

Bob - believe they should go it from 19



E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS & COMPANY
INCORPORATED
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19898

PETROCHEMICALS DEPARTMENT

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL



September 10, 1980

Cyphers
Woodrick
Logan
Robertson
Ehrman
Farnsworth
Kennedy
Loyd
Sims
Targac

D. F. GILBERT, ANTIOCH
W. L. SMITH, BIRMINGHAM
C. E. LEE, BIWABIK
D. E. HEASLEY, CORPUS CHRISTI
J. SADONIS, DUNBAR
F. H. FENTON, LOUVIERS

R. J. EMERY, MONTAGUE
H. D. MEANS, POMPTON LAKES
R. W. GERLACH, POTOMAC RIVER
J. T. GRANAGHAN, SAVANNAH RIVER
R. F. WILLIAMS, SENECA
~~A. D. CYPHERS, VICTORIA~~

ASBESTOS SEMINAR FOR PLANT PHYSICIANS

A concern has developed that significant asbestos related abnormalities may remain undetected because of the disparate quality of x-ray films noted in a recent survey of one of the industrial departments.

To increase sensitivity to this problem and to provide guidance in assuring more definitive x-ray films, one day seminars for appropriate plant physicians are to be conducted by the Medical Division of the Employee Relations Department. The seminar for Petrochemicals Department physicians is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on September 23, 1980, Room N-11430 on the eleventh floor of the Nemours Building. The agenda (attached) will include but is not limited to asbestos related lesions, i.e. diagnosis and evaluation; x-ray findings and interpretation; film quality monitoring and evaluation; present status of regulations pertaining to asbestos related abnormalities.

Each physician should bring to the conference the most current chest film of five employees over age forty who have had documented exposures to asbestos or asbestos related abnormalities. If there are no employees in these categories, please bring five films from employees over age forty who work or have worked as mechanics, insulators, pipewrappers or pipefitters.

*Ross Hoff
His Work
Ellen Smith
Beal Shigley
Lu Phillips*

(Victor Orsak)

DU 009397

DUP 0810407

-2-

It is anticipated that the conference will conclude in the early afternoon. Luncheon will be provided in the Du Pont Hotel. Arrangements for travel and hotel accommodations should be made by the attendees. If there are any questions please contact Dr. Burford Culpepper at Ext. 45226, or Dr. Bob Ligo, Ext. 49044. The Medical Division will also contact each physician by phone.

TW Bruce

Att.

T. W. BRUCE, ASSISTANT MANAGER
INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS SECTION

DUP 0810408

DU 009398

Bot Ligo: Guidelines for L of artiles

- 1) Take good radiograph
- 2) Must be read by qualified radiologist
- 3) Record of reading must be filed
- 4) Pt must be told
- 5) Record must be made that pt is told

this info
is in physician
guidelines

Bill Van Sickle: Quality assurance of X-ray studies

Main cause of bad film is the ^{operator} equipment; but even a good equipment
well calibrated, may malfunction because of power fluctuation

Equipment should be tested weekly (using wire screen)

Technique chart, explaining causes of errors, should be posted
caliper should be used

Developing should be checked to a sensitometer

illuminators must be matched re brightness and color

Test rep of DuPont photo products should call on all plants

AGENDA

9:00 a.m. Dr. Culpepper - Welcome - Introduce Directors
or Manufacturing:
G. F. Curtin - Petrochemicals
J. C. Dorschel - Fibers & Finishes
W. R. Hewton - Biochemicals

9:10 a.m. Introduce Dr. Karrh. Background and present
situation ref. asbestos related abnormalities..

9:30 a.m. Review physician guidelines for asbestos
related abnormalities - Dr. Ligo.

9:45 a.m. Photo Products - Improving x-ray quality -
Wm. Van Sickle.

10:00 a.m. Break

10:15 a.m. Remarks about x-ray lesions. X-ray review
with physicians - Dr. Allen.

11:50 a.m. Lunch

1:00 p.m. Wrap Up. Questions - Dr. Culpepper.

Problem: Rapano was cited by OSHA

② Didn't tell pt

③ Didn't associate painting to cancer

④ Didn't document finding

Studies re asbestos were not full in May '80

mechanics have had much greater incidence than other, and operate

Yrly starts by; then take exposure to, and hobbies, previous employment
previous DuPont experience

DUP 0810411

DU 009401

SAFER TIMES

NUMBER 25



The Philadelphia Area Project on Occupational Safety and Health

PHILA POST

June-August 1979



ILAPOSE calls for more aid for OSHA, in a rally outside the site of oversight held hearings here in May. Story, page 3.

