going to be kept pretty busy this summer getting your share of this increased business—both new building and modernization—which is certain to be done this year.

The FHA Office nearest you will provide printed matter and various other help.

## Building

Construction contracts in the 37 Eastern States rose 91 per cent during March as compared with the preceding month. This gain was far greater than the usual seasonal increase from February to March and was sufficient to produce a contract volume but little less than the March, 1937 total. As reported by F. W. Dodge Corporation, the March 1938 total of contracts awarded amounted to $226,918,000 for all classes of construction. This amount compares with $118,945,000 for February and $231,246,000 for March of last year.

The gains reflected in the March construction volume were distributed among all the major classes of building. Residential building, amounting to $79,396,000, showed a 98 per cent gain over the preceding month, which is encouraging. Contracts in this class of work in January were 54 per cent behind January, 1937; February contracts were 36 per cent behind February, 1937; while March contracts were only 12 per cent behind March of last year. Increased F. H. A. mortgage applications and numerous planned large-scale housing projects have not yet been reflected in the contract record, and these factors give promise of continued rises in contract volume in later months.

Non-residential building, amounting to $87,823,000, was 81



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per cent above the February total and public works and utilities with a total of $59,699,000 was 96 per cent above the total for the preceding month.

Both public and private construction during March increased beyond the usual seasonal proportions. Public construction amounted to $94,597,000 for March as compared with $51,054,000 for February, while private construction totaled $132,321,000 as compared with a February total of $67,891,000.

## U. R. C. A.

James McCawley, recently resigned as Editor of the American Roofer to accept an appointment as Executive Secretary of the United Roofing Contractors Association. The organizaion was established in 1887, many of its charter members being civil war veterans. One of its founders was Colonel M. W. Powell, partner of Major Samuel E. Barrett, who established the Barrett Company.

The U. R. C. A. has moved its headquarters from Chicago to New York City and changed its structure to that of a federal character. A Research and Information Bureau has been established by the U. R. C. A. at the Chanin Building, New York. The service is offered to non-members as well as members, jobbers, manufacturers, architects, builders and others who have problems or seek information on roofing, waterproofing and insulation.

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Speaking of Air Conditioning, The Celotex Corporation of Chicago has recently introduced the Q — T. Ductliner, made of rock wool with a suitable binder, and designed to absorb airborne noise; insulate ducts against thermal loss; "dampen" the duct wall vibration or "ring"; and eliminate the "speaking tube" characteristic of duct ventilation.

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One of our readers has succeeded in having the Plumbing & Heating Magazine of Philadelphia reprint in its May issue the article "Copper Tubing — Is Insulation Necessary?" which appeared in our March number. Perhaps other readers can have this article reprinted in various plumbing trade journals.

### AUTOMOBILE PRODUCTION

Production of automotive vehicles for the month of March 1938 was 238,753 (221,951 in U. S. A. and 16,802 in Canada).

For March 1937 production totalled 519,022 (494,121 in U. S. A. and 24,901 in Canada).

For the first three months of 1938 the total production was 669,369, or 618,877 in the U. S. A. and 50,492 in Canada; compared with a total of 1,302,108 (1,237,917 in the U. S. A. and 64,191 in Canada) for the first three months of 1937.

Totals in the U. S. A. are running just about half or a little less than half this year as compared with last.



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# PRODUCTION STATISTICS

## Africa (Rhodesia)

(Statistics published by Rhodesia Chamber of Mines)

| | February 1938 Tons (2000 lbs.) | Value £ | s | d |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Bulawayo District* | | | | |
| Nil Desperandum (Afr. Asb. Mng. Co. Ltd.) | 593.85 | 8,656 | 4 | 5 |
| Pangani (Jan. & Feb.) | 68.50 | 361 | 11 | 8 |
| Shabanie (Rho. & Gen. Asb. Corp. Ltd.) | 3,455.80 | 70,912 | 0 | 3 |
| *Victoria District* | | | | |
| D. S. O. (Mashaba Rho. Asb. Co. Ltd.) | 33.02 | 233 | 7 | 10 |
| Gath's & King (Rho & Gen. Asb. Co. Ltd.) | 808.65 | 12,731 | 14 | 2 |
| | 4,955.82 | 92,884 | 18 | 4 |
| *February 1937* | *4,721.49* | *70,742* | *2* | *5* |

