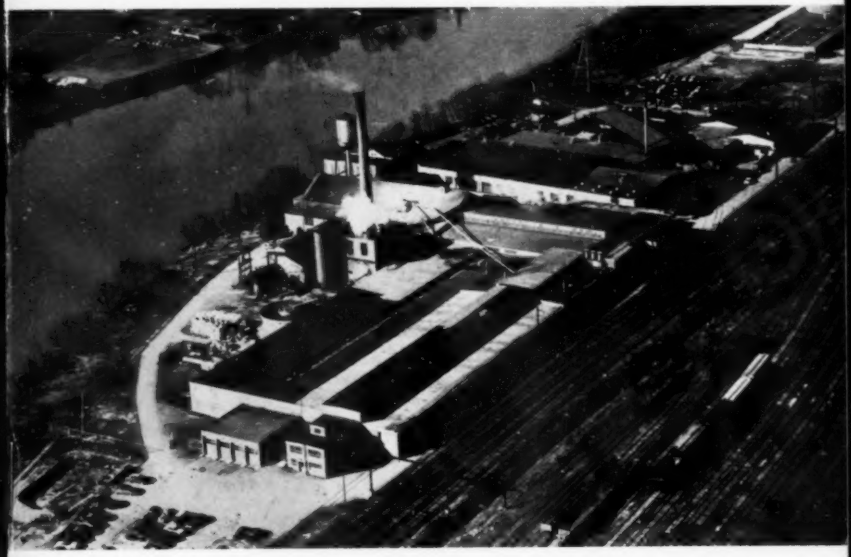
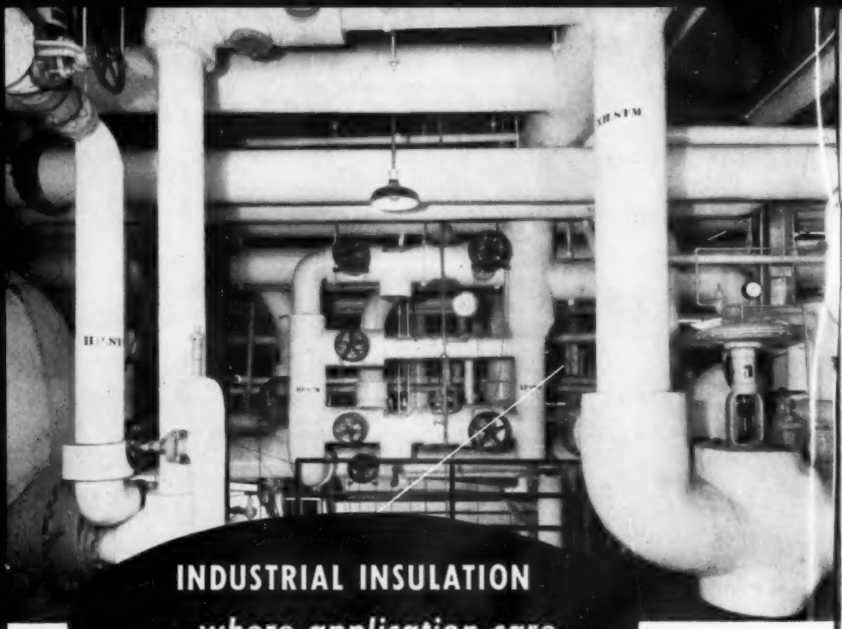
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CONTENTS

| | Page |
|---|---|
| ASBESTOS PRODUCERS SUFFER SETBACK IN SOUTH AFRICA | 2 |
| A PLASTICS GLIDER WING AND RADAR SCANNER AERIAL | 16 |
| THIS AND THAT | 22 |
| MARKET CONDITIONS | 26 |
| BUILDING | 30 |
| Production Statistics | 32 |
| Imports and Exports | 33 |
| Canada's Asbestos Goods — 1952 | 37 |
| Automobile Sales | 39 |
| NEWS OF THE INDUSTRY | 40 |
| Asbestos Stock Quotations | 50 |
| Current Range of Price | 51 |
| The Twelve Estimating Tables | 54 |
| Book List | 56 |

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*Asbestos Magazine, 1954, June 1954*
ACL Doc 12464 · Page 3 of 61
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# ASBESTOS PRODUCERS SUFFER SETBACK IN SOUTH AFRICA

By W. E. Sinclair, M.I.M.M.*

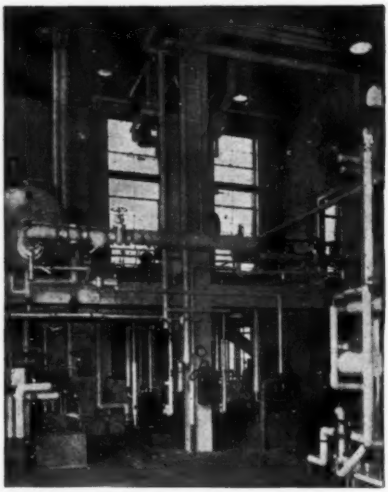
Recent reviews of asbestos production in Southern Africa (1952/1953) covered a period of peak outputs that corresponded relatively to the phenomenal rise in production in most other fields. As as result of a serious setback that has since befallen the industry here, a different picture is outlined in the following. It shows that many producers have been faced with misfortune, and in some cases disaster, as a result of a sudden drop in prices and a falling demand for their products. This, at first sight, seemed to be merely a natural corollary of the somewhat unsettled world industrial markets, as these directly influence asbestos. Very soon, however, it became realistically apparent that, in this part of the world a mild slump had set in. The unexpected effect, following so suddenly after the long spell of boom conditions, reacted acutely on many of the newer mines and the smaller producers, both in Southern Rhodesia and in South Africa, where the small mining concerns are a feature of the typically scattered deposits.

The sudden reduction in prices offered for local sales forced operators to take urgent steps to curb expenditure in every direction to avoid operating losses, a difficult matter in view of the mounting costs in recent years. The drop in prices, soon proved to be the forerunner of further difficulties which took the shape of a gradual weakening demand by local buyers. Those mines not in a position financially to carry stocks of unsold fibre, were soon forced to curtail operations and, in some cases, to close down entirely. In Rhodesia a dozen or more properties, including the larger mines, Monteleo Asbestos, near Shabani, and Gurumba Tumba at Belingwe have stopped production, and also in South Africa many mines, such as the Munnik Myburgh, Hartesklоof, Bergplaas, and Dalton have either reduced the extent of their operations or clos-

* Consulting Mining Engineer



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ACL Doc 12464 · Page 5 of 61
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ed down altogether.

This has come as a catastrophic blow to those actively interested in these propositions, and in addition, has caused an ominous feeling to others. The loss of many promising mines to the industry as a whole, representing as it does, a sales value of over six million pounds annually in each of the countries mentioned, is obviously of vital importance to the economy of these States.

The feeling of apprehension existing among the producers who continue to work marginal properties suggests that a review of the conditions leading up to the crisis is warranted, not merely to find a solution to overcome the present difficulties, but to provide, if possible, ways and means to take preventative action in the future.

The decline in output and drop in value of all asbestos produced in 1953 is obviously in serious contrast to the mounting trend in the previous years (1949/1952) if viewed objectively the changed values are purely relative since they are higher than they were, say five years ago. This goes to show that the producers affected by the changed values today find their operations uneconomic mainly because their initial structure has been built up on a higher priced standard, at a time when operating costs were relatively lower. Hence it has been suggested that in some cases there exists examples of mushroom growth for which there is no easy remedy. This might be so in comparison with the bigger and older mines which were established when the demand was weak and prices and values low; besides which, having weathered several periods of depression, they are virtually unaffected by these new conditions. Indeed, they are in an even better position to meet such fluctuations, by having in the past five years built up substantial reserves that enables them to resort to mass-production methods lowering unit costs as a counter to reduced selling prices. Increasing output from the larger mines has almost made up for the loss of output from those that have closed down.

The question of finding an outlet for their fibre when local buyers failed presented no trouble to the older mines, since several of these companies not only mine and



*Asbestos Magazine, 1954, June 1954*
ACL Doc 12464 · Page 6 of 61
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*Asbestos Magazine, 1954, June 1954*
ACL Doc 12464 · Page 7 of 61
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mill but fabricate their own fibre, or alternatively they have reciprocal arrangements with other producers and dispose of their surplus stocks on firm contracts direct to manufacturers. Therefore, apart from the small reduction in profits per ton, they are actually enjoying increased business.

The difficulty facing the producer having no assured market for his output has proved a crippling factor in many cases.

The following table shows the different methods of disposal of output by the main producers before the depression:

| Variety of Asbestos | Number of Producing Mines | Means of Disposal of Output | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Direct Exporting | Number, Milling, Mining & Fabricating | Number Selling to Local Buyers |
| Amosite | 6 | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| Anthophyllite | 1 | . . | .... | 1 |
| Cape "Blue" | 14 | 3 | 1 | 10 |
| Chrysotile | 15 | 1 | 1 | 13 |
| Transvaal "Blue" | 8 | 1 | 1 | 6 |
| Transvaal "Blue" & Amosite | 5 | 3 | 1 | 1 |

The large number selling to local buyers were badly handicapped if for no other reason than being unable to dispose of mounting stocks. In some cases these mines have sold their fibre to bigger companies but in many, the inability to find markets has constituted the main factor in forcing them to give up.

