ASBESTOS

JANUARY, NINETEEN FORTY-ONE



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ASBESTOS R M TEXTILES

PROFIT — QUALITY — INTRINSIC VALUE

THE PRINCIPLE OF PROFIT IN INDUSTRY IS THE FOUNDATION ON WHICH SUCCESSFUL ENTERPRISES REST SECURELY. WITHOUT ADEQUATE PROFIT THE PRODUCER CANNOT SUPPLY THE HIGH QUALITY AND INTRINSIC VALUE WHICH GIVE TO THE ULTIMATE CONSUMER ECONOMICAL SERVICE. ADEQUATE PROFIT SAFEGUARDS BOTH THE PRODUCER AND THE MANUFACTURING CONSUMER, AND THE PRINCIPLE IS EQUALLY IMPERATIVE UPON BOTH. FROM ADEQUATE PROFIT COMES THAT FEELING OF SATISFACTION IN MANUFACTURING PRODUCTS OF SUPERIOR VALUE. QUALITY GIVES TO THE CONSUMER A SENSE OF SECURITY AND SATISFACTION IN RECEIVING FULL VALUE. ALL OF WHICH SUMS UP IN HIGH STANDARDS FOR PRODUCER AND CONSUMER.

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"ASBESTOS"

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CONTINUOUSLY SINCE THAT DATE

A. S. ROSSITER, *EDITOR*

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GREETINGS---

By Asbestos Executives in the Asbestos Industry

Never in America has there dawned a New Year which has taken more courage to face than this one of 1941. It reminds us of a very foggy evening when it is impossible to go more than a few steps at a time and those with caution.

Any planning must be flexibile enough that it can be changed at any moment as world events change.

That Asbestos Executives fully realize the difficulties and responsibilities which will be theirs during the coming year, is plainly apparent from the following letters of greeting:

—:—

Lewis H. Brown, President, Johns-Manville Corporation, warns against "boom" psychology:

It is indeed a pleasure for me to be able once again, thru the courtesy of "ASBESTOS", to extend New Year greetings from the entire Johns-Manville organization to the members of the asbestos industry.

There appears to be no doubt that 1941 will be one of the busiest years in our history. We will all be at the service of our country making every possible contribution to the building of an adequate national defense. The demands upon us will be enormous and our responsibilities will be manifold.

As we enter this period of greatly accelerated business, we must all constantly bear in mind the mistakes that were made in the last such national emergency in order that we may profit by these past experiences. Above all, we must not permit ourselves to drift into a "boom" psychology of the type which developed as a result of the first World War and which finally ended in the collapse of the late twenties. We must coordinate our activities to fill the requirements of the national defense program and the normal needs of our population without sharp price rises and

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other violent dislocations. For, when the pump priming period of our defense program is over and when our defenses are adequate we must be ready to meet the problems of the inevitable transition period with our house in order.

May I extend my personal greetings and best wishes to all.

—:—

Herbert Abraham, President, The Ruberoid Co., calls attention to two outstanding opportunities which the New Year offers:

What 1941 may bring forth in this troubled world, no one knows.

For all of us in the asbestos industry, however, and for every businessman, the New Year seems to me to present two outstanding opportunities.

First, and of paramount, immediate importance, is the opportunity to cooperate in many ways, both personally and in our businesses, with the national defense program.

And second is the opportunity to help preserve, for the future, the essential principles, procedures, and foundations of our peace-time national economy.

In that spirit — the spirit of forwarding together a cherished common purpose — I welcome, on behalf of the Ruberoid organization, this opportunity to extend to all members of the asbestos industry the heartiest of New Year greetings.

—:—

R. H. Shainwald, President, Plant Rubber and Asbestos Works, pledges cooperation in the American drive for peace and progress:

Our industry is an important part of the national defense set-up, and I know every asbestos manufacturer and dealer is keeping pace with the rest of America in the drive for peace and progress.

Nineteen-forty-one will be a hard year, in many ways perhaps a tragic year, but it also will be one of those periods on which we can build to a better future. Being in a state of flux, the world will be malleable, ready for change, and it is our part — as loyal Americans — to see that the change is a good one.

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I offer greetings, my sincere wishes for a happy New Year, and my assurance that the organization I represent will do everything in its power to help all industry meet the challenge for a national emergency.

—:—

F. E. Schluter, President Thermoid Company, faces the future with serious misgivings:

With the emotionalism and hysteria of war in the atmosphere, with the feeling by the people that we are finally attaining Utopia because of this temporary industrial activity, it takes courage to state one's doubts.

After this last drunken orgy of public spending, defense and war financing, and the increasing belief that the central government is the source of everything, I can visualize nothing but possible tyranny, trouble and tears, with either heart-breaking taxes or threadbare financing as a result. Eventually (maybe even after our generation and after much bitter experience) we may return to the earlier virtues which made this country great — hard work, thrift, the free flow of individual initiative and the stimulation of the free enterprise system.

That is saying a lot or very little — according to the sense of security or worry of the reader.

—:—

S. Simpson, President, Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., believes that Defense requirements will develop new methods and materials which may revolutionize the Asbestos Industry:

The Asbestos Industry will do its share in the Defense program and will develop new methods and new materials to meet the new Defense requirements. These new specifications will be so much more rigid than formerly, it is going to require all the ingenuity and cooperation of all departments of industry. In the long run, this new work will, no doubt, revolutionize the Asbestos Industry in many ways, and management must be able to take advantage of these new conditions and develop them for commercial uses. This, of course, means at a price that the public can afford to pay.

It is, of course, extremely difficult to tell what there is for the Asbestos Industry *beyond* the Defense program.

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Careycel—For temperatures up to 300° F.

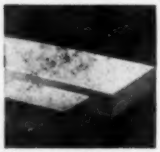
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We would welcome today a diversification and greater use of asbestos products, and it would be a very good thing for the Asbestos Industry to develop them.

Management faces a difficult situation both from a financial and labor standpoint, but I am hoping that the general labor conditions which have prevailed in our industry as a rule for many years will continue to a happy ending.

I extend my sincerest wishes for a bright and prosperous New Year to all my many friends and co-workers in the Industry.