## Africa (Union of South)

(Statistics published by Dept. of Mines & Industries of U. of S. A.)

| | January 1937 Tons (2000 lbs.) | January 1938 Tons 2000 lbs.) |
|---|---|---|
| *Transvaal* | | |
| Amosite | 368.60 | 649.80 |
| Blue | 15.18 | 16.20 |
| Chrysotile | 1,218.99 | 1,605.30 |
| *Cape* | | |
| Blue | 274.80 | 449.11 |
| Chrysotile | 1,186.92 | 1,225.22 |
| | 1,887.57 | 2,720.41 |

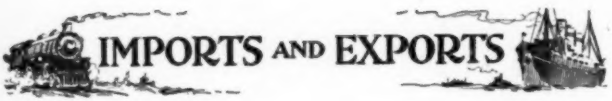
| | February 1937 Tons (2000 lbs.) | February 1938 Tons 2000 lbs.) |
|---|---|---|
| *Transvaal* | | |
| Amosite | 370.10 | 788.87 |
| Blue | 37.35 | 194.50 |
| *Cape* | | |
| Blue | 339.91 | 484.46 |
| | 1,934.28 | 2,693.05 |

**Canada** (Statistics by Bureau of Mines, P. Q.)

production March, 1938 ..... 22,281 Tons (2000 lbs.)
Production March, 1937 ..... 32,746 Tons (2000 lbs.)



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**Imports into U. S. A.**

(Figures published by U. S. Dept. of Commerce)

*Unmanufactured Asbestos Goods:*

| | Feb. 1937 Tons (2240 lbs.) | Feb. 1938 Tons (2240 lbs.) |
|---|---|---|
| Africa (Br. S.) | 316 | 228 |
| Canada | 18,924 | 7,685 |
| Finland | ..... | 20 |
| Italy | 4 | 158 |
| Soviet Union (Russia) | 252 | 1,008 |
| United Kingdom | 179 | ..... |
| | 19,675 | 9,099 |
| *Value* | *$694,665* | *$374,893* |
| *Tabulation by Grades:* | | |
| Crude (Br. S. Africa) | 316 | 228 |
| Crude (Canada) | 170 | 76 |
| Crude (Italy) | 4 | 1 |
| Crude (United Kingdom) | 179 | ..... |
| Crude (Soviet Union) | 18 | 1 |
| Milled Fibre (Canada) | 5,964 | 3,213 |
| Milled Fibre (Soviet Union) | 218 | 1,007 |
| Lower Grades (Canada) | 12,790 | 4,396 |
| Lower Grades (Finland) | ..... | 20 |
| Lower Grades (Italy) | ..... | 157 |
| Lower Grades (Sov. Union) | 16 | ..... |
| | 19,675 | 9,099 |

| *Manufactured Asbestos Goods:* | Feb. 1937 Pounds | Feb. 1938 Pounds |
|---|---|---|
| Austria (Packing) | 2,278 | 1,079 |
| Belgium (Shingles) | ..... | 41,541 |
| Canada (Woven Fabrics) | ..... | 10 |
| France (Woven Fabrics) | ..... | 77 |
| Germany (Yarn) | 300 | ..... |
| Germany (Woven Fabrics) | 203 | ..... |
| United Kingdom (Yarn) | 6,207 | 1,201 |
| United Kingdom (Packing) | 2,211 | 351 |
| United Kingdom (Woven Fabrics) | 3,121 | 2,264 |
| | 14,320 | 46,523 |
| *Value* | *$ 6,944* | *$ 3,000* |



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Other manufactured goods (not classified) were imported in February 1938 from Italy, to the value of $66.

**Exports from U. S. A.**

(Figures published by U. S. Dept. of Commerce)

*Exports of unmanufactured asbestos* during February 1938 amounted to 84 tons, valued at $11,185; compared with 221 tons, valued at $17,255 during February 1937.