In normal circumstances the fundamental factors affecting price values are influenced by supply and demand, although in theory the cost of production should actually determine a stabilized price value as it does in the case of most base minerals or in the production of any other commodity. However, in analyzing the price fluctuations of asbestos down the years it seems rather that the consumer controls the price and especially during periods of low demand. It is by taking advantage of the urgent need of the small producer to sell his output (at any cost) that the buyer is able to call the tune. In asbestos, of course, the value of the fibre is also influenced by the quality and



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# ASBESTOS "Shorts" and "Floats"

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ACL Doc 12464 · Page 9 of 61
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whether it is correctly fiberized and graded and absolutely free of impurities. Unfortunately, because of promiscuous trading by unreliable jobbers, in this country, many producers were encouraged to deliver fibre that was neither graded nor clean, and it is more than likely that this accounts, to some extent, for the restricted demand by consumers who, to keep ahead of manufacturing technique today are naturally bound to be more exacting in their requirements. Indeed, this aspect is probably responsible to a greater extent for the present decline than the increase of Canadian production or the appearance of Russian chrysotile on the European markets. Doubtless, these factors, together with the slowing down of stock-piling, following the cessation of the Korean war, may be contributory causes. It does not explain, however, the diminishing demand for crocidolite, since the Bolivian Blue is the only type favored as an essential war product, and Australian crocidolite production is hardly big enough to affect world supplies.

In general, it would appear that production in all classes having caught up with demand, a position has arisen, in which manufacturers are able to pick and choose and to buy only specially graded asbestos of a quality to suit their specialized requirements. This, in effect, gives promise of a state of greater constancy in the industry and the stabilization of prices of the raw material based on a commercial scale, not previously considered seriously by some producers. This position should serve as a pointer to mining companies that the classfication, grading and cleaning is a future requisite of major importance in the matter of successful participation in world markets.

The inferior treatment of the asbestos produced in Southern Africa has, on occasion, given cause for complaint by consumers abroad. This suggests that the lack of standardized grading and effective cleaning is the major cause of present troubles and if so, it clearly explains the reluctance of consumers to pay top prices for inferior products. Similarly, it follows that the demand for poor asbestos will remain at the lowest possible ebb



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ACL Doc 12464 · Page 11 of 61
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until the quality satisfies manufacturers.

Few asbestos producing countries have strictly followed the scheme of chrysotile classification and standard grading according to the Quebec Testing Machine methods as established in Canada. Instead, they have generally instituted their own grading systems. Some Rhodesian and South African chrysotile producers are grading according to Canadian specification although many adopt their own forms of grading and designation, some of which are recognized as comparable to specified Canadian standards. Others unfortunately simply produce grades of fibre that are easily recovered from the ore being treated or by the type of mill used, that is, short, long, medium or run-of-mill grades.

In the production of the amphibole varieties in South Africa, the only effort at recognized grading has been that instituted by the principal producers of crocidolite and amosite, otherwise production has been characterized by wide diversity of grades based on length, color and texture of the fibre recoverable from the ore. Hand-cobbing of the longer fibres and the best results obtained from the smaller improvised mills have played a big part in the mixed variety of grades that have appeared on the market.

The South African Government is fully alive to the matter of grading and has for some time been considering the question of establishing an official grading system designed to satisfy the requirements of manufacturers and thereby establish confidence in the quality of South African asbestos. The proposals will be drawn up by the Bureau of Standards and will probably suggest the adoption of the Canadian system for chrysotile or an equivalent system having a recognizable designation. As no universal system of grading for crocidolite or amosite has ever been established, new standards based on the acceptance by manufacturers of the common grades formerly supplied will probably form the basis of a suitable system.

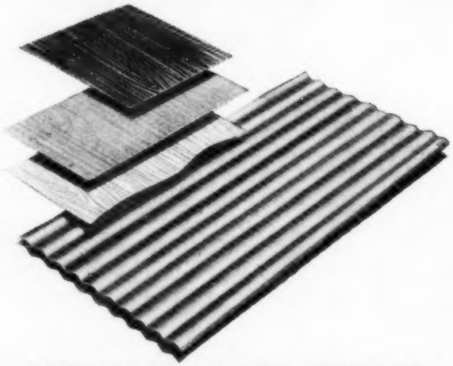
Standardized grading of the amphibole will not only restore confidence in the different varieties among manufacturers but it will enable them to determine the grades most beneficial for the fabrication of certain products and



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in this way appreciate to the fullest extent the inherent value of the fibres. The high quality of the non-ferrous long spinning chrysotile from Rhodesia and South Africa is well known. Recent research work confirms and enlarges upon the valuable properties of amosite and crocidolite. These amphiboles possess certain peculiar qualities which make them specially desirable for certain purposes, their exceptional value in the fabrication of asbestos-cement products being but one example of many.

Improved milling technique and standardized grading will prove a useful step forward and may even mean an eventual return to higher prices and easier marketing conditions. Before much can be done in this respect, however, mills of modern design are necessary to effectively treat the ore from the various and sometimes differing orebodies. Few of the smaller mines are in a position financially to provide this essential.

In the circumstances, it is understandable that there has been a concerted move towards the idea of state sponsored mills as a means of aiding the small producers. One such mill is being tested out in Southern Rhodesia but no direct action has yet been taken in South Africa. Theoretically the idea of suitable custom mills located at strategic points does appear to be a means of ensuring the exploitation of the many scattered deposits which, because of their small and irregular nature and often patchy mineralization, cannot be worked economically by other means than the small tribute systems. In general, however, the economic aspect as it affects operational practice in these fields, must be considered in a new light in view of the obvious trend to more stable but lower price levels.

Notwithstanding the questionable advantage of the so-called cheap labor, commonly used in these mines, production costs are reaching heights that allow a narrow margin of profit at present selling prices except in the richer orebodies or in the mines operating on a mass productive scale.

Most mines in scattered localities are faced with high transport costs as well as high charges in providing their



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ACL Doc 12464 · Page 14 of 61 asbestosclaims.law/library/12464/14




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*Asbestos Magazine, 1954, June 1954*
ACL Doc 12464 · Page 15 of 61
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own power requirements. The structural form of many ore deposits is conductive to high mining costs unless suitable methods are instituted and especially if operations are left to unskilled native labor without efficient supervision.

The lack of initial development, due mainly to shortage of capital, often precludes the introduction of an economic mining system and consequently results in haphazard and costly methods. The simple but vital need to procure high face values to obtain more fibre at lower cost is frequently lost sight of entirely.

These are but a few of the matters at stake, but the case of the small producer or the profitable exploitation of the scattered ore deposits of Southern Africa is a complex one that is rather beyond the scope of this article.

---

A handy pocket size chart of Fahrenheit and Centigrade Temperature equivalents can be had without obligation from the Moeller Instrument Company of Richmond Hill, 18, New York or their representatives located in principal cities.

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# A PLASTIC GLIDER WING AND RADAR SCANNER AERIAL

*(Reprinted from "Plastics," London*

The used of plastics in aircraft construction is gaining ground. Notes in previous issues of PLASTICS have made mention of the use of Redux adhesives in the Comet and of the research carried out at the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough, England, which resulted in the delta wing, a phenolic-asbestos laminate. It was very interesting to visit the plastics division of F. G. Miles, Ltd., at Redhill Aerodrome to see the unveiling of a glider wing of 30-ft. span, and to study the production program while in operation.

The excellent mechanical properties of phenolic-asbestos laminates need hardly be mentioned here. Their application to wing structures is, however, fascinating and one cannot fail to be impressed by the engineering achievements which have resulted in the formulation of a satisfactory technique and the construction of the ancillary tools and equipment.

Each wing, two of which form the complete glider span, constitutes the largest one-piece moulded phenolic-asbestos structure ever manufactured. As the first step towards production a mould of the wing having exactly the same outside shape as the flying wing is made up of concrete, steel and phenolic-asbestos material. On to this is placed a layer of soft phenolic-asbestos material which is made rigid by heat cure. This is called the master liner and cure is carried out by thermocouples and electric blankets.

A further layer of phenolic-asbestos material is then placed on this and again heat cured. The shell thus produced is the heart of the main mould, which is supported in place and covered with concrete.

To make the wing proper, soft felts of the phenolic-asbestos material are cut to shape and placed in position on the loading table together with honeycomb material. This, made of paper, is painted with furane to avoid degradation due to vapor produced during the heat treat-



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ACL Doc 12464 · Page 19 of 61 asbestosclaims.law/library/12464/19

ment of the felts. The outside felts are then laid in place and the table is lowered over a loading trolley. The loading trolly and soft felts are then inserted in the mould, the trolley moving in on railway lines. A rubber bag is used to seal the felts and suction is applied.

By means of an elaborate electrical unit the wing skin is cured after about six hours. It is then removed from the mould and after trimming is ready for the fitment of the ribs and trailing-edge closing member.

These wings form part of the high-performance two-seater glider under construction by the British Gliding Association. It is a notable achievement and one which reflects credit upon the plastics industry and upon the engineers and chemists who have been responsible for its success, in that a synthetic resin has again stood comparison with alloys.

In addition to the work carried out on glider wings, F. G. Miles Ltd., have for some time now been in production of plastic aerials for A. C. Cossor, Ltd. The following notes on these important structures will be of great interest.

In view of the high wind loads imposed on large aerials mounted on the top of a tower, it was evident that a firm with considerable experience in aero-dynamics could best carry out this work. Such aerials must be able to rotate continuously in a 70-knot wind with an infinitesimal amount deflection and must be able to withstand gusts of 110 knots. The first successful aerial was for harbor control purposes and was demonstrated in operation throughout the Festival of Britain Exhibition on the South Bank site. An improved model of this type has since been put into production. More recently a second type has been developed which incorporates a paraboloidal aerial 14 ft. in diameter moulded in one piece.