A 'Little' Union Pins Big DuPont Over Asbestos

For 28 years, Frank Baptiste has been a pipefitter at the Repauno duPont plant in Gibbstown, N.J. During that time he has worked around and breathed in a substance that until 1973 was the standard for pipe insulation: asbestos.

On Feb. 4 of this year he went to the company medical building for a routine X-ray and breathing test. DuPont called him back a month later and told him the X-ray machine had malfunctioned.

Just a few months ago Frank began to feel an ache around his rib cage, but guessed it was just a pulled muscle. Frank's doctor referred him to a specialist who promptly requested and examined the X-rays in his medical file at duPont. From these X-rays it was determined that Frank had had pleural thickening in his lungs for at least eight years and that now he had asbestosis, a disease of the lung tissue that can lead to cancer.

In an interview with the Courier Post, Frank Baptiste said, "I'm mad....They (duPont management) could have told me eight or nine years ago. Maybe, just maybe, there could have been something done."

Eight years ago no one told Frank or

Continued on Page 10

Come Meet, Talk and Vote

"Workers and Nuclear Power" will be the topic of the fall membership meeting on September 26 at 7:30 p.m. Nomination of officers for the Board and voting on amendments to the Constitution will take place at the meeting (see page 12).

Workers are invited to attend a clinic at 6:30 p.m. prior to the meeting to discuss the health and safety problems at their shops. The meeting will be held at the Clothing Workers Hall, 2115 South Street.

A Factsheet for
Public Employees
pgs. 5-6



N.J. Comp Bill
Imperils Rights
pg. 8

DU 009402

DUP 0810412

DuPont Pinned Over Asbestos

Continued from Page 1

any other workers at duPont that working with asbestos could lead to serious lung disease, but today the duPont management is taking the asbestos problem very seriously. There is a new company doctor and a new X-ray machine at the Repauno plant. Any employee whose X-rays indicate pleural thickening or other asbestos-related lung damage (and there are presently 28) is immediately advised to choose one of four outside specialists for further diagnosis, all at duPont's expense. Why this sudden and generous concern for employee health after so many years of neglect?

On April 16 of this year the Camden OSHA office fined the Repauno plant \$63,000 for improper handling and removal of asbestos, failure to record and inform employees of illnesses, and failure to provide medical records to investigators. DuPont has not yet paid the fine and is contesting the citation but until a final decision is handed down by the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission, duPont is paying a lot more attention to employee health.

A citation like the one issued to duPont does not develop overnight; it took nine months of investigations, interviews, samplings, and medical research by members of the Camden OSHA office and the Chemical and Industrial Union, an independent union and PHILAPOSH sponsor that represents about 300 Repauno workers.

Dave Watson, president of the union, is perhaps the man most responsible for precipitating the OSHA citations. Last June, he brought the asbestos problem to OSHA's attention during an inspection of the Repauno plant OSHA was conducting in response to a complaint about chemical fumes. According to Watson, the company managed to stall the inspectors long enough to clean up most of the asbestos, but they weren't thorough enough. OSHA collected its first bit of evidence against duPont and Watson began his battle to end asbestos-related hazards at Repauno.

A machinist by trade, Watson reads a

ALL Lungs and No Die
Just CALL him from
or John War



enchymal fibrosity and mesothelioma as easily as he would a blueprint. "I had to educate myself," he said. "They (company lawyers) tried to make a fool out of me a couple of times...Now I know the language. I know what a tomagram is and what the difference is between carcinoma and mesothelioma."

On May 18, Watson got a chance to demonstrate his newly acquired knowledge of asbestosis when he testified before a U.S. House subcommittee on Health and Safety in Philadelphia.

In addition to working closely with OSHA, Watson and other union members are filing a third-party class action suit against all manufacturers who supplied asbestos products to the duPont plant. This is an increasingly common tactic by asbestos workers and their families locally and nationally.

Although much progress has been made in the past year, real resolution of the health problems of workers at Repauno is more complicated than educating oneself or filing OSHA complaints and lawsuits. Rather than face the meager income of compensation, many workers keep their health problems to themselves so they can retain their full working salary.

The Chemical and Industrial Workers is a small union without the political or economic clout of a large international union. Nevertheless, they have done a remarkable job in fomenting a positive change in Dupont's health policies.

DUP 0810413

-Bob Miller