*Exports of Manufactured Asbestos Goods:*

| | Feb. 1937 | | Feb. 1938 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Quantity | Value | Quantity | Value |
| Paper, Mlbd. & Rlbd. ... lbs. | 66,809 | $7,399 | 114,123 | $22,419 |
| Pipe Covg. & Cement ..... lbs. | 675,426 | 15,648 | 180,627 | 7,755 |
| Textiles & Yarn ..... lbs. | 7,664 | 2,901 | 37,184 | 8,395 |
| Packing ..... lbs. | 104,213 | 61,615 | 65,515 | 35,962 |
| Brake Lining— | | | | |
| Molded and Semi-molded ..... | ..... | 42,088 | ..... | 41,821 |
| Not molded ..... lin. ft. | 99,821 | 14,605 | 66,894 | 14,165 |
| Clutch Facings— | | | | |
| Molded and Semi-molded ..... units | 14,563 | 4,887 | 16,179 | 6,221 |
| Woven ..... units | 11,765 | 2,735 | 28,310 | 5,731 |
| Magnesia & Mfrs. of .... lbs. | 259,714 | 26,367 | 271,910 | 23,063 |
| Asbestos Roofing ..... sqs. | 4,531 | 20,316 | 2,466 | 19,993 |
| Other Manufactures .... lbs. | 271,149 | 27,481 | 144,383 | 17,386 |

**Imports and Exports by United Kingdom**

*Imports of Raw Material.*

| | February 1937 | | February 1938 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Tons (2240 lbs.) | Value | Tons (2240 lbs.) | Value |
| From Africa (Rhodesia) ..... | 1,537 | £34,504 | 2,207 | £59,957 |
| Africa (Union of South) | 747 | 12,809 | 970 | 21,936 |
| Africa (Port. E.) ..... | ..... | 5 | 1 | 15 |
| Australia ..... | 7 | 265 | 46 | 4,014 |
| British India ..... | ..... | 1 | ..... | ..... |
| Canada ..... | 108 | 1,057 | 63 | 947 |
| Cyprus ..... | 60 | 535 | 142 | 2,818 |
| Denmark ..... | 1 | 5 | ..... | ..... |
| Finland ..... | 21 | 152 | ..... | ..... |
| Italy ..... | ..... | 75 | 5 | 224 |
| Netherlands ..... | 64 | 2,484 | ..... | ..... |
| Soviet Union (Russia) | 97 | 1,298 | ..... | ..... |
| U. S. of America ..... | ..... | ..... | 5 | 498 |
| Venezuela ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2 |
| | 2,642 | £53,190 | 3,439 | £90,411 |



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**Imports and Exports by United Kingdom (Cont'd)**

*Imports of Asbestos Manufactures:*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| February 1937 | 48,041 cwts. | valued at £16,877 |
| February 1938 | 19,877 cwts. | valued at £ 6,744 |

*Exports of Asbestos Manufactures:*

| | February 1937 | | February 1938 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts. | Value | Cwts. | Value |
| To Eire (Irish Free State) | 3,316 | £ 2,982 | 1,033 | £ 1,932 |
| British India | 3,840 | 7,648 | 9,535 | 9,750 |
| Australia | 909 | 5,023 | 826 | 6,474 |
| Other Br. Countries | 18,773 | 23,939 | 18,644 | 28,668 |
| Netherlands | 1,320 | 5,287 | 1,447 | 5,206 |
| Belgium | 931 | 5,886 | 316 | 2,809 |
| France | 740 | 2,996 | 440 | 1,693 |
| Italy | 95 | 814 | 186 | 2,320 |
| Other Foreign Countries | 10,031 | 30,264 | 15,729 | 32,241 |
| | 39,955 | £84,839 | 48,156 | £91,093 |