—:—

G. D. Crabbs, Chairman of the Board, The Philip Carey Manufacturing Company, comments on probable upward trend in the building field and expansion in industry:

It is again our pleasure to extend to the readers of "ASBESTOS" and to all members of the industry, very best wishes for Good Health, Happiness and Prosperity thruout the New Year.

The year 1941 bids fair to be one of intensive industrial activity and I am sure the Asbestos & Magnesia Industry will not be found wanting in doing its full share in the Defense program.

In the building field, there is every indication that residential building will continue its upward trend, with a decided expansion in specialized industrial plants involved directly or indirectly in supplying materials for the Army, Navy and governmental projects for war purposes.

—:—

Ernest Muehleck, President of Keasbey & Mattison Company, describes America's task for 1941 as "insulating Democracy against Dictatorship":

Here in America, during the year 1940, we have enjoyed a certain amount of so-called prosperity, but who can deny that when historians look back and write the record of the year's world events, Winston Churchill's words "blood, toil, tears and sweat" will not cover every page. The grim events of the past year must have convinced all red-blooded, freedom-loving Americans that Democracy

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and free private enterprise over the entire face of this earth are threatened as never before, and that there can be no real peace between the cross and the swastika.

With this conviction, and regardless of personal sacrifice, hardship and toil, let us face the New Year of 1941 determined to put every ounce of our energy into the task of insulating Democracy against Dictatorship, so that our wish for peace, happiness and freedom for all mankind may soon come true.

In this spirit, and through the kindness of "ASBESTOS", we of the K. & M. Co., send you our greetings.

—:—

R. W. Steele, President of Asbestos Corporation Limited, feels confident the Asbestos Industry will capably meet the many demands made upon it in 1941:

On behalf of Asbestos Corporation Limited, I should like to express to the asbestos industry, through the medium of your excellent magazine, our sincere thanks for the patronage we received during the trying year just closed, and to extend to all most hearty good wishes for 1941.

The period ahead is going to be one of great stress and strain for all of us, but I am confident that the industry will be able to meet every one of the many demands which will be put upon it and, along with the great ideals of freedom and democracy, emerge triumphant in the end.

—:—

C. J. Stover (owner of "ASBESTOS") enjoys the privilege of keeping in touch with the Asbestos Industry thru its pages:

To all of you who are directly or even remotely concerned with the ever fascinating mineral Asbestos and its myriad uses, I heartily extend appreciation, encouragement, and best wishes.

While still on the side line, to me it is a never ceasing mystery and a valuable privilege to keep in remote touch with you all and to regularly enthuse over your accomplishments.

May you all, each one, achieve your heart's desire.

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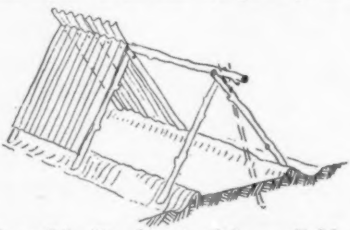
K&M best in asbestos

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EMERGENCY BUILDING IN ENGLAND

Shelters for Refugees Built of Asbestos-Cement, Brick and Concrete

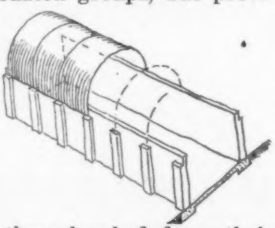
With air attacks on thickly populated areas in England making an increasing number of people refugees in their own land, the Association of Architects, Surveyors and Technical Assistants has devoted much time and effort to devising emergency buildings, which can be quickly as-



I. Sleeping. Asbestos-cement sheets and hedgerow timber. An alternative for the timber frame is asbestos-cement pipes.

sembled and dis-assembled, and built of materials available in quantity, and low in cost.

Local authorities thruout England have made provision for the storage of additional food, blankets and other emergency requirements for evacuated groups, but provi-



II. Sleeping, Feeding, Cooking. Brick Walls 4½" thick. Asbestos-cement semi-circular corrugated sheets for roofing.

sions for temporary shelter for those bombed from their homes, is a major problem.

The architects have drawn up designs for temporary shelter, based on the use of brick, concrete and asbestos-cement.

Asbestos-cement products have been selected as one of

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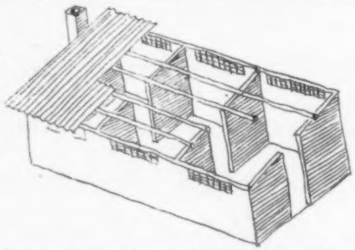
Works: MILLINGTON, N. J.

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the materials because they are available in large stocks and are capable of sustaining considerable tensile stresses.

As can be imagined the type of labor used to construct the buildings is important and therefore methods of construction have been highly simplified so that the buildings can be erected mainly with unskilled labor.

Another point which has been considered is the designing of the buildings in such manner that large numbers of people can be easily and efficiently handled and can be fed



III. Sleeping, Feeding, Cooking. Asbestos-cement roof sheeting; 4½" brick walls; Beams of asbestos-cement pipes.

centrally. And the buildings have been planned so that they can be readily extended.

The sketches show three of the designs selected. Type I, the asbestos tent building, can be banked with earth at the sides as protection against splinters and blast, and exposed areas of corrugated sheet can be paint camouflaged.

Type II employs semi-circular sheets of asbestos-cement corrugated. Note that Type III employs asbestos cement pressure pipes for beams. This type can be made any length required by the addition of further sections.

The buildings are between eight and nine feet high and Types I and II approximately the same width. Type III is 15 feet wide.

Most of the materials used can be used again later for more permanent and high-standard evacuation buildings.

—:—

More data has reached us concerning the Z-Process of Sewage Treatment (see page 3, July 1938 "ASBESTOS") in which asbestos fibre is used. A short, but informative article will be published in "ASBESTOS" very soon. In the meantime anyone interested can obtain an advance copy of the article by special request.

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PUBLIC RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BUILDING PRODUCTS INDUSTRY

By Herbert Abraham[1]

The building products industry, if it is to face squarely its public responsibilities in 1941, will recognize and strive toward four major objectives.

First, and of paramount, immediate importance, is the need to forward with all possible speed the production of materials for construction of all buildings related in any way to the national defense—cantonments, airports, plants for the manufacture of defense items, and housing for workers in defense industries.

