

FILE NAME: Metropolitan Life (ML)

DATE: 1944

DOC#: ML020

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Collection of Correspondence RE Quebec & Asbestosis

IVAN SABOURIN
ADVOCATE

MONTREAL.

November 11th, 1944.

Dr. G. M. Wheatley,
Assistant Medical Director,
Metropolitan Life Insurance Headquarters,
New York City 110.

Dear George:-

RE: CLINIC AT THETFORD (ASBESTOS
CORPORATION LIMITED; BELL
ASBESTOS MINES LIMITED AND
JOHNSON'S COMPANY).

I am enclosing you copy of letter
written this date to Mr. Vandiver Brown, copy which is
self-explanatory.

Best personal regards.

Yours faithfully,

Ivan Sabourin
IVAN SABOURIN

IS:BS
Encl.



MET 0887

November 11th, 1944.

Vandiver Brown, Esq.,
General Attorney,
Executive Offices,
Johns-Manville Corporation,
22 East 40th Street,
New York City.

Dear Vandiver:-

RE: CLINIC AT THETFORD (ASBESTOS
CORPORATION LIMITED; BELL
ASBESTOS MINES LIMITED AND
JOHNSON'S COMPANY).

Dr. Cartier, whom as you know was highly recommended by Dr. Gardner and also by Dr. Wheatley of New York has finally accepted the appointment as of this date and it has occurred to me that it would be immensely helpful for him to attend the Pittsburg Air Hygiene Conference if arrangements could be made accordingly. I wonder, therefore, if without putting you out too much an invitation could be arranged for Dr. Cartier.

Yours faithfully,

IVAN SABOURIN

IS:SS
C. H. Wheatley
Mr. Sherry

MET 0888

November 20, 1944

Dr. Norman L. Funnelle
Assistant Secretary
Canadian Head Office

Dear Norman:

I have just learned from Mr. Ivan Sabourin, legal representative of the Asbestos Producers of Quebec, that Dr. Jacques Cartier has been appointed the physician in charge of the health clinic at Thetford Mines. I have suggested to Dr. Cartier that he arrange to meet you. His address is 423 Victoria Street, St. Lambert. He will have an opportunity before he begins work at Thetford Mines to visit localities where there are some outstanding industrial health programs that might be adapted to his situation in Thetford. If you know of any programs in Canada that he ought to see, I suggest that you let him know.

Sincerely yours,

~~WHEATLEY~~

DR. WHEATLEY

Assistant Medical Director

Cc to Dr. Cartier

PRODUCED S/C/M/Ms

MET 0778

Copy for your sight

Copy for your sight

November 22, 1944

Dr. Jacques Cartier
428 Victoria St.
St. Lambert, P.Q.

My dear Doctor,-

Dr. George Wheatley of our New York Home Office has heard from Mr. Ivan Sabourin the good news of your appointment as physician in charge of the Health Clinic in Thetford Mines. Dr. Wheatley suggests that I might know ^{of} some programmes in Canada that you ought to see.

It so happens that all morning I have had with me Dr. Cunningham, Director of the Division of Industrial Hygiene of the Ontario Department of Health. Dr. Cunningham told me that if you would care to visit his Department in Toronto, all available information will be placed at your disposal. Possibly you may consider it worthwhile to visit the head of the Division of Industrial Hygiene of the old Department of Pensions and National Health, now known as the Department of Health and Welfare. If you do so, when you come to Ottawa I hope you will let me know so that I may have the pleasure of meeting you. It is just possible that we have in this office some information about medical service in plants in Canada on which we have Group Insurance which would be of value to you.

Sincerely yours,

Burnette
Assistant Secretary.

ds

MET 1368

PRODUCED S/C/M/MS

November 22, 1944

Dr. Jacques Cartier
428 Victoria Street
St. Lambert, Que., Canada

Dear Dr. Cartier:

Enclosed is a list, which I promised to send you, of places you might visit. I think you might find some points of interest in regard to the developing of an industrial health program at Thetford Mines. We have the names of the medical directors of only two of these companies, as indicated on the list. We can write to these other companies, if you wish, to find out the names of the medical directors, who can show you around, and other contacts you should see. Also enclosed is a carbon of a letter which was sent to Dr. Burnette, for your interest. With kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

Assistant Medical Director

MET 0865

PRODUCED S/C/M/MS

American Cast Iron Pipe Co.
Birmingham, Alabama

Endicott-Johnson Co.
Endicott, N. Y.

Consolidated Edison Co. of N. Y. and Affiliated Companies
New York, N. Y.

Dr. J. J. Wittmer, Medical Director

Crouse-Hinds Co.
Syracuse, N. Y.