**Exports of Raw Asbestos from Canada**

(Figures published by Dominion Bureau of Statistics)

| | February 1937 | | February 1938 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Tons (2000 lbs.) | Value | Tons (2000 lbs.) | Value |
| United Kingdom | 60 | $ 2,400 | 70 | $ 3,800 |
| United States | 7,047 | 381,757 | 3,988 | 187,379 |
| Australia | ..... | ..... | 635 | 43,116 |
| Belgium | ..... | ..... | 63 | 4,878 |
| Czecho-Slovakia | ..... | ..... | 50 | 2,000 |
| France | 50 | 2,675 | ..... | ..... |
| Germany | 445 | 38,940 | 863 | 93,483 |
| Japan | 2,693 | 106,677 | 2,206 | 87,775 |
| Poland | 20 | 2,200 | 38 | 5,555 |
| | 10,315 | $534,649 | 7,913 | $427,986 |
| *Sand and Waste* | | | | |
| United Kingdom | 60 | 1,320 | ..... | ..... |
| United States | 14,034 | 231,177 | 4,864 | 86,915 |
| Cuba | 30 | 360 | ..... | ..... |
| Japan | 33 | 641 | 256 | 6,400 |
| Poland | 33 | 726 | ..... | ..... |
| Sweden | 38 | 423 | ..... | ..... |
| | 14,228 | $234,647 | 5,120 | $ 93,315 |
| *Grand Total* | *24,543* | *$769,296* | *13,033* | *$521,301* |



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**Exports of Raw Asbestos from South Africa**

| | January 1937 Tons (2000 lbs.) | Value | January 1938 Tons (2000 lbs.) | Value |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Transvaal* | | | | |
| Algeria | 10 | £ 187 | ..... | ..... |
| Australia | 134 | 1,535 | 203 | £ 2,079 |
| Belgium | 40 | 462 | 34 | 704 |
| Chili | ..... | ..... | 20 | 504 |
| France | 128 | 2,069 | 43 | 1,051 |
| Germany | 132 | 3,509 | 49 | 1,291 |
| Holland | 6 | 93 | 1 | 17 |
| Italy | 16 | 1,209 | ..... | ..... |
| Japan | 161 | 2,072 | 40 | 475 |
| United Kingdom | 927 | 11,429 | 628 | 13,114 |
| United States | 267 | 5,528 | 100 | 2,077 |
| | 1,821 | £28,093 | 1,118 | £21,312 |

## ASBESTOS STOCK QUOTATIONS

(These figures compiled from the Commercial and Financial Chronicle. No guarantee made as to their correctness).

| | Par | April 1938 Low | High | Last |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Asbestos Corpn. (Com.) | np | 49½ | 61 | 61 |
| Celotex (Com.) | np | 15 | 21 | 19 |
| Celotex (5% Pfd.) | 100 | 35 | 58 | 52 |
| Certainteed (Com.) | 1 | 5 | 7½ | 7 |
| Certainteed (6% Prior Pfd.) | 100 | 19 | 28½ | 25 |
| Flintkote (Com.) | np | 11⅞ | 16¾ | 15⅜ |
| Johns-Manville (Com.) | np | 61¼ | 70½ | 65 |
| Johns-Manville (Pfd.) | 100 | 122 | 125½ | 125 |
| Raybestos-Manhattan (Com.) | np | 17⅛ | 21 | 18⅞ |
| Ruberoid (Com.) | np | 14 | 20½ | 20 |
| Thermoid (Com.) | 1 | 2⅜ | 3⅝ | 3¼ |
| Thermoid ($3 Div. Conv. Pfd.) | 10 | 6¾ | 30 | 30 |
| U. S. Gypsum (Com.) | 20 | 56 | 74¼ | 72 |
| U. S. Gypsum (Pfd). | 100 | 162¼ | 165 | 165 |

RAW ASBESTOS

N. V. NEDERLANDSCHE ASBEST MY

P. O. BOX 803

ROTTERDAM (Holland)

*Stocks at*

Hamburg Rotterdam




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# NEWS OF THE INDUSTRY

**BIRTHDAYS.**

Sumner Simpson, President, Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., Bridgeport, Conn., May 17.

Guy George Gabrielson, President, Sall Mountain Co., New York City, N. Y., May 22nd.