Second is the need to assist, thru the development of improved products and building methods, in providing better homes for more people at reduced cost, so that the shortage of livable houses that accumulated during the depression years may not become acute.

Third is the need to use every effort to prevent any inflation in the prices of manufactured products.

And fourth is the need to accord every possible technical aid to the hundreds of private and semi-private philanthropic institutions in this country—hospitals, schools, colleges and social welfare organizations—which, as a result of the depression, are forced today to operate in obsolete or otherwise inadequate buildings.

In pursuing these objectives, the building products industry can, and I am confident it will, play a valuable part in forwarding four of the most essential elements of any complete program of national defense—defense against attack from outside, defense against deterioration of family living conditions, defense against unwarranted prices and defense against the weakening of established institutions necessary to the maintenance of health and wholesome community influence.

[1] President, The Ruberoid Co.

—:—

Life is just a succession of things to be enjoyed, endured or licked.

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Underground Steam Conduit

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CANADA'S ASBESTOS GOODS

The Canadian Asbestos Manufacturing Industry in 1939

The pamphlet[1] issued annually by the Canadian Census of Industry, under the title "The Asbestos Industry in Canada" has been received for 1939 and covers very thoroly statistics on both the Mining and Manufacturing divisions of the Asbestos Industry, 25 tables showing imports, exports, sales, capital employed, etc.

A few of these figures are given below. Comparison with similar figures for 1939 can be had by referring to page 10 of March 1940 "ASBESTOS".

ASBESTOS PRODUCTS MANUFACTURED IN CANADA—1939:

	Unit	Quantity	Cost at Works
Asbestos brake linings—Moulded	ft.	2,245,559	$489,305
Other ..	ft.	1,096,577	150,579
Asbestos boiler and pipe covg.	ft.	1,769,485	156,878
Asbestos clutch facings	no.	638,498	147,249
Asbestos gaskets	lb.	38,185	19,699
Asbestos packings (all kinds)	lb.	283,358	112,649
All other products (including cloth, shingles, yarn, paper, dryer felt, brake hose, etc.)	$	.....	707,664
			$1,783,993

The following table shows number of plants, capital employed, etc., in the Canadian Asbestos Products Industry in **1939**:

No. of Plants	14
Capital Employed	2,003,516
Av. number employes	415
Salaries and wages	497,324
Cost of fuel and electricity at works	99,711
Cost of materials at works	724,424
Gross selling value products at works	1,783,993

[1] Procurable at Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa, at price of 25c.

—:—

Be your own efficiency expert; do your job the best way it can be done.

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"ASBESTOS" IN 1941

Our plans for 1941 can be summed up in a very few words—"more and better service to the Asbestos Industry than ever before".

Because of the very distressing war disturbances all over the world, our statistical data has been greatly curtailed, either because the various asbestos producing countries do not wish statistics published, or because they do not have time to compile them. This is greatly to be regretted but cannot be helped. Files are being kept in such manner that if and when the publishing of such statistics is resumed by the various countries, it may be possible to fill in the gaps, and so make records complete.

"ASBESTOS", however, can, and does, perform many other services. One of these is the supplying of all sorts of information useful to our country and to the Industry, on various phases of the Industry, new products, new uses—the list is almost unlimited.

During the past year we have answered about twenty-five special inquiries on asbestos subjects, some of which required much correspondence, research and other time consuming activities. The subjects of inquiry ranged all the way from where to obtain asbestos shoe soles, rugs, tent shields, asbestos powder and Italian asbestos, to requests for compression data on packings, information on vocational training of asbestos workers, history of and data concerning anthophyllite asbestos and theory and application of pipe and boiler insulations. While it isn't *always* possible to supply the answers, 90% of the inquirers are either answered directly or told of some source where the data can be obtained. Many times the answer has been made possible thru the courtesy of our advertisers and readers. Some of the inquiries have led to quite interesting discussion in our pages and others to the finding of new uses and new friends in or outside the Industry. The same service is offered for 1941 and we urge our readers to take advantage of it as occasion arises. All of it helps to make the public asbestos-conscious.

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It is our purpose during 1941 to bring to our readers some of the personalities who make up the Asbestos Industry. This will be done by our publishing biographies of men who have served the Industry in one way and another for a number of years and also thru editorials written exclusively for "ASBESTOS" by various executives in the Industry. All of our readers will enjoy these brief glimpses into the lives of their contemporaries, competitors and friends in the Industry; therefore when you are called upon for such biographic or editorial matter please do not refuse us.

Best wishes to everyone for the year before us—1941!

APPRECIATE AMERICA - -

For many years most Americans have taken their country and its advantages somewhat for granted. Few of us realize the benefits conferred upon us at birth because we happened to be born within the boundaries of the United States.

The past few years, however, and particularly the past year, world events have taught us the real meaning and value of freedom of speech, freedom of the press, the opportunity to develop our individual talents, the many other things which make our way of life comfortable, pleasurable and interesting.

Recently there has been organized "Appreciate America, Inc.",[1] headed by Prof. Paul H. Douglas of the University of Chicago, the object of which as stated in its charter is "to inculcate in all Americans an understanding of the character of the fundamental principles and institutions of our country, and to create, extend and translate into concrete applications, an appreciation of the American way of life".

To this end "Appreciate America, Inc." will, thru spoken, written and pictured messages, attempt to promote a love for our country thru an appreciation of its advantages.

And each and every American — and that means you and I—can do his part by *appreciating* and urging oth-

[1] Headquarters at 130 N. Wells St., Chicago, Ill.

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VERMONT ASBESTOS





CLEAN, well fiberized asbestos particularly well suited for the manufacture of the better types of:

BRAKE LINING — INSULATING CEMENT
CLUTCH FACING — MOULDED PLASTICS
ROOFING PAINTS — ASBESTOS PAPER
SHINGLES — PLASTIC-CEMENT — MILLBOARD

Samples and Prices upon application

VERMONT ASBESTOS MINES

Division of The RUBEROID Co.

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ers to appreciate, the advantages we, as citizens of the United States, have as our natural heritage. Even more important, we can do everything in our power to see that those advantages are kept intact.