Chicago Rapid Transit Co.
Chicago, Illinois

Dr. Hart E. Fisher, Medical Director

Colorado Fuel & Iron Co.
Pueblo, Colorado

Tennessee Coal Iron and Railroad Co.
Fairfield, Alabama

Laurentide Co.
Grand Mere, Que.

Iron ore mines in Northern Michigan and Minnesota
Gogebic and Marquette ranges

Ironwood District
Iron River "

(speak to Dr. Gardner)

0866

PRODUCED S/C/M/M/S

Copy for your sight

November 23, 1944

Dr. Jacques Cartier
428 Victoria Street
St. Lambert, P.Q.

My dear Doctors:

Since writing to you yesterday there has come to hand the preliminary programme of The Second Annual Conference on Industrial Health, which is to be held at the Royal York Hotel, Toronto, on Wednesday, December 6th.

I notice among the speakers Dr. Storms, Medical Director of Clinics, Workmen's Compensation Board of Ontario; Dr. G. B. Selby, Medical Director, General Motors Corporation of Detroit; Dr. Holmblad of the Medical Association of Industrial Physicians and Surgeons; Dr. F. R. Griffin, Medical Director for the Canada Hotel Company, Ltd.; Miss A. M. Watt, Industrial Nurse, Tuckett Tobacco Company, Hamilton, and Dr. Cunningham, Director of Industrial Hygiene Division of the Ontario Health Department.

I am passing this information on to you as a matter of interest.

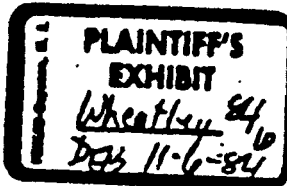
Sincerely yours,

Assistant Secretary.

ds

MET 0867

PRODUCED S/C/M/Ms



MEMORANDUM

PM 2-18
ABC
4/13/79
June 15, 1945

DR. LANZA:

Re: Contacts in Quebec relating to the asbestosis problem

Write this
down
your
date.

1. You should see Mr. Ivan Sabourin, Aldred Building, Montreal. (See copy of my attached letter of June 12th.) Among the reasons for seeing Sabourin would be: (a) To secure his help in arranging a trip for you to Thetford and Asbestos. He might be able to drive you. He certainly can facilitate your contacts with the management. (b) He is eager for knowledge about asbestosis and would gain a lot in talking to you. (c) If you agree that it would be worth while to have Father Bouvier's student of industrial relations from the University of Montreal spend several months this summer living at Thetford Mines and studying working conditions, you could help persuade Sabourin to have him invited and his expenses paid by the asbestos operators. Burnette has already spoken to him about it and I have written him, as you know, and perhaps Sabourin will have already agreed to this.
2. See Father Emile Bouvier, S.J., Director of the Industrial Relations Section of the University of Montreal. Norman knows him well and probably will arrange this meeting for you. Father Bouvier was here this week and is, of course, interested in the industrial health problems in Thetford Mines. He impresses me as being a fairminded man and the mine operators in Thetford would do well to have his support.
3. Visit Thetford Mines to meet the mine operators; Dr. Jacques Cartier, the new Medical Director of the Industrial Health Clinic which the mine operators ~~which the mine operators~~ were establishing; Dr. Siron, the physician in charge of the Thetford Mines Hospital tuberculosis service. He works part-time for the Health Department. Dr. Siron believes asbestosis causes tuberculosis. The situation in Thetford Mines is a difficult one because no matter what the mining operators do they are "behind the eight ball". They will uncover a lot of old asbestosis as well as tuberculosis by their industrial health program. The more thorough the job the more problems they are going to discover. Since asbestosis is compensable, this is going to cost them much money. On the other hand, if they have to be pushed at every step in developing a health program, they will get no credit and they will eventually have to pay in compensation claims for conditions that they may deliberately shut their eyes to now. It seems to me that they must set aside substantial sums now to put their house in order. They should develop the best industrial health service possible and they should aid in every way the improvement of health and living conditions in the community.
4. You ought to look at Asbestos where they have Dr. Stevenson, who has been associated with J.M. for a good many years, and Dr. Smith, a young physician recently employed. Dr. Smith impressed me as being a very good man. You might want to look him over and keep him in mind for some positions which may be available in the States or elsewhere in Canada, because I understand he might be interested in a change.
5. I suggest that you get to Quebec and see Dr. F. J. Tourangeau, Director of Industrial Hygiene for the Provincial State Health Department. Dr. Tourangeau would be honored to see you and would have many things he would like to discuss