Thomas J. S. Nicely, President, Nicely Corporation, Philadelphia, May 25.

George V. Hamilton, of Geo. V. Hamilton Co., Pittsburgh, Pa., May 26.

Giles Newton, Managing Director, Cape Asbestos Co., Ltd., London, England, May 27.

M. S. Sprague, Standard Asbestos Co., San Francisco, Calif., May 29.

F. E. Schluter, President, Thermoid Co., Trenton, N. J., May 31.

F. H. Shipe, Asbestos Covg. & Roofing Co., Washington, D. C., May 31.

Phil Ziegenfuss, V. P. & Treas., Insulating & Materials Co., St. Louis, Mo., June 2.

Thomas Jenkins, General Manager & Vice President, Norristown Magnesia & Asbestos Co., Norristown, Pa., June 5.

Walker Jamar, President, Walker Jamar Co., Duluth, Minn., June 11.

Howard Snow, President, Southern Friction Materials Co., Charlotte, N. C., June 11.

George I. Hesslein, Treas., Insulations, Inc., Cambridge, Mass., June 14.

W. R. Seigle, Chairman of the Board, Johns-Manville Corp., New York City, N. Y., June 14.

Congratulations and best wishes are extended to all these gentlemen on the occasion of their birthdays.

**UNION ASBESTOS & RUBBER CO., OF CHICAGO** held its annual meeting in Chicago on April 21st, at which time all directors and officers were re-elected. Lewis J. Silverman formerly Secretary and Treasurer was elected Executive Vice President and Treasurer; John H. Balch, for many years Auditor, was elected a director and Secretary of the Company.

**WORLD BESTOS CORPORATION.** Announcement has been made of the court approval of the reorganization plan for the World Bestos Corporation. This plan was developed by Walter W. Weismann and Ben Lauterstein, heads of the Aetna Industrial Corporation, Industrial Engineers of New York City, in cooperation with Carl P. Brockway, head of the World Bestos Corporation, and Hon. Charles P. Lynch, Trustee under the 77-B Bankruptcy proceedings.

The assets of World Bestos will be taken over by a new corporation to be known as the World Bestos Corporation. The



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active personnel of the original organization will continue with the successor corporation, and the Aetna Industrial Corporation will act in an advisory capacity in the expanded activities projected for World Bestos.

It was explained that trade developments demanding plant improvements and expansion at the start of the recession left the company with inadequate reserves. A petition to reorganize under Section 77B of the federal bankruptcy statutes was filed in 1936. The company, which has been in Paterson 12 years, was operated during the last two years under direction of Carl P. Brockway, general manager.

The World Bestos Corporation is well known thruout the automobile trade as manufacturers of brake linings and friction materials under the trade name "Grafild".

**JOHNS-MANVILLE** and subsidiaries show for the three months ended March 31st, 1938, a consolidated net loss of $239,475 after all charges and provision for depreciation and depletion. Figures comparing operations for the first three months of 1938 with the same period last year, follow:

| | Three Months Ended 3-31-38 | Three Months Ended 3-31-37 |
|---|---|---|
| Sales, net of Returns and Allowances | $10,435,118.68 | $13,001,665.37 |
| Less: Manufacturing Cost, Selling and Administrative Expenses | 10,081,166.48 | 11,147,449.23 |
| Profit before Depreciation, Depletion and Income Taxes | 353,952.20 | 1,854,216.14 |
| Less: Depreciation and Depletion | 549,202.23 | 586,122.66 |
| Profit or *Loss* after Depreciation and Depletion | *195,250.03** | 1,268,093.48 |
| Less: Provision for Income and Excess Profits Taxes | 44,225.46 | 246,174.77 |
| Profit or *Loss* after Income Tax | *239,475.49** | 1,021,918.71 |
| Profit or *Loss* per Common Share | *.44** | 1.05 |
| Dividends Paid on 75,000 Shares of Preferred Stock | $131,250.00 | $131,250.00 |
| Dividends Paid on 850,000 Shares of Common Stock | ..... | 637,500.00 |

* Italics indicate loss.