INFORMATION FOR LUNCHEON TALKS

Frequently we are asked for information on the history of asbestos and asbestos products, legends, etc., for use in giving luncheon talks, writing articles for local papers, and other things of that sort.

Perhaps the following brief list of articles which have appeared in "ASBESTOS" will be helpful:

Asbestos in 17th Century (April 1920).
Discovery and Early Use (August 1921).
Early European Development (September 1924).
Discovery; How, When, Where (October 1929).
Italy—the Cradle of the Asbestos Industry (August 1931).
History of the Asbestos Mfg. Industry (August 1935).
The Beginning in the U. S. A. (October 1935).
Packing (History) (November 1935).
Paper and Millboard (History) (January 1936).
Insulation (History) (May 1936).
Asbestos-Cement Products (History) (August 1936).
The Uses of Asbestos (November 1936).
Asbestos—A Brief Non Technical Account (October and November 1937).
Asbestos—The Magic Mineral (Legends) (November 1939).
Asbestos—How Does it Serve Humanity? (November 1939).

Back copies of "ASBESTOS" cost 25c each and most of the above are available, or if not, copies of the article will be supplied at a nominal price. If some particular phase of the subject of asbestos is to be the theme we may be able to suggest references more specific in character.

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THE MARINE PARKWAY BRIDGE--

Asbestos as usual plays its part in this unusual structure

By Robert G. Skerrett

So many big bridges have been built in recent years that such structures have become fairly commonplace, and, to be distinctive, they must be either of exceptional size or marked because of some other feature or characteristic.

The Marine Parkway Bridge spans Rockaway Inlet in the southeastern section of the City of Greater New York, and Rockaway Inlet is a tidal artery that links Jamaica Bay with the nearby Atlantic Ocean, thus the Marine Parkway Bridge becomes a direct highway to Rockaway Beach.

The bridge can accommodate 50,000 motor cars in 24 hours; before it was built the ferries run to the popular summer resort could serve a maximum of only 4500 vehicles.

But, the Marine Parkway Bridge crosses a waterway that is a route for larger vessels with towering masts, and the structure was accordingly designed to have a lift span that, when fully raised would afford an underclearance of 150 feet; and in order not to restrict the much traveled channel, the lift span has a length of 540 feet. It is the longest lift span so far constructed. The span moves up and down between two high towers that possess an unusual degree of monumental dignity and architectural grace. The span, its two associate towers, and the numerous approach spans have, all told, a length of about 3,840 feet between the two shore abutments. The bridge has a roadway with a clear width of 44 feet. The lift span weighs nearly 2200 tons, but even so, powerful electric motors, placed at the top of each tower, can elevate the span 95 feet above its down position in the brief interval of two minutes.

So much for size and importance! Like all large pro-

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jects of almost any nature, asbestos materials of one sort or another are extensively used.

There is a main or master-control house and two houses for gate attendants, the master control house containing the control switchboard, essential transformers, storage room, and the operator's room, in which last is found the main-control desk, gate control stands, meter panels, etc. In short, the operator's room is the brain center of the bridge. The framing of the control house, like that of the other houses, is of steel which is sheathed on the outside with steel plating, but within, the walls and ceilings are of asbestos board, while the partitions are made up of double walls of the same material with an insulating material between.

The two towers, which contain the great 15 foot wheels over which travel the 80 steel cables which pull up the lift span or lower it, each also contain an elevator, and the supports for the machinery for each elevator are insulated with asbestos board and the insulating material previously mentioned.

Another use of asbestos is in the ducts which carry the cables thru which the bridge obtains its operating current. Besides there are other, minor uses of asbestos materials in the control room, the switching points—in fact wherever electricity is used.

Three purposes are served by the asbestos board—safeguard against fire, comfort to the operators (meaning insulation against heat, cold and sound) and attractive appearance.

RAW ASBESTOS

N. V. NEDERLANDSCHE ASBEST MY

P. O. BOX 803
ROTTERDAM (Holland)

Stock at Rotterdam

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THEY SAY!

Because of its low friction coefficient and the ease of installation of asbestos-cement pipe, that material is being largely used at training camps thruout the United States both for water supply and sewerage systems.

—:—

Asbestos Corded Soles are used on some "play shoes". Can anyone give us information as to the name of the firm manufacturing them, whether it be an asbestos manufacturer (which is unlikely) or a firm outside the asbestos industry. We have an inquiry as to a source of supply.

—:—

A new asbestos deposit will be developed in the Argentine during the present year. It is said to be located about 140 kilometres (87 miles) west of the provincial capital of Mendoza, near Upsallata, and owned by S. A. Minera Otto.

The deposit owned by the Argentine firm Maurer & Coll was closed down a short time ago. "ASBESTOS" is attempting to obtain further information, and specimens, from both deposits.

—:—

One of the largest looms in the United States has been recently installed at the duck plant of Brandon Corporation, Greenville, S. C., and is at present weaving asbestos cloth 246 inches wide for use in paper mills. When completed the roll of cloth will weigh between 2,500 and 3,000 pounds. The machine, which was made in England and installed by an Englishman, weighs 25 tons.

—:—

Regulations of the New York City Fire Department prohibit the transportation of dynamite anywhere in greater New York except by electric truck built to its specifications. Among other things the specifications call for asbestos-lined battery compartments and controller boxes, and the floor must be protected by a ¼ in. layer of asbestos material.

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MARKET CONDITIONS

GENERAL BUSINESS

Much better than we could do so, the National City Letter for December sums up the business situation in its first paragraph. It says:

"The old year has closed with industrial operations in this country at the highest rate ever reached, and with a clear prospect that they will move still higher in 1941. Simultaneously, the industries are producing for defense needs, expanding for still greater production, and supplying the increased wants of people whose buying power is rising. Some export and import trades are depressed by war disruptions, but they do not bulk large in the general situation. The outstanding fact is that payrolls are rising, living costs holding steady, and purchasing power spreading around the circle, demonstrating once more that the industries support each other . . . The record of 1940 will show that industrial output has exceeded 1939 by 13 per cent and 1929, the previous record year, by 10 per cent."