The mould upon which these aerials are constructed is built up in reinforced concrete shaped roughly to the paraboloidal profile. The top surface of the mould is then covered with phenolic-asbestos material which is subsequently machined accurately to the desired shape. Into this top surface are embedded resistance heater mats and



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ACL Doc 12464 · Page 20 of 61 asbestosclaims.law/library/12464/20

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ACL Doc 12464 · Page 21 of 61 asbestosclaims.law/library/12464/21

a series of thermocouples laid in a glass fibre blanket. There are some 400 of the thermocouples which are connected through an automatic telephone relay system to a Cambridge Recorder.

The aerials are built up as a sandwich with the outer layers of phenolic/asbestos enclosing a resin impregnated core of paper honeycomb. In this way it is possible to produce a scanner aerial as strong as, and stiffer than, an aluminum alloy aerial of the same profile which would weigh more than twice as much as the plastics aerial. The manufacturing technique is broadly as follows:

As the phenolic/asbestos felts forming the face of the aerial to be moulded are laid on top of the mould, the meat in the sandwich, the strengthened paper honeycomb, is then laid with further phenolic/asbestos felts on top. Over the top of the thus formed sandwich are placed another set of resistance heater mats enclosed in fibre glass together with a further thermocouple blanket. The entire mould is then enclosed in a rubber vacuum bag from which air is evacuated, thereby removing moisture from the sandwich as it cures, and supplying an even pressure over the surface of the mould. Electric power is supplied to the heat elements by means of a 200 h.p. motor, driving a variable voltage generator. The same motor drives various vacuum pumps through a gearbox. Owing to the extended running periods, the vacuum pumps are fitted with an auxiliary water cooling system.

After curing is completed the aerial is removed from the mould to which it has been prevented from sticking by means of a suitable parting medium, and is then mounted on a special rig for contour checking. The aerial is then fitted with metal brackets at positions previously reinforced and the face is sprayed with metal to form the desired reflecting surface. After polishing and finishing the aerial is then ready for mounting on its supporting structure.



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**In**

## ASBESTOS CEMENT PRODUCTS

## ASBESTOS MILLBOARD

## ASBESTOS PAPER

**Our Patented Construction Places the Nylon Where It Is Most Effective*

## DRYCOR FELT COMPANY

**STAFFORDVILLE, CONN. USA.**

**Nylon Has Proved Itself Essential in Asbestos Cement Felts*




*Asbestos Magazine, 1954, June 1954*
ACL Doc 12464 · Page 23 of 61
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## THIS AND THAT

The Warwick Memorial Room in Headquarters of the American Society for Testing Materials, Philadelphia, was dedicated during a meeting of the Board of Directors on May 10th. The dedication consisted of the unveiling of an oil painting of G. Laurence Warwick and the mounting of two bronze plaques—the central tablet inscribed "This room is dedicated to the memory of G. Laurence Warwick who served the Society with distinction 1909-1952" and citing positions in which he served the Society.

---

After working on the nation's rooftops for 67 years, The Ruberoid Co., a leading asphalt and asbestos building materials manufacturer, took a long look at the ground to get inspiration for its newest product — canal and pond liner.

The material, designed to prevent troublesome seepage and to curb water waste in canals and ponds, was developed in consultation with government agencies. It is intended for the farmer or rancher planning irrigation or drainage ditches, stock or fire protection ponds. Homeowners can save money and hours of time by using it in backyard wading pools or lily ponds.

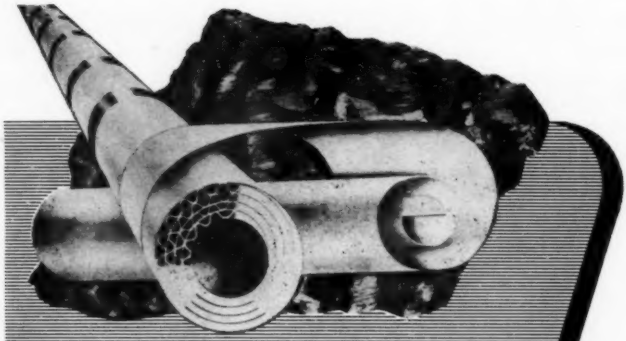
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The Chamber of Commerce of the United States recalls that chicken eggs were hatched by artificial heat for the first time in America in 1843. From a helter-skelter operation of broody hens, the poultry industry has grown to the status of a "$4 billion dollar business."


**KINLOCH ASBESTOS**
**(PROPRIETARY) LIMITED**
***The largest exporters of Chrysotile Fibre mined in the Union of South Africa***
**BARBERTON, STOLTZBURG AND DOYERSHOEK**
**CHRYSOTILE ASBESTOS MINES**
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Cables "CHRYSOTILE", Johannesburg




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ACL Doc 12464 · Page 24 of 61
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MANUFACTURERS OF

Air Cell Pipe Insulation
Cell-O-Tone
Norriscell (Fine Corrugated)
Pipe and Block Insulation
Wool Felt Pipe Insulation
Asbestos Gaskets — Packings
Asbestos Textiles
V-Dent
Asbestos Corrugated Paper
Asbestos Millboard
Asbestos Paper

HEAT & COLD INSULATIONS

NORRISTOWN
MAGNESIA & ASBESTOS CO.

NORRISTOWN, PA.



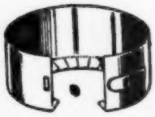

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As part of an overall line expansion program Greene, Tweed & Co., announce the marketing of their new molded Palmetto O-ring Packing for static and dynamic applications. The new product balances with a noteworthy companion packing, Palmetto G-T Ring, which serves successfully in applications of all pressures to 15,000 psi.

Detailed literature, just published, covering the Palmetto O-ring, may be obtained by writing the manufacturer, Greene, Tweed & Co., North Wales, Pa.

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West German production of asbestos goods in the first three quarters of 1953 was 8.523 tons worth DM 44,004,000 $10.5 million against 10,395 tons worth DM 57,616,000 in the whole of 1952, according to official statistics. West German imports of asbestos from January to the end of November amounted to 24,375 tons worth DM 20,926,000. Main suppliers were Canada (15,086 tons), South Africa (5,992 tons) and Southern Rhodesia (1,048 tons).

**PIPE COVERING PROTECTORS**

*The "Royal" All Aluminum Adjustable and Permanent Protector for Pipe Covering-ends. Easy to Apply . . . Prompt Shipment.*

**THE PROTECTOR CO. • GRANT WILSON, INC.**
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**COMPLETE PLANTS FOR MAKING ASBESTOS CEMENT PIPES**
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Aluminum Forms for Specials
Complete Plants for Making Sheets — Hatschek System
Automatic Corrugating Machines
*Modern No-Loss Filters (Separators) • Conveying of Cement in Bulk*
PLANTS CAN BE INSPECTED

**Whole Plants Designed, Equipped and Started**

**ASBESTOS CEMENT ENGINEERING CO. S ar. l.**
VIALE MISURATA, 10 MILAN, ITALY




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ACL Doc 12464 · Page 26 of 61 asbestosclaims.law/library/12464/26

# CANADIAN ASBESTOS FIBERS



THE NICOLET MINE
Norbestos (via Warwick)
Que.

*Address Inquiries to:*

**NICOLET ASBESTOS MINES LIMITED INC.***

**70 Pine Street**

**New York 5, New York**

**One of the NICOLET Industries*



*Asbestos Magazine, 1954, June 1954*
ACL Doc 12464 · Page 27 of 61
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# MARKET CONDITIONS

GENERAL BUSINESS.

The General Business situation appears to be about the same or possibly a bit more favorable than that of a month ago. Earnings of many of the larger corporations for the first quarter show improvement despite generally lower sales due in large part to elimination of excess profits taxes. Dividends in many cases have been maintained and stock market action indicates the public is buying dividends rather than earnings or future prospects. As previously stated here the time lag in compilation of many recognized indices of business conditions make it possible for a change to occur without immediate detection. Apparently a definite leveling off has occurred during the past few months and the indicators are now confirming it. While there has yet been no decided upward turn the preponderance of informed businessmen and economists are definitely looking for such a move as opposed to a renewal of the downward trend of some months ago.

ASBESTOS — RAW MATERIAL.

A marked pick up in output and shipments of asbestos fibre occurred in March over the February volume.

The pick up continued at about the same rate during April and is holding level for the month of May.

Manufacturers are using their normal amount of fibre but are ordering on closer schedules and holding inventories down.

Practically all grades are in ample supply without any large excess of spinning fibre being available.

ASBESTOS — MANUFACTURED GOODS.

*Asbestos Textiles.* At present the market situation is poor with no indications of immediate improvement. This is applicable to all phases of asbestos textiles. As can be seen at this time the outlook is only fair for the remainder of the year.

*Asbestos Brake Lining.* The jobbers' inventories are in healthy condition; sales being better than they were in



*Asbestos Magazine, 1954, June 1954*
ACL Doc 12464 · Page 28 of 61
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# ASBESTOS FIBRES

**Rhodesian Chrysotile — South African Chrysotile — Cape Blue — Transvaal Blue — Montasite — Amosite — Anthophyllite**

## PUTTEN'S ASBESTOS CORPORATION OF SOUTH AFRICA

*Milled Fibres* — *Hand-cobbed Fibres*

**JOHANNESBURG**

**"Shorts" — "Medium" — "Longs" — also "Spinnable Grades"**

*No order too small — No order too big.*

---

All enquiries will receive prompt and careful attention. If you require information on us, approach our Bankers:

BARCLAYS BANK (D. C. & O.), Loveday Street South, Johannesburg.

and

VOLKSKAS LIMITED, 76, Market Street, Johannesburg.