PRODUCED S/C/M/M/S

with you. Dr. A. R. Foley should also be seen. He is the Provincial Epidemiologist and is interested in the study that we made. I attach a letter from him dated April 24th that you might want to be familiar with. Dr. Paul Parrot, the Statistician of the Provincial Health Department, was very helpful to me by supplying the statistical information and also answering some questions that have arisen since my visit. I wrote Dr. Parrot on June 6th, asking him whether the tuberculosis deaths, as reported for Thetford Mines, represent deaths of residents of Thetford Mines only or whether they include deaths of tuberculous individuals of other communities dying in Thetford Mines Hospital. You may be able to get an answer to this question because I have not heard from him. This is a very important point to establish, if possible. 12/13

6. You ought to see Dr. Graham Ross, Medical Director of National Breweries. As soon as I know your plans as regards dates that you will be in Montreal, I will be glad to write Dr. Ross and let him know that you are coming. He may wish to bring together a group of physicians who are doing industrial health to meet you. I attach a copy of the report which summarizes the trip I made to Canada between October 16 and 21, 1944, which you might want to glance through. I would be glad to answer any questions that you have.

Gm
George M. Wheatley, M.D.
Assistant Vice-President, Welfare

Quebec Asbestos Miners

<u>Name</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Employer</u>	<u>Claim No.</u>
Albert Payeur	1942	Can. Asb. Ltd.	
Gedeon Roussin	1943	ACL	
Phelemon Tardiff	1943	Johnson's Co.	
Marjorique Perron	1944	Bell	
Alfred LaPointe	1944	ACL	
Alfred Sylvain	1944	ACL	
Elzear Mathieu	1945	Bell	
Albert Carterette	1945	ACL	
Alphonse Dubois	1946	ACL	1031814
Alphonse Turcotte	1946	Bell	682774
Joe Adams	1948	ACL	1472855
Charles Lemieux	1948		
Phidim Gilbert	1945		
Edouard Martin	1945		
Liboire Gagne	1948		
Leo Groupil	1948	ACL	
Sinai LeFleur	1948	Bell	1174030
Alfred Gagne	1948	ACL	1081803
Joseph Rodrique	1948	Que. Asb. Mine	1506005
Philippe Gagnon	1949	Johnson's Co.	1746226
Michael Szurich	1949	CJM	
Leonard Doyon	1948		
Albert Allaire	1948	Johnson's Co.	1514901
Evangelista Guenette	1949	Johnson's Co.	1080114
Amedee St. Hilaire	1949	Bell	1082453
Albert Lamothe	1950	Bell	
Odilon Perron	1950	Bell	
Ledonia Guimond	1950	CJM	1604241
Joseph Marceau	1950	ACL	1667207
" "	"	"	1665929
Henri Lachance	1950	ACL	1653139
Henri Levesque	1950	CJM	1173718
Alphonse Labbe	1950	Bell	759807
Georges Lacasse	1950	Johnson's Co.	
Caudias Argouin	1950	ACL	1601207
Joseph Provencale	1951	ACL	1764859
Ernest Rouleau	1951	ACL	1459997
Henri Lapointe	1951	ACL	
Albert Simard	1951	ACL	
Arlie Johnson	1951	CJM	
Josephat Martel	1951	Bell, Johnson's	
Theodore Couture	1951	ACL	1759153
Jean Baptiste Ainsley	1952		1400314
Aime Fardette (Fardotte?)	1952		
Joseph Turcot	1952		
Arthur Dumas	1952		
Wilford Bergeron	1952		
Edward Beaudoin	1952		
William Bizier	1952		
Albert Champagne	1952		
Wilfred Fortier	1953	ACL	1049784
Philias Carrier	1953	Bell, ACL	
Roville Dussault	1953	Johnson's Co.	
Leonce Drouin	1953	Bell	
Joseph Boutin	1955	ACL	1721732
Alphonse Pomerleau	1955	Bell	1595625
? Scanlon	1955	Bell	
Gustave Faucher	1955	ACL	2106721
Edmund Turcotte	1955	Johnson's Co.	
Albert Morin	1955	ACL	1454270
James Foy	1956	Bell	
Cleophas Lessard	1956	ACL	1661207
Alexandre Nadeau	1956	ACL	2210472
Albert Boule	1956	ACL	
Honore Gagne	1956	ACL	1905483
Napoleon Frenette	1957	ACL	1352964
Saul Levesque	1957	ACL	
Wilfred Bernard	1957	Johnson's Co.	

Total: 68 cases reviewed from Que. asbestos mines, 1942-1957

Asbestos clinic let sick men work

By JOSH FREED
Star Staff Reporter

THETFORD MINES — Doctors who operated a clinic for the asbestos companies here have admitted they did not always inform workers suffering from asbestosis of the full extent of their illness.

In addition, they often permitted these employees to continue working

in areas dangerous to their health rather than referring them to the Workmen's Compensation Board.