ASBESTOS - RAW MATERIAL

"We learn from very good authority" says one correspondent, "that Germany in her invasion of Belgium and France, removed practically all raw asbestos stocks in those countries. The stocks were large and consisted not only of Shingle Fibre but of long spinning fibre and crudes".

"The few factories in unoccupied France have very little raw asbestos on hand and navicerts covering their requirements have been unobtainable.

"At the outbreak of the war, Italy had very little stock because of her inability to furnish dollars, so it is probable that Italy will very shortly be without asbestos."

ASBESTOS—MANUFACTURED GOODS

Textiles. The demand for asbestos textiles continues very strong and there is a possibility that the delay in de-

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livery on certain types of the higher grade products may exist by Spring because of lack of capacity in the Industry. The requirements for asbestos textiles, both for direct shipment to the Navy and for shipment to fabricators doing work for the Navy, is so great that delivery requirements cannot always be met. It has been a great many years since the demand for asbestos textiles has been at such a high point. Some minor price advances were made by some of the asbestos textile manufacturers around the first of the year.

Brake Lining. Sales of brake lining, clutch facings and transmission linings for domestic consumption, during November, recorded an increase over last November's sales. Exports, while increasing over the previous month, decreased from the total volume of business transacted last November.

Paper and Millboard. Demand for paper appears to be about normal with prices holding firm.

Millboard shows increased sales which is quite natural as quantities of it are being used in ships and cantonment work.

Insulation. High Pressure. Volume of current shipments and of orders for future delivery continues to increase. Indications are that work in process and in prospect will assure a satisfactory level of operations for some time to come. Prices are steady.

Insulation. Low Pressure. This market is about normal for the season with little if any change in price.

Asbestos-Cement Products. Construction work in connection with national defense projects continues to keep sales above normal for this season of the year in all types of asbestos-cement products, both for residential and industrial construction work. As a result of this, the Industry today has on its books the largest backlog of unfilled orders in its history and prospects indicate that this situation may continue for some time to come.

These comments are made by men closely in touch with the various markets; opinions are always welcome from anyone in the Asbestos Industry.

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CONTRACTORS AND DISTRIBUTORS PAGE

Training of Asbestos Workers[1]

The advice offered most frequently on this subject of the training of asbestos workers (meaning pipe coverers) is that employers, either individually or in city groups take more interest in this problem.

Thru the slack period apparently little was done to train new men to the point where they could be considered expert pipe covering mechanics.

Now that skilled mechanics are so much in demand, especially in the areas where shipbuilding has tremendously increased the call for them, there is often found one skilled mechanic directing a number of men but making no attempt to really teach them the trade—in other words, merely instructing them to become proficient in one particular operation. This means that a man's occupation day in and day out is limited to that purely functional task and overall quality of workmanship is bound to suffer.

"The final result of such procedure" says one of our correspondents, "is going to be very unsatisfactory to unions and employers alike. The employers should have interested themselves in the problem long ago, and the unions should have stimulated this interest."

The suggestion is made that at least one man, out of every three or four admitted to local union membership, be intensively trained for the job of pipe covering mechanic.

We want the views of others—of insulation contractors' associations, and of the insulation contractors themselves—on this question. Please send them promptly.

1 Third in the series of articles on this subject. See November and December "ASBESTOS" for the first two.

—:—

Handy

Judging by the number of requests recently received for the twelve tables for estimating purposes (see page 29 of September "ASBESTOS" for list) estimators are finding these tables very handy. They are $1.00 per set for the twelve. Send orders to "ASBESTOS", 16th Fl., Inquirer Bldg., Philadelphia, Pa.

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Building

In the first eleven months of 1940, the dollar value of contracts awarded for non-residential buildings in the 37 eastern states reached a total of $1,112,022,000, according to F. W. Dodge Corporation. This represents an increase of 11 per cent over the $907,881,000 recorded for the comparable period of 1939. 1940 is the largest residential building year since 1929.

Dodge statistics reveal that, during the month of November, non-residential awards of $148,367,000 indicated a 90 per cent rise over November 1939. At the same time, this figure represented 39 per cent of the total dollar volume of contracts awarded which amounted to $380,347,000 for November 1940. Non-residential building in November 1939 accounted for only 26 per cent of the total dollar volume then recorded.

Commenting on this increased non-residential building volume, Thomas S. Holden, vice-president of F. W. Dodge Corporation, in charge of statistics and research, stated:

"This increase in non-residential building reflects largely the requirements of a nation creating from the ground up a new armament industry and the facilities for an enlarged military and naval establishment. Civilian public improvements have been relatively small in volume in 1940. Private commercial building has shown substantial increase, principally in the field of small, new buildings and store-modernization projects. The non-residential building trends established in recent months are due to carry on through a considerable portion of 1941."

ROOFING—Estimating, Applying, Repairing.
By JAMES MCCAWLEY. A practical handbook describing the mechanics of shelter and application of all kinds of roofing material. **$3.00 per copy**
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LOOK
. . . at the possibilities for increased sales awaiting you among the nation's roofing and siding contractors.
Send for your free copy of "Inside Story" today
AMERICAN ROOFER
425 Fourth Avenue New York City

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NEWS OF THE INDUSTRY

BIRTHDAYS

J. H. Nankervis, Vice President, Magnesia-Asbestos Insulation Co., New York City, January 16.

Arthur J. Reed, President, Asbestos Distributors, Inc., Port Chester, N. Y., January 16.

A. F. Matheis, Assistant Vice President, Thermoid Company, Trenton, N. J., January 17.

E. C. Nankervis, President, Magnesia-Asbestos Insulation Co., New York City, January 19.

Henry W. Grebe, President, Central Asbestos & Magnesia Company, Chicago, Ill., January 21.

G. D. Crabbs, Chairman of the Board, Philip Carey Mfg. Co., Lockland, Cincinnati, O., January 22.

Lt. Col. J. G. Ross, Director and General Manager, Asbestos Corporation Limited, Thetford Mines, P.Q., Canada, February 1.

L. C. Rugen, Vice President, The Ruberoid Co., New York City, February 6.

H. A. Hirschfield, President, Standard Asbestos Co., Inc., New York City, February 11.

Lewis H. Brown, President, Johns-Manville Corporation, New York City, February 13.