We guarantee satisfaction. Our old Clients know that we are not boasting. Give us a chance to prove ourselves and you will also be pleased.

## PUTTEN'S ASBESTOS CORPORATION OF SOUTH AFRICA

203/207, Alris Building

3, Rissik Street — Johannesburg

Tel. add.: Eurafj Johannesburg — P.O. Box 7167 — Tel. 33-9052

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*Members:* JOHANNESBURG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.
SOUTH AFRICAN ASBESTOS EXPORTERS' ASSOCIATION.
ASBESTOS & BASE MINERAL ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA.




*Asbestos Magazine, 1954, June 1954* Published by AsbestosClaims.Law
ACL Doc 12464 · Page 29 of 61 asbestosclaims.law/library/12464/29

the first two months, but still slightly below the same period last year. It should be a good parts year in sales, but shop equipment will be off from '53.

*Asbestos Paper.* The demand for paper is holding up fairly well, although at a somewhat reduced level; gradual improvement with the general economic trend is expected. There is considerable demand for *Millboard* although sharp competition exists everywhere. Orders are still running behind production, and are not booked as far in advance as last year. Demands for *Saturated Paper* about equal production.

*Insulation. High Pressure.* The market for high pressure insulation is slightly below that of last year, but there are indications that expansion in certain industries might improve this situation. While the present market is very competitive, billings remain high, largely as a result of contracts closed in 1953.

*Insulation. Low Pressure.* Business has been extremely slow on low pressure insulation during the past month, which is to a large degree seasonable. Much of the new construction is not ready for insulation which also accounts for the limited volume.

*Asbestos Cement Products.* There has been no change in this market since the first quarter.

There has been a slight increase in volume of asbestos cement siding over the same period last year.

Sales for corrugated and flat have fallen off, causing production to exceed demand.

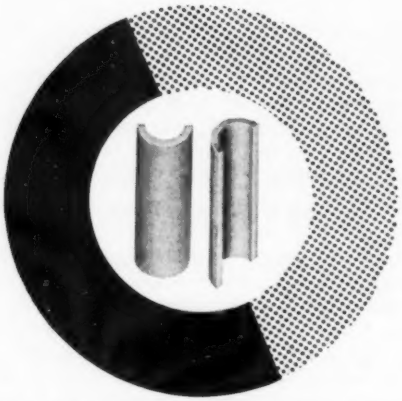
There has been a considerable improvement in demand for Pressure and Sewer Pipe over the past several months. Sales for Gas Vent, Building Sewer, Plumbing Vent pipes, Warm Air Duct and Electrical Conduits continue good.

**The above comments have been made by various informed executives in the Industry. All comments are welcome.**

**WILHELM BURGDORF**
*Importer of* **Raw Asbestos**
**P. O. Box 1131, BREMEN, GERMANY**



*Asbestos Magazine, 1954, June 1954*
ACL Doc 12464 · Page 30 of 61
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# UNARCO

**For your most exacting insulation requirements**

Unibestos No. 750 pipe covering • Unibestos No. 1200 pipe covering • Unibestos block • Asbestos textiles • Asbestos packings • Asbestos gaskets • Asbestos gasket cloth and tape • Asbestos fiber • Insutape pipe insulation • Insutube pipe insulation • Wovenstone pipe insulation • Thermal insulating tape • Insubestos felt • Fabricated speciaity insulation



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**UNION ASBESTOS AND RUBBER COMPANY**
**332 SOUTH MICHIGAN BOULEVARD • Chicago 4, Illinois**



*Asbestos Magazine, 1954, June 1954*
ACL Doc 12464 · Page 31 of 61
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asbestosclaims.law/library/12464/31

## BUILDING

Contract awards for future construction in the 37 eastern states, as reported by F. W. Dodge Corporation, construction news and marketing specialists, remained at "extremely high" levels in April.

The total was $1,691,868,000, about 11 per cent above last March. The figure was only some $50,000,000 behind the all-time April record set in 1953, which included almost $150,000,000 for Atomic Energy Commission projects. No such unusual items appeared in the April 1954 total. In spite of the extraordinary size of the April 1953 total, April of this year lagged only 3 per cent behind.

The Dodge total for the first four months set a new high for the first four months in any year of Dodge's 63-year history. It was eight per cent ahead of the first four months of 1953 which set the previous high.

Thomas S. Holden, vice chairman of F. W. Dodge Corporation, commented:

"The extremely high April totals indicate a continuation of the unprecedented boom in construction activity reported thus far in 1954. Contract awards in January, February and March of this year set all-time monthly records for those months. The April figures, while they are second highest for that month, actually indicate no slackening of pace.

"As these contract awards are widely used as an indicator of economic trends, it is important to note that April of this year cannot be strictly compared with April of last year because of the inclusion of a considerable amount of atomic energy work in last year's April figure.

Other April figures: Nonresidential: $605,427,000, up 14 per cent over March but 11 per cent lower than April 1953. Residential: $796,133,000,, up 19 per cent over March and 18 per cent over April 1953. Public works and utilities: $290,308,000, down 11 per cent from March and 25 per cent from April 1953.

Contract awards for future school construction in the 37 eastern states set new records far above last year's levels during April as well as during the first four months of this year.



*Asbestos Magazine, 1954, June 1954* Published by AsbestosClaims.Law
ACL Doc 12464 · Page 32 of 61 asbestosclaims.law/library/12464/32

# BLUE ASBESTOS

**MILLBOARD · YARNS**
**PROCESSED FIBERS**
**ROVINGS · CLOTHS**

You get a guaranteed high standard of quality
from the *only* manufacturer of
Blue Asbestos Products operating its
own mines:

●

**The CAPE ASBESTOS CO. Ltd.**
114-116 Park Street, London, W.1.

*Your inquiries are invited by the following*
*Cape Asbestos Co. subsidiaries:*

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**NORTH AMERICAN**
**ASBESTOS CORPORATION**
Board of Trade Building, Chicago 4, Illinois

In Canada

**CAPE ASBESTOS (Canada) Ltd.**
200 Bloor Street East, Toronto, Ontario




*Asbestos Magazine, 1954, June 1954*
ACL Doc 12464 · Page 33 of 61
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# PRODUCTION STATISTICS

### Canada

**(Department of Mines, Province of Quebec)**

*Tons 2000 lbs.*

Production for March 1954 ..... 72,327 tons
Compared with March 1953 ..... 73,192 tons

Dominion Production for March 1954 is 74,775 tons, a difference of 2,450 tons from the Quebec figure.

### Africa Rhodesia

**(Published by Rhodesia Chamber of Mines)**

*Tons 2000 lbs.*

Production for January 1954 ..... 5,718.81 tons
Valued at .....£440,157
Production for January 1953 ..... 7,223.09 tons
Valued at .....£599,573

### Arica (Swaziland)

Production for March 1954 ..... 2,355 tons

## Union of South Africa

**(Quarterly Information Report — Dept. of Mines)**

*Tons 2000 lbs.*

| | 4th Quarter (Oct., Nov. & Dec., 1953) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Production | Local Sales | | Exports | |
| | Tons | Tons | Value | Tons | Value |
| Amosite ..... | 9,078 | 682 | £ 16,654 | 8,846 | £ 336,399 |
| Anthophyllite .... | ... | ... | .... | .... | .... |
| Chrysotile ..... | 5,637 | 356 | 16,521 | 4,783 | 296,637 |
| Cape Blue ..... | 5,798 | 271 | 20,999 | 4,377 | 332,805 |
| Transvaal Blue ... | 3,788 | 502 | 37,904 | 2,711 | 190,824 |
| | 24,301 | 1,811 | £ 92,078 | 20,717 | £1,156,665 |

| | Year 1953 | | | Year 1953 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Production | Local Sales | | Exports | |
| | Tons | Tons | Value | Tons | Value |
| Amosite ..... | 38,258 | 4,506 | £120,274 | 32,776 | £1,253,497 |
| Anthophyllite .... | 12 | 12 | 214 | .... | .... |
| Chrysotile ..... | 18,840 | 3,252 | 167,036 | 13,821 | 1,039,137 |
| Cape Blue ..... | 20,883 | 1,510 | 119,723 | 14,592 | 1,099,547 |
| Transvaal Blue ... | 16,824 | 2,482 | 191,823 | 10,602 | 766,295 |
| | 94,811 | 11,762 | £599,070 | 71,791 | £4,158,476 |



*Asbestos Magazine, 1954, June 1954* Published by AsbestosClaims.Law
ACL Doc 12464 · Page 34 of 61 asbestosclaims.law/library/12464/34

# IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

## Imports Into U. S. A.

(Figures by Bureau of Mines)

| | Year 1953 Tons (2240 lbs.) |
|---|---|
| *Unmanufactured Asbestos—By Countries:* | |
| From Canada | 582,248 |
| Union of S. Africa | 33,015 |
| Southern Rhodesia | 8,920 |
| Australia | 1,563 |
| Bolivia | 685 |
| Mozambique | 219 |
| So. B. Africa | 374 |
| United Kingdom | 107 |
| U.S.S.R. | 290 |
| Chile | 55 |
| Venezuela | 49 |
| Italy | 4 |
| Madagascar | 1 |
| Portugal | 5 |
| | 627,535 |
| *Valued at* | $59,856,939 |
| *By Grades:* | |
| Crude No. 1, Chrysotile, Canada | 150 |
| Crude No. 1, Chrysotile, So. Rhodesia | 928 |
| Crude No. 2, Chrysotile, Canada | 185 |
| Crude No. 2, Chrysotile, Venezuela | 3 |
| Crude No. 2, Chrysotile, Madagascar | 1 |
| Crude No. 2, Chrysotile, U. of S. Africa | 11 |
| Crude No. 2, Chrysotile, So. Rhodesia | 727 |
| Crude, Other, Chrysotile, Canada | 417 |
| Crude, Other, Chrysotile, United Kingdom | 92 |
| Crude, Other, Chrysotile, U.S.S.R. | 96 |
| Crude, Other, Chrysotile, Portugal | 5 |
| Crude, Other, Chrysotile, Italy | 1 |
| Crude, Other, Chrysotile, Mozambique | 179 |
| Crude, Other, Chrysotile, U. of S. Africa | 11,890 |
| Crude, Other, Chrysotile, So. Rhodesia | 6,521 |
| Crude, Other, Chrysotile, So. B. Africa | 374 |
| Crude, Blue, Bolivia | 685 |
| Crude, Blue, Chile | 55 |
| Crude, Blue, United Kingdom | 6 |
| Crude, Blue, Australia | 1,561 |
| Crude, Blue, U. of S. Africa | 6,947 |



Asbestos Magazine, 1954, June 1954 Published by AsbestosClaims.Law
ACL Doc 12464 · Page 35 of 61 asbestosclaims.law/library/12464/35

| | |
|---|---|
| Crude, Amosite, U. of S. Africa ..... | 13,626 |
| Textile Fibres, Chrysotile, Canada ..... | 17,337 |
| Textile Fibres, Chrysotile, Venezuela ..... | 46 |
| Textile Fibres, Chrysotile, United Kingdom | 9 |
| Textile Fibres, Chrysotile, Italy ..... | 3 |
| Textile Fibres, Chrysotile, Mozambique .. | 40 |
| Textile Fibres, Chrysotile, U. of S. Africa. | 324 |
| Textile Fibres, Chrysotile, So. Rhodesia .. | 625 |
| Shingle Fibres, Chrysotile, Canada ..... | 77,268 |
| Shingle Fibres, Chrysotile, U. of S. Africa | 65 |
| Shingle Fibres, Chrysotile, So. Rhodesia .. | 92 |
| Paper Fibres, Chrysotile, Canada ..... | 56,374 |
| Paper Fibres, Chrysotile, U.S.S.R. ..... | 194 |
| Other Fibres, Chrysotile, Canada ..... | 430,517 |
| Other Fibres, Chrysotile, Australia ..... | 2 |
| Other Fibres, Chrysotile, U. of S. Africa .. | 152 |
| | 627,535 |

*Manufactured Asbestos Goods:*

| | Year 1953 Quantity (lbs.) | Value |
|---|---|---|
| Asbestos Yarn | | |
| Canada ..... | 36,642 | $ 46,359 |
| United Kingdom ..... | 606,437 | 453,444 |
| Asbestos Packing—Fabric | | |
| United Kingdom ..... | 25,542 | 25,132 |
| Asbestos Packing—Not Fabric | | |
| United Kingdom ..... | 25,585 | 14,281 |
| Asbestos Woven Fabrics—Other | | |
| Canada ..... | 188,799 | 217,690 |
| United Kingdom ..... | 72,902 | 96,272 |
| W. Germany ..... | 12 | 47 |
| Asbestos Brake Lining (Mld) | | |
| Canada ..... | 13,137 | 20,826 |
| United Kingdom ..... | 4,483 | 7,427 |
| W. Germany ..... | 10 | 68 |
| Italy ..... | 12,000 | 4,940 |
| Asbestos Cement Products (Impreg.) | | |
| Canada ..... | 45,286 | 5,759 |
| Belgium ..... | 2,452 | 110 |
| Asbestos Cement Products (Not Impreg.) | | |
| Canada ..... | 1,756,879 | 121,288 |
| Mexico ..... | 80,300 | 11,537 |
| United Kingdom ..... | 17,214 | 6,448 |
| Belgium ..... | 13,641 | 4,509 |
| Italy ..... | 257,316 | 19,402 |
| Asbestos Shingles (Impreg.) | | |
| Canada ..... | 2,765 | 259 |
| Asbestos Shingles (Not Impreg.) | | |
| Canada ..... | 7,834 | 617 |



*Asbestos Magazine, 1954, June 1954*
Published by AsbestosClaims.Law
ACL Doc 12464 · Page 36 of 61
asbestosclaims.law/library/12464/36

| Asbestos Manufactures—Others | | |
|---|---|---|
| Canada | .... | 2,216 |
| Cuba | .... | 967 |
| United Kingdom | .... | 1,738 |
| France | .... | 182 |
| W. Germany | .... | 296 |
| Japan | .... | 1,260 |
| | 3,169,236 | $1,063,074 |

## Imports into U. S. A.

**(Figures by Bureau of Mines)**

*Unmanufactured Asbestos—By Countries:*

| | January 1954 Tons (2240 lbs.) |
|---|---|
| From Canada | 41,094 |
| Union of South Africa | 2,049 |
| Australia | 335 |
| Bolivia | 119 |
| Southern Rhodesia | 801 |
| So. B. Africa | 165 |
| Other Countries | 55 |
| | 44,618 |
| *Valued at* | $4,619,137 |

*By Grades:*

| | |
|---|---|
| Crude No. 1, Chrysotile, S. Rhodesia | 22 |
| Crude No. 1, Chrysotile, Other Countries | 5 |
| Crude No. 2, Chrysotile, Canada | 23 |
| Crude No. 2, Chrysotile, Other Countries | 14 |
| Crude, Other, Chrysotile, S. Rhodesia | 249 |
| Crude, Other, Chrysotile, So. B. Africa | 165 |
| Crude, Other, Chrysotile, Other Countries | 17 |
| Crude, Blue, Bolivia | 119 |
| Crude, Blue, Australia | 335 |
| Crude, Blue, Union of S. Africa | 762 |
| Crude, Blue, So. Rhodesia | 530 |
| Crude, Blue, Other Countries | 9 |
| Crude, Amosite, Union of S. Africa | 1,287 |
| Textile Fibres, Chrysotile, Canada | 1,519 |
| Textile Fibres, Chrysotile, Other Countries | 10 |
| Shingle Fibres, Chrysotile, Canada | 6,708 |
| Paper Fibres, Chrysotile, Canada | 3,355 |
| Other Fibres, Chrysotile, Canada | 29,489 |
| | 44,618 |



*Asbestos Magazine, 1954, June 1954* Published by AsbestosClaims.Law
ACL Doc 12464 · Page 37 of 61 asbestosclaims.law/library/12464/37

*Manufactured Asbestos Goods:*

| | January 1954 Quantity (lbs.) | Value |
|---|---|---|
| Asbestos Yarn, United Kingdom | 49,741 | $39,534 |
| Asbestos Packing & Lining | 2,787 | 1,535 |
| Asbestos Shingles (Not Impreg.) | 16,860 | 1,020 |
| Asbestos Manufactures—Others | .... | 888 |
| | 69,388 | $42,977 |

## Exports from U. S. A.

**(Figures by Bureau of Census)**

*Unmanufactured Asbestos:*

| | February 1954 Tons (2240 lbs.) | Value |
|---|---|---|
| To Europe | 40 | $ 7,911 |
| Other Countries | 99 | 33,060 |
| | 139 | $40,971 |

*Manufactured Asbestos Goods:*

| | | February 1954 Quantity | Value |
|---|---|---|---|
| Asbestos Pipe Covg. & Cement | Lbs. | 165,880 | $ 24,691 |
| Asbestos Textiles & Yarn | Lbs. | 30,690 | 30,873 |
| Asbestos Packing | Lbs. | 166,232 | 138,481 |
| Asbestos Clutch Facings | No. | 115,053 | 81,247 |
| Asbestos Bk. Lng. (Mld.&S.Mld.) | Ft. | 190,134 | 84,141 |
| Asbestos Bk. Lng. (Woven) | Lin. Ft. | 44,249 | 26,330 |
| Asbestos Brake Lining Sets | Lbs. | 372,914 | 314,076 |
| Asbestos Construction Materials | Lbs. | 1,382,954 | 129,991 |
| Asbestos Manufactures—Others | Lbs. | .... | 29,044 |
| | | | $858,874 |


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Producers of

**CRUDES**

and

**FIBERIZED ASBESTOS**

**The World's Finest Fibres**

DRAWER 71 GLOBE, ARIZONA

Mines and Mills in Gila Co., Arizona





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ACL Doc 12464 · Page 38 of 61 asbestosclaims.law/library/12464/38

# CANADA'S ASBESTOS GOODS 1952

The Asbestos Products Industry, 1952, a six page folder issued recently by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at Ottawa, gives various statistics concerning Canada's asbestos manufacturing industry. Briefly a few figures are of special interest: factory shipments by the manufacturers of asbestos goods in Canada in 1952 were valued at $19,638,570.