Note that the manufacturing cost, selling and administrative expenses were less in 1938 than in 1937.

**JOHNS-MANVILLE** announces a new type of insulated industrial curtain wall for steel frame factory buildings. This method of wall assembly, which is said to be suitable for practically all types of industrial buildings — such as warehouses, factories, light manufacturing buildings, etc., — was developed by J-M and is covered by patents. These walls consist of an application of Encased Insulating Board (1 inch of Insulating Board with an ⅛ inch veneer of Asbestos Flexboard or Flat Transite) over



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## • BLUE ASBESTOS

The Cape Asbestos Company, Ltd., is the world's largest supplier of acid-resistant blue crocidolite asbestos, and the only manufacturer operating its own mines. Inquiries solicited on:

**MILLBOARD** **YARNS**
**ROVINGS** **POWDER** **CLOTHS**
**PROCESSED FIBRES**
**Unexcelled for use in**
**ASBESTOS CEMENT PIPES**

## • AMOSITE ASBESTOS

This fibre owing to its great length and bulk is unrivalled for use as an insulating medium in:

***Asbestos mattress filler***
***85% Magnesia Insulation***

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which is applied a wall of Corrugated Transite. Between the windows, the wall is constructed from Encased Insulating Board to which is cemented a ⅜-inch sheet of Flat Transite to form the exterior surface. The completed structure provides an interesting, modern effect.

Since a special cementing process at the factory provides an excellent bond between the veneer sheets and the core, the units are ready to be erected when they arrive on the job. Laboratory tests show that a one-inch thickness of Insulating Board encased in this manner affords the same insulating value as a 14-inch thickness of common brick, and yet weighs one-twentieth as much.

**THE MANHATTAN RUBBER MFG. DIVISION** of Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., announces with deep regret the death on Thursday, April 14, of Silas A. Tucker, of Evanston, Ill., Manager of the Chicago Mechanical Rubber Goods Branch.

Mr. Tucker was 51 years old and had been with Manhattan for more than 25 years, having for many years been Manager of the Chicago Branch. He was an alumnus of the University of Chicago and a member of the Chicago Club, the Chicago Athletic Club and the Skokie Country Club.

**NEW AMIANTHUS MINES, LTD.,** has ceased mining operations owing to exhaustion of ore, according to various African Mining Journals.

**CELOTEX CORPORATION** of Chicago, Ill., announce the election of Henry W. Collins, New York, as vice president; and the appointment of J. Z. Hollman, Chicago, as general sales manager. Harry Conway of New York has been appointed manager of the company's New York sales division succeeding Mr. Collins in that post.

Mr. Collins has been with Celotex since 1923; Mr. Holman since 1926.

**JOHNS-MANVILLE** announces the organization of a Virginia subsidiary which has acquired 142 acres of land near Jarratt, Va., for the erection of a new factory for the manufacture of insulating board products. Construction of the new plant, which will require an expenditure of over a million dollars, will be started at once, and is expected to be in full operation by the end of 1938. It will employ between 300 and 400 persons. Local labor will be employed. A small experienced staff will be recruited from other J-M plants to supervise and train the local plant personnel. T. E. Reese, well known Jarratt business man, has been engaged by the company as its representative at this new location, and R. F. Bower, representing E. A. Sterling, nationally known forester was engaged by J-M several months ago to organize a wood procurement program. The sheathing, which is produced from wood fibre, is also manufactured by J-M at Oswego, New York.

**THERMOID COMPANY** of Trenton, N. J., has issued its annual report for 1937. F. E. Schluter, President, in his message to stockholders of the company remarks "Until general business



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declined sharply in the last two months of 1937 your Company was enjoying substantial increases in sales over recent years, and prospects for continuation seemed favorable. . . . . In January 1937 our subsidiaries, Thermoid Rubber Co., Thermoid Textile Co., and the Woven Hose & Rubber Co. were liquidated and their assets and business consolidated into Thermoid Company . . . . . During the year over $450,000 was spent for the purchase and installation of new equipment. These were considered absolutely necessary to keep products and costs on a competitive basis. At the present time the greatest part of our business with car manufacturers is on products developed during the last few years. Most of the rehabilitation of both Trenton, N. J., and Charlotte, N. C. factories and the transition to new products has been completed. Many new products were developed and introduced and our sales activities are consequently reaching into other profitable fields thruout the country. . . . . Further diversification in industrial and oil field products has also been accomplished."