Robert W. Steele, President, Asbestos Corporation Limited, Thetford Mines, P. Q., Canada, February 15.

"ASBESTOS" congratulates all these gentlemen on the occasion of their birthdays.

—:—

LOUISE V. SIMPSON, wife of Sumner Simpson, President of the Raybestos Division of Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., passed away on December 28th, after a brief illness. Mr. Simpson's many friends in the Asbestos Industry will be grieved to learn of his bereavement.

—:—

"PHENOLIC-ASBESTOS PLANT EQUIPMENT" by William H. Adams, Jr., of the Haveg Corporation, Newark, Delaware, appears in the December 1940 number of Modern Plastics (published at 122 E. 42nd St., New York City).

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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

The CAPE ASBESTOS CO. Limited

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FACTORY, BARKING, ESSEX

United States Sales Agent:
ARNOLD W. KOEHLER
415 LEXINGTON AVE. **NEW YORK CITY**
TELEPHONE—VANDERBILT 6-1477

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ALFRED M. ROBINSON

Pioneer of Asbestos Mining Industry Passes Away

The Asbestos Mining Industry on December 8th lost one of its pioneers and a man who was truly loved by all with whom he came in contact—A. M. Robinson, Secretary of Johnson's Company, Thetford Mines, Quebec.

Mr. Johnson entered the employ of Johnson's Company in 1884 and in 1897 was appointed Secretary-Treasurer of the Company, a position which he held until his death.



Alfred M. Robinson

The keynote of Mr. Robinson's life was devotion. He was devoutly religious and sincerely tolerant of the religious views of others. His devotion to duty was well demonstrated by his faithful service with one employer for fifty-six years. For over half a century he never failed to be at his desk and cheerfully gave his advice and guidance to those surrounding him. His was a kindly personality which sought to solve the daily problems of business by mutual and sympathetic understanding. He was never known to disparage others and if he could not offer praise, never condemned.

His unselfish devotion to his family was shown by the fact that he chose to make a home for them in Quebec City, a center that offered greater educational facilities than did Thetford Mines. He therefore was with his family only on weekends and endured the burden of travel back and forth without complaint.

Mr. Robinson is survived by his wife, the former Mary Doran of Quebec; three daughters, Margaret (Mrs. F. A. Bussieres), Ruth, and Elizabeth, and one son, George, all of Quebec, as well as by five grandchildren.

The funeral was held in Quebec City on Wednesday, December 11th, and was largely attended.

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WILLIAM H. SCOBIE RETIRES

On December 31st, William H. Scobie retired from his position as Purchasing Agent of The Philip Carey Manufacturing Company, which he had occupied for more than thirty-four years.

Well-known and respected in the business world, Mr. Scobie added to ability in his office, a personality and character which gained many friends for the Company and for himself.

Regardless of the necessary exactions of his position, Mr. Scobie was noted for his fair and courteous treatment of all comers. Salesmen knew him to be without bias, willing to hear their story and give careful consideration to all facts presented.

Beginning his business career with the C. C. C. & St. L. Railway Company's Purchasing Department at Cincinnati, he was for some years assistant to that old stalwart, George Tozzer, known the country over as a keen and capable buyer of the extensive heavy and miscellaneous equipment used by important railway systems — a good schooling for an apt pupil.

After a brief sojourn in Pittsburgh, he came to the Carey organization at the solicitation of Mr. G. D. Crabbs, who had long known him as a neighbor.

On December 18th, 1940, Mr. Scobie was guest of honor at a dinner given by his Carey associates at the Cincinnati Club where he was presented with a handsome set of matched irons and clubs.

Mr. Scobie contributed measurably during the earlier years in co-ordinating the activities of a rapidly growing institution and will be greatly missed by his fellow workers and followed by sincere wishes for years of well-deserved health and happiness.

DEALER CONTEST--

Winners Announced by Johns-Manville

First award in J-M's Cash Prize Contest for the best publicity and promotion campaign of 1940 by a J-M dealer went to C. A. Stuck & Sons of Jonesboro, Ark.

Dual awards for second place were made to Sawyer's of Worcester, Mass., and the Ramsey Lumber Co., Tampa, Fla., while duplicate third prizes were awarded to Bristol Builders Supply Co., Bristol, Va.; Klipstine Lumber & Supply Co., Sidney, O.; Ed. Von Tobel Lumber Co., Las Vegas, Nev.; N. T. Fox Co., Inc., Portland, Me.; Modern Materials, Inc., Los Angeles, Cal.; Barney Stewart Lumber Co., Oklahoma City, Okla.

The Contest had been designed to stimulate a consistent publicity and promotional campaign among J-M dealers to supplement, but not replace in any sense, the regular advertising campaign which each dealer carries on during the course of a year.

Many dealers, in addition to furnishing their local news-

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papers with news of building activity in their communities, conducted radio programs, local home shows, and in several instances wrote weekly columns on home building as part of their publicity program.

Judges of the Contest were H. M. Shackelford, J-M vice president in charge of sales promotion, L. C. Hart, vice president and general sales manager of the building materials department, and Arthur A. Hood, director of dealer relations. About 90% of the entries in the Contest were submitted by dealers trained in J-M sponsored National Housing Guild schools.

—:—

JOHNS-MANVILLE CORPORATION. The Board of Directors at a meeting held November 18, 1940 voted to redeem 17,500 shares of the company's cumulative 7% preferred stock. The Board's action will reduce the number of shares of outstanding preferred stock from 67,500 to 50,000. The date for redemption was January 1, 1941; price $120 per share plus an amount equal to all dividends accumulated and unpaid at the redemption date. Selection of certificates for redemption was made by lot.

PATENTS

This information obtained from the Official Patent Gazette, published weekly by the U. S. Patent Office, Washington, D. C.

Insulated Structure. No. 2,220,999. Granted on November 12, 1940 to Virgil C. Kline, Scarsdale, N. Y. Assignor to Johns-Manville. Application October 23, 1937. Serial No. 170,559. A structure comprising spaced supporting members, units of insulating material disposed between adjacent supporting members and substantial **U**-shaped members each having the legs forming the **U** extending through an insulating unit and turned outwardly and wedged into contact with the adjacent supporting members to retain the said insulating unit in position.

