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August 13, 1971

Mr. Milton Pogsin
Director of Employee Relations
Rbex Industries of Canada, Ltd.
11988 Caledonia Road
Toronto 19, Canada

Dear Milt:

Many thanks for the recent article which your secretary passed on to me at your request regarding asbestos, Canada, Dr. I. Selikoff, and the Johns-Mansville Corporation.

I know Dr. Tom Davison, the corporate medical director of Johns-Mansville who lives nearby. This fall I shall elicit his views on the problem as known to him and as it related to their difficulties.

Dr. Irving Selikoff is well-intentioned, but I personally fear that he is a panic or fear peddler so to speak. When in Elyria, Ohio recently I was amazed to hear him in a half hour Ralph Nader type campaign blast the asbestos users. This was about 6:30 or 7:00 a.m. I am sure that he literally scared many workers and their families. There is most certainly some , or a lot of merit to some of that which he promotes, but a lot of physicians object to the manner in which he does it by means of fear and a very aggressive policy and especially when he admits that neither he nor the engineers have the solutions to the problems attendant to or with such utilization of asbestos. He actually when to Toronto, to the J.M. plant with all left of the necessary field lab equipment so as to perform an industrial hygiene survey of the J.M. plant. He was denied permission to enter and sample or even review their industrial records. He then met again with the union officials, showed them movies and reportedly left a 45 minute technical (medical) tape on asbestos with the union officials that they could study. Can you imagine his misdirected efforts, such nerve?

Sincerely,

Charles C. Blackwell, Jr., M.D.