Mr. Schluter makes the statement that the Company paid more in taxes than it had earnings last year.

Current assets of the Company are given as $2,416,727.50; against current liabilities of $767,972.55, a ratio of over three to one. This compares with a ratio of 2.4 to one on December 31, 1936.

Follows Consolidated Profit and Loss Account for year ended December 31, 1937:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Gross Sales | | $7,183,245.52 |
| Less Returns, Freight and Discounts | | 602,074.93 |
| Net Sales | | 6,581,170.59 |
| Cost of Sales (exclusive of items specifically stated below) | | 4,555,679.69 |
| Gross Profit | | 2,025,490.90 |
| Losses from writing down of Inventories | $ 81,114.30 | |
| Selling, General & Admin. Expenses | 1,165,121.56 | |
| Provision for Doubtful Accounts | 14,781.29 | |
| Maintenance and Repairs | 167,086.76 | |
| Taxes (other than Federal Income Tax) | 126,017.18 | |
| Provision for Depreciation | 184,596.82 | 1,738,717.91 |
| Operating Profit | | 286,772.99 |
| Misc. Income, less Misc. Charges | | 3,509.62 |
| Net Income before Interest and Exp. re Funded Debt and Fed. Income Tax | | 290,282.61 |
| Interest on Funded Debt and Amortization of Debt Disc. and Expense | | 144,705.05 |
| Net Income before Federal Income Tax | | 145,577.56 |
| Provision for Federal Income Tax | | 24,000.00 |
| | | 121,577.56 |
| Deduct Proportion of Net Income of Southern Asbestos Co. Applicable to Minority Stockholders Interest | | 900.96 |
| Net Income | | $ 120,676.60 |

**KEASBEY & MATTISON CO.** announce that final details prior



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to getting into full production of a new type of asbestos-cement pressure pipe are now occupying the technical staffs at Ambler, Pa., with installation of machinery and material handling equipment proceeding at a rapid pace. Test runs are in progress on the initial manufacturing unit and schedules have been formulated for building up of stocks for delivery in the near future.

The recently erected Ambler plant with its initial equipment will have a capacity of 9000 tons of pipe per year and another plant, now nearing completion in St. Louis, will produce 6000 tons per year. Both plants are designed for additional equipment as demand requires.

The new pipe is manufactured by the "Dalmine" Process, which is said to produce a product light in weight, possessing great strength and one which will not tuberculate or corrode.

Production will be in sizes from two to twenty-four inches in diameter and for pressures up to 200 pounds per square inch. In addition to pressure pipe production, manufacture of cable conduits for electrical purposes is underway, according to officials.

The product has wide application in a diversity of water works, electrical and industrial fields.

A. B. Spaulding, who has been connected with Keasbey & Mattison Company and associated companies almost continuously for the past ten years, has been appointed Sales Manager of its Asbestos Cement Pipe Division.

**JOHNS-MANVILLE NATIONAL HOUSING GUILD** to provide consumer selling in the building industry won first first honorable mention in a nation-wide contest based on merchandising achievement. More than 600 leading U. S. firms were invited to present sales plans in this competition which is sponsored jointly by the Sales Managers' Association of Philadelphia and the National Federation of Sales Executives.

**MANHATTAN RUBBER MFG. DIVISION** of Passaic, N. J., announces the appointment of J. B. Wittrup as Manager of the Chicago Mechanical Rubber Branch. Mr. Wittrup has been connected with the Manhattan Rubber Mfg. Division for 23 years.

**HALL & NIELSON LTD.,** of Bury, Lancs, England, send us their Report on Brake Lining Efficiency Service Test of their "Bramec" Brake and Clutch Linings. Interesting.