Divided as to products these figures will be of more than usual interest:

| | 1952 | | 1951 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Quantity | Selling value at Works | Quantity | Selling value at Work |
| Asbestos Brake Linings | | | | |
| Molded ..... Ft. | .... | $ 2,918,294 | .... | $ 2,546,405 |
| Other ..... Ft. | .... | 430,237 | .... | 395,162 |
| Asbestos Pipe and Boiler Coverings | .... | 1,668,890 | .... | 1,368,116 |
| Asbestos Clutch Facings ..... No. | 1,070,689 | 597,019 | 1,286,553 | 605,600 |
| Asbestos Gaskets .. | .... | 79,537 | .... | 62,484 |
| Asbestos Packings (All kinds) ..... | .... | 1,009,451 | .... | 511,048 |
| All Other Products[1] ..... | .... | 12,935,142 | .... | 14,148,636 |
| | | $19,638,570 | | $19,637,451 |

[1]Includes asbestos dryer felt, hydraulic brake hose, asbestos shingles, asbestos yarn, asbestos millboard, asbestos cement wallboard, asbestos cloth, asbestos cement pipe, etc. Figures for these commondities cannot be shown separately as in most cases there were only one or two producers in this industry.

Likewise the following table:

| | 1952 | 1951 |
|---|---|---|
| Number of Plants | 17 | 16 |
| Average Number of Employees | 1,826 | 1,948 |
| Salaries and Wages | $5,448,895 | $4,386,693 |
| Cost of Fuel & Elec. at Works | 535,910 | 580,066 |
| Cost of Materials at Works | 9,306,930 | 9,157,249 |
| Gr. Selling Value of Products | 19,638,570 | 19,637,451 |

Of the 17 factories reporting in 1952, 6 were located in Quebec, 8 in Ontario, 1 in Nova Scotia and 2 in British Columbia.

Other tables, concerning imports, exports, materials



*Asbestos Magazine, 1954, June 1954* Published by AsbestosClaims.Law
ACL Doc 12464 · Page 39 of 61 asbestosclaims.law/library/12464/39

used in the Asbestos Products Industry, etc., are included in the pamphlet which may be obtained from the Industry and Merchandising Division at Ottawa for 25c. Ask for "The Asbestos Products Industry—1952".

## Exports from Canada

**(Published by Dominion Bureau of Statistics)**

*Unmanufactured Asbestos:*

| | March 1954 Tons (2000 lbs.) | Value |
|---|---|---|
| *Crude* | | |
| United States | 67 | $ 66,104 |
| United Kingdom | 1 | 850 |
| South America | .... | ... |
| Central America & Mexico | .... | ... |
| European Countries | 10 | 9,745 |
| Other Countries | .... | ... |
| | 78 | $ 76,699 |
| *Milled* | | |
| United States | 16,352 | $2,842,599 |
| United Kingdom | 726 | 191,944 |
| South America | 801 | 156,470 |
| Central America & Mexico | 755 | 136,510 |
| European Countries | 2,729 | 533,694 |
| Other Countries | 2,068 | 314,449 |
| | 23,431 | $4,175,666 |
| *Shorts* | | |
| United States | 43,799 | $2,122,715 |
| United Kingdom | 1,595 | 62,095 |
| South America | 574 | 43,917 |
| Central America & Mexico | 120 | 7,372 |
| European Countries | 859 | 47,733 |
| Other Countries | 1,426 | 106,057 |
| | 48,373 | $2,389,889 |
| *Grand Total—Unmanufactured Asbestos* | 71,882 | $6,642,254 |
| *Manufactured Absestos Goods:* | | |
| Brake Lining | | $ 19,707 |
| Packing | | ... |
| Other Materials | | 41,737 |
| | | $ 61,444 |



*Asbestos Magazine, 1954, June 1954* Published by AsbestosClaims.Law
ACL Doc 12464 · Page 40 of 61 asbestosclaims.law/library/12464/40

**Cyprus**
(From W. Perry James, A.C.S.M. Inspector of Mines)

| | 1st Quarter (ending March 31, 1954) | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | January | February | March |
| Rock Mined ..... | ... | 5,107 | 15,678 |
| Rock Treated ..... | 13 | 52 | 1,272 |
| Fibre Produced ..... | 131 | 45 | 180 |
| Fibre Exported ..... | 219 | 13 | 2,695 |

## AUTOMOBILE SALES

| | April 1954 |
|---|---|
| Passenger Cars ..... | 534,667 |
| Motor Trucks ..... | 96,723 |
| Motor Coaches ..... | 379 |
| | 631,769 |

In April 1953, a total of 723,532 motor vehicles were sold. In the four months of 1954 the total was 2,350,044.

These figures were supplied by the Automobile Manufacturers Association, New Center Building, Detroit, Michigan.

---

Contract awards reported in April for school and college buildings (including additions and major alterations) totaled $156,554,000, setting a new record for any April in Dodge's 63-year history. This total was 17 per cent above the previous April record set last year.


„ Tropag "
ASBEST- & ERZIMPORT OSCAR H. RITTER K. G.
Hamburg · — · Ballindamm 7
*Importers since 1909 of*
**ASBESTOS - ORES - MINERALS**





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ACL Doc 12464 · Page 41 of 61 asbestosclaims.law/library/12464/41

# NEWS OF THE INDUSTRY

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

E. B. Poulin, Secy-Treasurer, Asbestonos Corporation, Ltd., St. Lambert, Montreal, Canada, June 20.

Ladd L. Wilson, President, Sall Mountain Company, Hamilton, Ohio, June 20.

Kenneth Gray, Director, The Cape Asbestos Co., Ltd., London, England, June 21.

L. R. Weaver, Vice President, Thermoid Company, Trenton, N.J., June 21.

Harold W. Donnelly, Vice President, Norristown Magnesia & Asbestos Company, Norristown, Pa., June 22.

C. A. Schell, Vice President, Thermoid Company, Trenton, N. J., June 22.

E. M. Bollaert, Vice President, Pacific Asbestos-Cement Products Corporation, San Bernardino, Calif., June 25.

A. F. Moore, Retired Manager, Asbestos Department, The Phillip Carey Mfg. Co., Cincinnati, Ohio, June 26.

Walter G. Cowan, Vice President & General Manager of Manufacture, The Ruberoid Co., New York City, June 26.

H. A. King, Manager, Asbestos Fibre Sales, The Ruberoid Co., New York City, June 28.

L. B. Palmer-Ball, President, Palmer Asbestos Company, Louisville, Ky., June 29.

Ernest A. Beldam, Director Beldam Asbestos Co., Ltd., Hounslow, England, June 30.

Vincent W. Hemphill, Secretary, Standard Asbestos Mfg. Company, Chicago, Ill., July 1.

S. F. Breuleux, Treasurer, The Philip Carey Mfg. Company, Cincinnati, Ohio, July 6.

Charles S. Wood, Treasurer, Chas. S. Wood & Company, Newark, N. J., July 6.

C. L. Hoshaw, Manager Construction Division, The Philip Carey Mfg. Company, Cincinnati, Ohio, July 7.

G. K. McKenzie, Secretary, The Flintkote Co., New York City, July 7.

Capt. W. A. Janitch, R.E., Representative in Great Britain for Asbestos Corporation Ltd., London, England, July 10.

A. M. Ehret, Jr., President, Ehret Magnesia Mfg. Company, Valley Forge, Pa., July 11.

H. W. Prentis, Jr., Chairman, Armstrong Cork Co., Lancaster, Pa., July 11.

Irving McCormick, President, The McCormick Asbestos Company, Baltimore, Md., July 13.

Carlo M. Weber, Manager, Careystone Corrugated Dept., The Philip Carey Mfg. Co., Cincinnati, Ohio, July 14.

We extend congratulations and best wishes to all these gentlemen on the occasion of their birthdays.



*Asbestos Magazine, 1954, June 1954*
Published by AsbestosClaims.Law
ACL Doc 12464 · Page 42 of 61
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**Fibre-Tex** Agencies (pty.) Ltd.

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*Asbestos Magazine, 1954, June 1954*
ACL Doc 12464 · Page 43 of 61
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**UNITED ASBESTOS CORPORATION LIMITED**

The directors of United Asbestos Corporation Limited recently announced to shareholders that the American Smelting and Refining Company, through its wholly-owned subsidiary, Lake Asbestos of Quebec Limited, has completed arrangements with the Company to proceeed immediately to bring the Black Lake asbestos deposits into production in accordance with the agreement dated September 17, 1952.

The conclusion of the transaction followed closely on the granting by the Quebec Government of the final Order-in-Council authorizing the draining of Black Lake and constitutes the successful result of nearly twenty months of extensive legal, engineering, and hydraulic studies since the basic contract was signed in New York in September 1952.

American Smelting and Refining Company, through its subsidiary, is now fully committed in accordance with the terms of the agreement to provide the capital necessary to bring the Black Lake ore deposits into production and to construct and equip the required mill. It is the intention of that Company to develop the deposits as an open pit mining operation by drainage of Black Lake. Although the original agreement called for a minimum milling capacity of 4,000 tons per day, it is understood that the present program of Lake Asbestos calls for an initial rated milling capacity of at least 5,000 tons per day and that the capital expenditure required to complete this program is estimated at approximately $20,000,000. This will permit Lake Asbestos to produce over 100,000 tons of asbestos fibre annually so that from commencement of operations it will rank among the foremost producers of asbestos in Canada.

**BIRD & SON, INC.**
**Change In Personnel**

New Director of Personnel for Bird & Son's 3,000 employees, is *John J. Murphy*, named to this post on May 1st.

