Washington Station.

JLC/BT

10th March, 1948.

Dear Mr. McClure,

J. W. Wren, deceased
Possible Asbestosis Claim

Thank you for your letter of yesterday's date, sending me copy of a letter which Mr. Pickup has received from the widow indicating that she does not propose to make any claim on the score of asbestosis, and also sending me the death certificate.

I see that the death certificate gives the cause of death as "Carcinoma of the lung and asbestosis", the latter being a contributory factor due to the deceased's occupation as a boiler and pipe lagger, but of course so far as we are concerned we do not pay much (if any) attention to the opinion of the Coroner and his Jury in cases like these, as we only accept the decision of the Asbestosis Medical Board. No application for a certificate from that Board has been made and as the death occurred in October 1947 (four and a half months ago) and as the widow says she is not making any claim, we can consider this as a straight-forward case, and as no evidence has been produced that the death was due to asbestosis, the case will not be included in our asbestosis case records.

It seems curious that Wren was not admitted to the Pension Scheme in 1936; even though his employment may have been to some extent of a casual nature, he had been in the employ of N.I.Co.Ltd. and previously Reid McFarlane and Hobdell, Way for a long time, and I see from a newspaper cutting in respect of the inquest that he had been employed as a boiler coverer (presumably by these three companies) for 42 years. Does that period agree with your records?

Under the circumstances it would certainly seem equitable for a payment of £50 (in lieu of the death benefit) to be made and, as Wren was not a member of the Pension Scheme, the payment will fall to be made by N.I.Co.Ltd. itself. No doubt, therefore, you will arrange to include an appropriate

contd....

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT 1948.03

W. L. McClure, Esq. 10th March, 1948.

report in the Board Folders for your next Board Meeting, so that approval of the payment of £50 can be requested. Approval by T.& N.Ltd. will not be necessary (see T.& N. Regulations, Section A, page 7).

I return the death certificate herewith.

Yours faithfully,

J. A. C.

Enc.1 Secretary.

DJ21063