**TURNERS ASBESTOS CEMENT CO., LTD.,** Trafford Park, Manchester, England, has decided to spend approximately £200,000 on the development of the 20 acre site which the company recently purchased from Beardmore Shipyard at Dalmuir, Glasgow.

The buildings on the site will be adapted and equipped with new plant for the manufacture of asbestos cement pressure pipes and roofing materials. In the initial stages employment will be given to 350 men, and within a year it is expected that this number will be increased to 500. This will be an entirely new industry for Scotland.

**PATENTS** have been crowded out by the News this month but will be published in the next number (June) as usual.



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# THIS and THAT

**163,610 Bad Brakes.** New Jersey has a new compulsory motor vehicle inspection law. Figures of the first 12 weeks' inspection show a high number of rejections caused by faulty brakes. Of 857,413 cars inspected, 292,032 were rejected on their first inspecton. Of these, 99,685 cars were found with unequalized brakes; 48,456 cars with faulty brakes and 15,469 cars with defective emergency brakes. — Thermoid News.

**Ears Across the Sea.** Transatlantic telephone calls between Canada and countries in Europe and Africa averaged about seven a day during 1937, and showed an increase of about 70 per cent over the previous year.

**More Coffins.** In March we asked our readers for information as to asbestos coffins. One of our European friends, "Asbestile"—manufacturers of asbestos-cement products, writes us that they make "asbestos envelopes for the protection of coffins". We assume that "asbestos envelopes" are what are known in the United States as "overboxes", and this is probably what was meant in the news item we saw. However no one has volunteered any information as to the $25,000 plant at Arcadia, Calif., for the manufacture of such articles.

**Useful WPA Project.** The recently announced Marketing Laws Survey, to be undertaken by the Works Progress Administration will undoubtedly prove very helpful. The survey, we understand, is designed to obtain legal and economic data concerning laws on the state statute books and make it available in useful form to all Federal and State governmental agencies, trade associations, businessmen, lawyers, students and teachers of law and marketing. The Laws to be examined include: State anti-trust laws modelled after the Sherman Act, anti-price discrimination laws modelled after the Clayton and Robinson-Patman Acts, and those laws which set up State trade commissions; laws which affect miscellaneous marketing methods; state laws pertaining to the marketing of specific agricultural and industrial products.

**Taxes by the Minute.** During 1937 the Westinghouse tax bill was $1,166,666 every month; or $271,316 every week, which means $53,263 every working day or $6,783 every working hour, and figuring still farther we find that every working minute the tax was $113.

**New Blowing Hose.** To keep pace with the rapidly growing industry of asbestos home and building insulation, the Manhattan Rubber Mfg. Division, Passaic, N. J., has developed Condor Insulation Blowing Hose. This hose is used for the insertion of asbestos wool or similar material in the walls of buildings.

Claims made for this hose are that it is light, flexible and easy to handle. A spring wire spiral inserted in its body prevents collapsing or kinking.



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*For underground and outdoor insulation systems –*

## DURANT INSULATED PIPE

Pioneering the development of this new type of built-up insulation Ehret is happy to announce to the trade that the new plant, specially constructed for the production of DURANT INSULATED PIPE, is now in full operation.

Here, under modern conditions and with the latest equipment we are daily producing thousands of feet of this new type of outdoor and underground insulation. Pipe and insulation are built together at the factory in one unit and are applied on the job as one unit, eliminating many former costly and tedious operations during application. It will pay you to investigate thoroughly DURANT INSULATED PIPE. Write today for our new folder on Durant Systems.

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# DO YOU KNOW--

That the house where the quintuplets were born is now covered with asbestos-cement siding . . .

That the Keasbey & Mattison Company has been in existence for 65 years, having started in 1873 . . .

That "rubber bonded brake linings" (molded, in other words) have been more or less limited to the United States, finding little favor in Europe . . .

That Johns-Manville manufactures approximately 1300 products, most of which contain asbestos . . .

?

*(Send us interesting facts concerning your company, for use on this page).*


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