The appointment follows the retirement of *Ralph M. Wight* at the end of April. Mr. Murphy had been assistant director of personnel.

Mr. Wight had a long, successful career at Bird & Son. He started 32 years ago in the planning Department at the Norwood floor covering plant. He was assistant superintendent, then superintendent for a number of years and had been director of personnel since 1952.

Mr. Murphy started to work for Bird & Son in 1939 in the Norwood roofing plant, later transferring to the floor covering plant. He was named assistant director of personnel in 1951.



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ACL Doc 12464 · Page 44 of 61 asbestosclaims.law/library/12464/44

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INSULATION DIVISION

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Manufacturers of Heat Insulation since 1920




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ACL Doc 12464 · Page 45 of 61
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**JOHNS-MANVILLE CORPORATION**
**Annual Meeting**

Johns-Manville Corporation, manufacturer of building materials and industrial products at 22 plant and mine locations in the United States and Canada will spend about $18,500,000 on expansion and improvement projects this year, according to L. M. Cassidy, Chairman of the Board, who presided at the annual meeting of the company's stockholders held on May 14, 1954.

Mr. Cassidy stated that there is nothing at present in the economic outlook for 1954 in the United States and Canada to cause fear on their part or uncertainties about what they plan to do.

The first quarter closed much stronger than it opened. Both sales and profits in March showed material improvement over January and February. Field reports in recent weeks indicate that the trend established in March is being maintained.

Mr. Cassidy pointed out that the period of lower business activity during the first part of the year came as no surprise. Five years ago they anticipated a period when business would be more difficult to get and had made plans to meet it. At the same time they have improved the long-range future position of the Company and increased substantially the value of the stockholder's equity.

A. R. Fisher, President, summarized the Company's five-year planning "for a period of competition that business has not experienced since before World War II" as follows: (1) an expanded and aggressive selling program; (2) priority on the development of new products and product improvements that will insure full use of all manufacturing equipment; (3) an intensified program to reduce the costs of producing goods; (4) a campaign to reduce all other costs of doing business.

He also stated that Johns-Manville owns sufficient reserves of three of its most important raw materials—asbestos fibre, wood fibre and diamomite—to meet all anticipated demands for many years. These three basic raw materials are used in J-M product lines which althogether account for 75 percent of their total dollar sales volume.

Stockholders approved a stock option plan to provide additional incentive for key employees to produce constant improvement in operating results, to remain in the employ of the Company and to become owners of more of the common stock of the Company.

Although there is a temporary falling off in demand for asbestos fibre, the Company long-range forecast definitely points to increasing requirement and use. Their current production of asbestos fibre is nearly four times what it was in 1940.

The eleven Johns-Manville directors were re-elected.



*Asbestos Magazine, 1954, June 1954* Published by AsbestosClaims.Law
ACL Doc 12464 · Page 46 of 61 asbestosclaims.law/library/12464/46

# Antony Gibbs & Co., Inc.

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Baboon Asbestos Co.
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*Asbestos Magazine, 1954, June 1954* Published by AsbestosClaims.Law
ACL Doc 12464 · Page 47 of 61 asbestosclaims.law/library/12464/47

**ASBESTOS CORPORATION LIMITED**

*A. L. Penhale*, president of Asbestos Corp. of Canada Ltd. told shareholders at the annual meeting held in Montreal in April that trade was becoming increasingly competitive largely due to aggressive sales efforts being made by Russian and other producers.

Russia, said Mr. Penhale, through reciprocal trade agreements with many European countries is undertaking to supply substantial tonnages at prices somewhat lower than those prevailing in North America.

Total sales in 1954 should not be substantially different from the volume reported last year, although results for the first quarter of 1954 were somewhat behind the same period in 1953. He added that in April sales volume improved somewhat.

He attributed the decline in first quarter results to the hesitant tone of business in the U. S. A. and the resumption by overseas customers of their traditional practice of ordering a bare minimum of supplies in the winter and taking heavier deliveries in the rest of the year.

Mr. Penhale stated the recent agreement with United Asbestos Corp. Ltd. and Lake Asbestos of Quebec Ltd. relative to the drainage and subsequent mining of the Black Lake asbestos deposits was designed to protect Asbestos Corporation's mining rights. The provision in the agreement for certain mining arrangements in adjacent areas should be for the long-term advantage of the company.

A substantial volume of asbestos ore, which otherwise would not be available would be freed by the relocation program being carried out in Thetford Mines by the three major producers and the net effect will be to prolong the life of the King Mine for several years. While the plant construction project at the Normandie Mine was slightly behind schedule. it was expected to be completed by late this year.

**RUBEROID'S NEW OFFICE**
**and Warehouse**

The newly-built combination office and warehouse at The Ruberoid Co.'s plant in Joliet, Illinois, is now in full operation.

Completed this Spring, the new structure contains 41,850 square feet of warehouse area and 11,625 square feet devoted to fully air-conditioned offices. In addition, a 93 x 25' shipping dock is built onto one end. A second story, covering part of the building, contains a staff conference room and space for office expansion.

They transferred the greater part of their clerical staff from Chicago to Joliet, which move enables them to integrate essential office functions with manufacturing activities.

Ruberoid's sales and midwest executive offices will remain in Chicago.



*Asbestos Magazine, 1954, June 1954* Published by AsbestosClaims.Law
ACL Doc 12464 · Page 48 of 61 asbestosclaims.law/library/12464/48

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ACL Doc 12464 · Page 49 of 61
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**THE CAPE ASBESTOS COMPANY LTD.**

The Cape Asbestos Company Ltd. recently opened a new rock wool factory at Stirling which provides a new industry for Britain in the production of a long fibre rock wool.

"Rocksil", as the new product is called by reason of its fine silken appearance, is an inexpensive form of heat, cold and sound insulation material made up into a great variety of forms suitable for the insulation of buildings, ships, road, rail and air vehicles, cold storages and industries in general where heat must be conserved to achieve maximum efficiency.

For further information on this material see May 1953 "ASBESTOS", page 18.

**THE RUBEROID CO.**

At a brief ceremony recently, the AMERICAN BUILDER presented Stanley Woodward, president, and Robert G. McCoy, advertising manager of The Ruberoid Co., a distinguished merchandising award.

An engraved wall plaque, the award was given in connection with the magazine's 75th anniversary by Bayne A. Sparks, vice president of Simmons Boardman Publishing Corporation, and Eastern Editor Joseph Mason. The Ruberoid Co. was honored for its "outstanding contribution to the development of modern merchandising through early recognition and use of the power of sustained advertising."

**NATIONAL GYPSUM COMPANY**

National Gypsum Company has announced that during the first four months of 1954 its safety record improved 60% over its record for the same period in 1953. Reportable injuries in all 35 plants totaled 73 as compared with 191 or 17.4 per million man hours versus 43.8 for the first four months of 1953. Lost time accidents declined in this period from the 15.1 per million man hours previously experienced to 6.4. Savings to the company are estimated at nearly $170,000.

**A.S.T.M. AWARDS OF MERIT**

Eleven technical leaders in the field of engineering materials —men who have rendered outstanding service to the American Society for Testing Materials, particularly in its technical committee work—were honored during the ASTM 57th Annual Meeting in Chicago the week of June 14th when they received Awards of Merit.

Six authors of outstanding technical papers published by the ASTM also received awards at the Annual Meeting.



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ACL Doc 12464 · Page 50 of 61 asbestosclaims.law/library/12464/50

# ARIZONA ASBESTOS

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# ASBESTOS TEXTILES

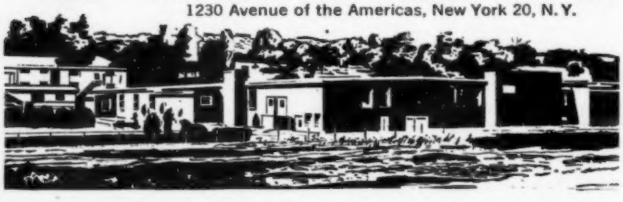
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are manufactured in our own modern plant at Stark Mills, Hogansville, Ga. Spinning and weaving operations are closely controlled for maximum uniformity in asbestos yarns, fabrics and tapes. Specialties developed to meet customers' requirements.