Ventilating Ceiling No. 2,221,001. Granted on November 12, 1940 to William I. Lucius, Mt. Vernon, N. Y. Assignor to Johns-Manville. Application Oct. 27, 1936. Serial No. 107,756. Description upon request.

Friction Clutch Facing. No. 2,221,400. Granted on November 12, 1940 to Harvey D. Geyer, Dayton, O. Assignor to General Motors Corporation, Detroit, Mich. Application February 1, 1940. Serial No. 316,811.

A friction facing comprising a plurality of **V**-shaped pieces nested together circumferentially to form a ring.

Article of Manufacture. (Board) No. 2,221,420. Granted on November 12, 1940, to George W. Clarvoe, Somerville, N. J. Assignor to Johns-Manville. Application November 18, 1937. Serial No. 175,252.

A dense substantially non-warping water resistant board comprising a calcareous cementing material, fibres distributed

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therethruout, and a resinous, polymerized olefin composition impregnated into the article.

Siding Unit. No. 2,221,475. Granted on November 12, to Frank P. Goldschmidt, Sr., Chicago, Ill. Assignor to The Rubberoid Co., New York City. Application December 12, 1939. Serial No. 308,764.

A siding unit comprising a rectangular body having its weather face provided with a plurality of wall brick simulating formations in relief, arranged in horizontal rows in staggered order and having a part brick formation at each end of each row, the part-brick formations of at least one end having a plurality of uniformly spaced, vertical grooves therein.

Air Cell Pipe Covering. No. 2,224,810. Granted on December 10, 1940, to Donald A. Cumfer, Oak Park, Ill., assignor to U. S. Gypsum Co., Chicago, Ill. Application November 29, 1937. Serial No. 177,028.

An aircell insulating pipe covering comprising a helically wound strip of corrugated material having the corrugations extending transversely of the strip, said corrugations being deformed transversely of their length at closely spaced intervals to permit curvature of said strip longitudinally of said corrugations whereby a tubular structure having uniformly curved corrugations extending angularly with respect to the axis thereof is formed.

Friction Facing. No. 2,224,924. Granted on December 17, 1940 to George E. Pope, Bridgeport, Conn., assignor to Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc. Application November 16, 1935. Serial No. 50,096.

A friction element of fibrous material having two contiguous series of radial segments, one of said series of segments being impregnated with a binder for imparting a predetermined characteristic to the material thereof, and both of said series of radial segments being impregnated with a different binder for imparting pre-determined different characteristics to the material of the respective series of radial segments.

Siding Unit of Assembly. No. 2,226,265. Granted on December 24, 1940 to Walter G. Sullivan of Woodside and James W. Stove, Port Washington, N. Y., assignors to Johns-Manville, New York City. Application July 7, 1936. Serial No. 89,294.

A shingle consisting of a rectangular body with one surface shaped to simulate horizontal rows of brick elements in staggered relation, one end edge of the shingle coinciding with the end plane of the ends of whole bricks, the other end edge of the shingle being provided with a mortar strip at the ends and the whole bricks to be butted against the ends of whole bricks of an adjoining shingle when placed in position, the intermediate half bricks between the whole bricks at the mortar end of the shingle being formed to embody a vertical board in line with the mortar strip to create an optical illusion of a break in the

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vertical mortar strip thereby to camouflage the meeting line between two adjoining shingles.

Wick. (May or may not contain asbestos) No. 2,226,792. Granted on December 31, 1940 to Gustave Walters, Middletown, Conn., assignor to Russell Mfg. Co., Middletown, Conn. Application Aug. 31, 1938. Serial No. 227,706.

A tubular wick for use in an annular oil-chamber of an oil stove or the like and including a top portion and a main portion; raiser wire sections extending transversely around and secured to said main portion but not to said top portion and properly spaced apart to properly intermesh with and be engaged by teeth of gear means connected to said oil chamber to raise and lower said wick and longitudinal stiffening wire sections extending across said raiser wire sections but not across said top portion.

Tubular Attachment Wick. No. 2,226,973. Granted on December 31, 1940 to Gustave Walters, Middletown, Conn. Assignor to Russell Mfg. Co., Middletown, Conn. Application August 31, 1938. Serial No. 227,707. Description upon request.

DO YOU KNOW--

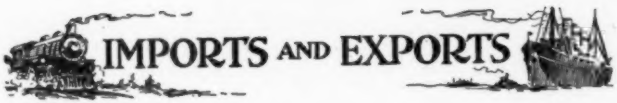
That insulations are made for temperatures from 300° below zero to 3000° F. above . . . .

That Raybestos was the first brake lining advertised in the Saturday Evening Post and the first brake lining advertised over the radio . . . .

That while massive serpentine is so valueless million of tons of it are discarded as waste at the asbestos mines, high grade chrysotile asbestos, of exactly the same chemical composition is worth, because of its special physical form, $750.00 a ton . . . .

That the Canadian Johns-Mansville Asbestos Mine (or quarry) at Asbestos, P. Q., is approximately 3,000 feet across . . . .

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Imports Into U. S. A.

(Published by U. S. Dept. of Commerce)

	Oct. 1939 Tons (2240 lbs.)	Oct. 1940 Tons (2240 lbs.)
Unmanufactured Asbestos:		
Africa (Br. S.)	488	2,508
Australia	11	2
Canada	30,240	22,397
Cyprus	693	.....
Italy	1	.....
United Kingdom	10	.....
Venezuela	.....	20
	31,443	24,927
Value	*$1,231,190*	*$1,191,692*
Tabulation of Crudes and Fibres:		
Crude (Australia)	11	2
Crude (Br. S. Africa)	488	2,508
Crude (Canada)	244	145
Crude (Italy)	1	.....
Crude (United Kingdom)	10	.....
Milled Fibre (Canada)	9,748	7,956
Lower Grades (Canada)	20,248	14,296
Lower Grades (Cyprus)	693	.....
Lower Grades (Venezuela)	.....	20
	31,443	24,927

Manufactured Asbestos Goods:

	October 1939 Pounds	October 1940 Pounds
Belgium (Shingles)	62,100	.....
United Kingdom (Yarn)	4,759	4,396
United Kingdom (Packing)	5,046	9,408
United Kingdom (W. Fabrics)	.....	556
	71,905	14,360
Value	*$ 4,939*	*$ 8,766*

Exports from U. S. A.