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**UNITED STATES RUBBER COMPANY**

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*Asbestos Magazine, 1954, June 1954*
ACL Doc 12464 · Page 51 of 61
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**CAREY THREE MONTHS' REPORT**

Report for the three months ended March 31, 1954 was issued recently by the Philip Carey Mfg. Company, and gives the following figures:

| | |
|---|---|
| Sales 1954 | $10,176,700 |
| Compared with same period in 1953 | 10,871,627 |
| Net Earnings after income taxes—1954 | 235,255 |
| Compared with same period in 1953 | 337,483 |
| Earning per common share | .27 |
| Compared with same period in 1953 | .40 |

# ASBESTOS STOCK QUOTATIONS

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

| | | May, 1954 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Par | Low | High | Last |
| Amer. Br. Shoe (Com) | np | 37 | 38⅜ | 38⅛ |
| Amer. Br. Shoe (Pfd) | 100 | 101½ | 104 | 104 |
| Armst. Ck. (Com) | np | 67½ | 71½ | 70⅜ |
| Armst. Ck. (Pfd) | np | 96¾ | 98¼ | 98¼ |
| Armst. Ck. (Conv. Pfd) | np | 137 | 141½ | 139 |
| Asb. Corp. (Com) | np | 29 | 31 | 30⅞ |
| Carey (Com) | 10 | 19¼ | 21 | 20 |
| Cassiar Asb. Corp. | np | $6.05 | $6.40 | $6.20 |
| Celotex (Com) | np | 18 | 21¼ | 20⅝ |
| Celotex (Pfd) | 20 | 16¾ | 17⅜ | 17⅜ |
| Certainteed (Com) | 1 | 15¾ | 17¼ | 17 |
| Flintkote (Com) | np | 29¾ | 32⅛ | 31 |
| Flintkote (Pfd) | np | 99½ | 103 | 99½ |
| Johns-Manville (Com) | np | 63⅝ | 71 | 68¾ |
| Natl. Gypsum (Com) | 1 | 28¼ | 30⅛ | 29¾ |
| Natl. Gypsum (Pfd) | np | 100⅞ | 103 | 102¾ |
| Pabco Products (Com) | np | 16½ | 19 | 18 |
| Pabco Products (Pfd) | 100 | 85 | 87½ | 86 |
| Ray-Man (Com) | np | 42½ | 45½ | 42½ |
| Ruberoid (new) | 1 | 33⅛ | 34⅝ | 34⅜ |
| Thermoid (Com) | 1 | 6⅞ | 7¼ | 7 |
| Thermoid (Pfd) | 50 | 39 | 40 | 40 |
| Union Asb. & Rub. (Com) | 5 | 8¾ | 9¾ | 8⅞ |
| United Asb. (Com) | 1 | $3.75 | '$4.10 | '$3.85 |
| U. S. Gypsum (Com) | 20 | 135½ | 159¼ | 151 |
| U. S. Gypsum (Pfd) | 100 | 179¼ | 181 | 179½ |
| U. S. Rubber (Com) | 5 | 32⅛ | 34⅜ | 33⅞ |
| U. S. Rubber (Pfd) | 100 | 145 | 150 | 146¼ |



*Asbestos Magazine, 1954, June 1954* Published by AsbestosClaims.Law
ACL Doc 12464 · Page 52 of 61 asbestosclaims.law/library/12464/52

**UNION ASBESTOS & RUBBER CO.**
**First Quarter Report**

Union Asbestos & Rubber Company, has issued its report for the first quarter ending March 31, 1954. Detailed figures follow, with comparison figures for 1953.

| | 1954 | 1953 |
|---|---|---|
| Earned per Share | $ .22 | $ .15 |
| Net Sales | $3,139,184 | $2,810,588 |
| Income Before Federal Income Tax | 223,624 | 145,751 |
| Income Tax Provision | 116,285 | 75,790 |
| Net Profit | 320,956 | 69,961 |
| Number of Shares (Less Treasury Stock) | 475,176 | 475,176 |

# CURRENT RANGE OF PRICE

As of June 10, 1954

| **Arizona—** | **Per Ton of 2,000 lbs., f.o.b. Globe, Arizona** | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| No. 1 Crude (soft) | $1,600.00 | to | $1,700.00 |
| No. 2 Crude (soft) | 1,000.00 | to | 1,050.00 |
| No. 3 Crude (soft) | 450.00 | to | 500.00 |
| Filter Fibre (soft) | 250.00 | to | 450.00 |
| No. 1 Crude (semi-soft) | 1,200.00 | to | 1,500.00 |
| No. 2 Crude (semi-soft) | 900.00 | | |
| No. 3 Crude (semi-soft) | 400.00 | | |

| **Canada—** | **Per Ton (2000 lbs.) f.o.b. Mine** | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Group No. 1 (Crude No. 1) | $1,100.00 | to | $1,500.00 |
| Group No. 2 Crude No. 2; Crude Run-of-Mine and Sundry | 500.00 | to | 1,000.00 |
| Group No. 3 (Spinning Fibre) | 300.00 | to | 525.00 |
| Group No. 4 (Shingle Fibre) | 150.00 | to | 200.00 |
| Group No. 5 (Paper Fibre) | 100.00 | to | 140.00 |
| Group No. 6 (Waste, Stucco or Plaster) | | | 77.00 |
| Group No. 7 (Refuse or Shorts) | 35.00 | to | 70.00 |

| **Vermont—** | **Per Ton of 2000 lbs. f.o.b. Hyde Park or Morrisville, Vt.** | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Group No. 3 (Spinning & Filtering) | $ 321.00 | to | $ 348.00 |
| Group No. 4 (Shingle Fibre) | 156.00 | to | 173.00 |
| Group No. 5 (Paper Fibre) | 110.00 | to | 132.00 |
| Group No. 6 (Waste, Stucco or Plaster) | | | 78.00 |
| Group No. 7 (Refuse or Shorts) | 37.00 | to | 68.50 |



*Asbestos Magazine, 1954, June 1954* Published by AsbestosClaims.Law
ACL Doc 12464 · Page 53 of 61 asbestosclaims.law/library/12464/53

**J. L. WOOD (J-M) AUTHORS NEW BOOK**
**On Credit**

President A. R. Fisher and Chairman of the Board L. M. Cassidy were the first to receive advance copies of a new book presented by the author, J. L. Wood, Assistant Treasurer, Johns-Manville Corporation. His book, "Better Sales Through Credit", embodies the principles and applications of credit management as developed and practiced by the author during his 27 years with J-M. He has been a pioneer in making credit a sales function. Joe is the sole credit man in the New York Sales Executive Club, and is also its president. Joe Wood's book is published by Vantage Press and sells for $3.00.

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The following bound volumes of "ASBESTOS":

| | |
|---|---|
| 10—1928-29 | 22—1940-41 |
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| 12—1930-31 | 24—1942-43 |
| 19—1937-38 | 29—1947-48 |
| 20—1938-39 | 30—1948-49 |
| 21—1939-40 | |

Volumes begin July of each year—Price $5.00 each. Write, "ASBESTOS", 808 Western Saving Fund Bldg., Phila., 7, Pa.


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## NIAGARA ASBESTOS COMPANY BUFFALO, N. Y.

In May 1929, Johns-Manville appointed the Niagara Asbestos Company as its Technical Service Unit to handle contract insulation work in the Buffalo, New York area. During the quarter of a century since then, a bond of pleasant business relationship has grown between the people of the two companies.

To celebrate the founding of this business relationship, representatives of the two companies attended a joint meeting recently in Buffalo. Highlight of the get-to-gether was the presentation of a plaque commemorating the occasion. This was given to Mr. J. C. McKendry, President of Niagara, by Mr. J. A. O'Brien, General Manager, Industrial Products Division, Johns-Manville.


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National Manufacturer of Asbestos Cement products requires Commodity Manager in Home Office. Must have experience in sales, sales prmotion and merchandising of Asbestos siding, roofing and corrugated and full knowledge of product. Age 35-45. Pleasant working conditions. Group insurance and retirement provided. Our employees know of this adv. Submit complete resume in confidence. Address Box 6 N-NY, "Asbestos", 808 Western Saving Fund Building, Philadelphia 7, Pa.

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## THE TWELVE ESTIMATING TABLES

The Twelve Estimating Tables, with Chart, convenient in figuring flange fittings and other areas, is $1.00 per set.

These tables have been found very useful by estimators in figuring areas, but since we have not for some time published the detailed list, it occurred to us that many would like to know exactly what the tables cover, and order them before the fall work begins. Following is the list.

Sq. Ft. Areas of Pipe Covering.
Mean Sq. Ft. Areas Standard Screwed Fittings.
Mean Area Standard Weight Flanged Fittings.
Standard Weight Flange Areas, Permanent Type.
Standard Weight Flange Areas, Removable Type.
Figuring Hair Felt, 1", 1½", 2".
Anti-Frost Insulation.
Cork Ppie Covering, Outside Area in Sq. Ft.
Ice Water Thick Cork Moulded Fittings Screwed, Outside Area in Sq. Ft.
Brine Thickness Cork Moulded Fittings, Screwed, Outside Area in Sq. Ft.
Special Thickness Cork Moulded Fittings, Screwed, Outside Area in Sq. Ft.
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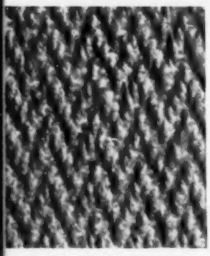
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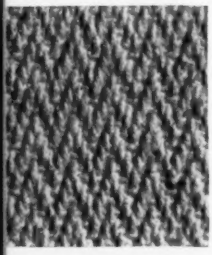
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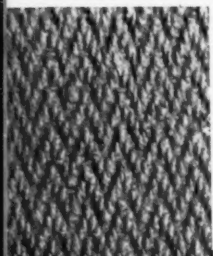
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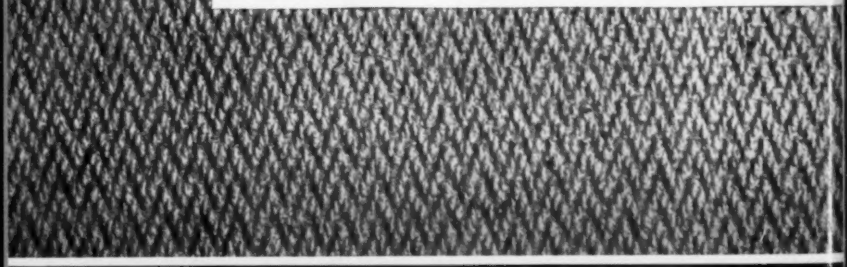
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