Exports of unmanufactured asbestos during October 1940 amounted to 42 tons, valued at $9,043; compared with 134 tons, valued at $13,831 in October 1939.

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Exports from U. S. A. (Contd.)

Exports of Manufactured Asbestos Goods:

	October 1939 Quantity	October 1939 Value	October 1940 Quantity	October 1940 Value
Paper, Mlbd. & Rlbd. ....lbs.	108,241	$ 6,822	107,190	$ 6,541
Pipe Covg. & Cement ....lbs.	580,850	22,743	324,592	15,461
Textiles & Yarn .....lbs.	45,394	13,088	82,693	24,147
Packing .....lbs.	151,103	91,099	129,472	63,637
Brake Lining—				
Molded and Semi-molded		70,884	.....	48,761
Not Molded .....lin. ft.	77,156	15,184	48,535	11,454
Clutch Facings—				
Molded & S-molded units	14,587	5,087	31,267	12,420
Woven .....units	13,138	4,075	20,247	6,410
Magnesia and Mfrs. ....lbs.	385,462	30,898	101,910	10,003
Asbestos Roofing .....sqs.	2,846	20,521	6,058	34,629
Other Manufactures ....lbs.	309,231	38,651	557,701	44,935

Exports of Raw Asbestos from Canada

(Figures by Dominion Bureau of Statistics)

	October 1939 Tons (2000 lbs.)	October 1939 Value	October 1940 Tons (2000 lbs.)	October 1940 Value
Crude & Milled Fibres	20,211	$1,357,948	14,977	$1,056,792
Sand and Waste	22,972	410,483	16,178	332,879
	43,183	$1,768,431	31,155	$1,389,671
Manufactured Asbestos		60,152	.....	$ 16,374

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AUTOMOBILE PRODUCTION

Total automobile production for November 1940 was 510,973 (487,352 in the United States and 23,621 in Canada).

This compares with 368,541 in November 1939 (351,785 in the United States and 16,756 in Canada); and with October 1940 when the total was 514,374.

Total for the eleven months of 1940 was 4,185,407, compared with 3,263,600 for the same period in 1939; and 2,248,211 in 1938.

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ESTIMATED CANADIAN PRODUCTION

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics has not issued any Preliminary Estimate of Canada's Production of Asbestos for the year 1940.

However, knowing that production for the first ten months totals 283,927 tons, we believe that a conservative figure for the year's production would be 339.000 tons.

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CURRENT RANGE OF PRICE

Canadian

	Per Ton (2000 lbs.) f.o.b. Mine (In U.S. Funds)
Group No. 1 (Crude No. 1)	$700.00 to $750.00
Group No. 2 (Crude No. 2; Crude Run-of-Mine and Sundry)	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 85.50
Group No. 5 (Paper Fibre)	40.00 to 49.50
Group No. 6 (Waste, Stucco or Plaster)	30.00 to 32.00
Group No. 7 (Refuse or Shorts)	13.00 to 28.00

Vermont—	Per Ton (2000 lbs.) f. o. b. Hyde Park, Vt.
"Shingle" Fibre	$57.00 to $60.00
Paper Stock Fibres	40.00 to 48.00
Waste	30.00
Shorts	13.00 to 26.00
Floats	18.00

Note: Crude Run-of-Mine (Canadian) refers to a crude asbestos produced in certain mines where Crude Fibre is not graded into regular No. 1 and 2 Crude. Crude 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.

ASBESTOS STOCK QUOTATIONS

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

		December 1940		
	Par	Low	High	Last
Armstrong Cork Co. (Com.)	np	27¼	32⅜	28¾
Asbestos Corp. (Com.)	np	14	16	15¾
Celotex (Com.)	np	6⅛	7¼	7⅛
Celotex (Pfd.)	100	59⅞	72½	65
Certainteed (Com.)	1	4¼	5	4⅜
Certainteed (Pfd.)	100	34	38¾	35¼
Flintkote (Com.)	np	13½	17⅛	15
Johns-Manville (Com.)	np	56⅜	62	61
Johns-Manville (Pfd.)	100	125	128½	128
Raybestos-Manhattan (Com.)	np	18¼	21	19
Ruberoid (Com.)	np	15	18	16⅜
Thermoid (Com.)	1	4⅜	5	4½
Thermoid (Pfd.)	10	29	34½	31
U. S. Gypsum (Com.)	20	61	71½	66
U. S. Gypsum (Pfd.)	100	173¼	182	182

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THIS and THAT

Ad of the month—Southern Asbestos Company occupies the back cover this month. Read their message.

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There are 2656 employees on the payrolls of The B. F. Goodrich Company, Akron, Ohio, who have had more than 20 years of service. Of these two have been with the company more than 50 years, 26 more than 40 years, 280 more than 30 and 2348 more than 20 years.

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The latest edition of the Index to A. S. T. M. Standards, Including Tentative Standards, gives information on all of the 952 standards as of December 1, 1940. The Index is of service to anyone wishing to ascertain whether the Society has issued standard specifications, test methods, or definitions covering a particular engineering material or subject, and is helpful in locating the standards in the volumes where they appear. Copies will be furnished without charge upon written request to A. S. T. M. Headquarters, 260 S. Broad St., Philadelphia.

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U. S. Department of the Interior plans to have eight geologists working in Latin America during the early part of 1941. Question: Will they discover any deposits of asbestos?

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"Painting Acoustical Materials" the first article in the latest issue of The Dutch Boy Quarterly, may be of interest to some of our readers. The Dutch Boy Quarterly is published by National Lead Company, Room 1815, 111 Broadway, New York City. Ask for Number 4 of Volume 18.

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The 1941 A. S. T. M. Spring Meeting and Committee Week will be held in Washington, D. C., at The Mayflower Hotel, during the week of March 3 to 7 inclusive.

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The more you learn about people, the more you wonder why any of them feel superior to the others.

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