The clinic records were subject to government inspection but, until 1972, the inspector was Dr. Paul Cartier, the same man employed by the companies from 1970 until last year to head their clinic.

Cartier yesterday told The

MONTREAL STAR he had permitted sick workers to remain in the mines and mills years after he had observed symptoms of asbestosis "because the men didn't want to be reported ill and be transferred to lower paying jobs."

Cartier said he did this because he thought "it was in the best interest of the workers" and was not, as union

leaders have claimed, told to do it by his employers in order to save them compensation settlements.

The companies also deny any collusion. W. W. Oughtred, president of Asbestos Corp., largest of the four Thetford Mines asbestos companies, says he knew "little or nothing of how the clinic operated."

"We just set up the clinic because

the government asked us to, but we stayed at arm's distance from it and never interfered with its operation. We just paid the bills."

Had the sick men been sent to the compensation board and awarded disability payments, the companies would have been required to pay lump sum premiums to the government of between \$5,000 and \$75,000

for each worker, depending on age and degree of disability.

At present, 215 Thetford Mines workers are receiving compensation for asbestos-related diseases. According to figures supplied by the Confederation of National Trade Unions and The Quebec Federation of Labor, two labor organizations to which lo-

See MEN, Page A-2

Chief doctor says he tried 'to be human'

By CLAUDE ARPIN

The central figure in the current controversy surrounding health hazards faced by asbestos workers in Thetford Mines is a 67-year-old doctor whose policy was "to do as much good for the workers as possible without harming them."

Paul Cartier, who operated on this principle when directed of the companies' clinic which checked workers for possible asbestos-related lung ailments, admits he did not insist that affected workers leave their jobs and seek workmen's compensation benefits.

Dr. Cartier, who ran the clinic from 1970 until last year, says he "tried to do my best to be human."





I took a trip yesterday to capture the flavor on film. As well, new technology coming to the aid of the maple syrup farmer — buckets are going out and plastic hoses are coming in. The pictures and story on Page C-1.

Staff photo by Ron Yell

ises kind offers.

narred by loss

I said and sympathetic advice. I never, though she and her sister, Lemcovitch, are ill, she has had all offers of financial assist-

people offered me money, good in Montreal, but I refused it. I never wanted anything from anyone. I just wanted to support myself, she said.

I've been a widow for 40 years. I never wanted anybody to do a thing for me when I could work and support myself. I live alone in a one-

room apartment in New York and whatever I've got is good enough."

"I have a small government pension and I'll make do, or I'll make it do. Maybe it's just that I'm so selfish that I don't want any help."

Though she is unwilling to accept help she is always willing to give it, especially to her widowed sister.

"When you get older you need each other and have to help each other. Right now both of us are ill, we're two broken up people, but what little we have is good enough."

earings to be held

increase proposed

Berthiaume explained that rates were already set at the maximum in many areas and that general inflation justified higher ceilings.

The provincial cabinet by the region sets the range of permissible rates for different areas of the province in order "to protect the pub-

lic interest," said Berthiaume.

The transport commission could not be given complete latitude in setting taxi rates because its basic task is simply to issue permits.

The draft regulation will be a sub-

See TAXI, Page A-2

The central figure in the current controversy surrounding hazards faced by asbestos workers in Thetford Mines is a 67-year-old doctor whose policy was "to do as much good for the workers as possible without harming them."

Paul Cartier, who operated on this principle when directed the company's clinic which checked workers for possible asbestos-related lung ailments, admits he did not insist that affected workers leave their jobs and seek workman's compensation benefits.

Dr. Cartier, who ran the clinic from 1940 until last year, says he "tried to do my best, to be human."

"When a worker came to me and I saw from his x-rays that he had slight abnormalities in his lungs, I told him, in an effort to be as humanitarian as possible: 'Look, you've got the slight beginnings of a lung problem. Now, are you happy at your job? Do you want to stay there? Or do you wish to apply for compensation and be transferred elsewhere in the plant? If you stay where you are it won't affect your condition that much and if you become incapacitated you can always apply for compensation then.'"

"Even if they had left their work completely and gone on to drive cabs, for instance, it might not have arrested the progressive effects of asbestosis."

"So I figured it was in their best interests to stay at their jobs. Besides, they didn't want to be reported

ill and transferred to a lower-paying job where they might have earned as much as \$30 less a week."

"And if I had reported them ill and brought about their transfer to lower-paying jobs, the unions would have lodged grievances and the workers would have been reinstated to their former jobs anyway."

Cartier says it is "still debatable" whether asbestosis would have subsided in a patient who was removed from an asbestos-polluted environment the minute the disease was diagnosed.

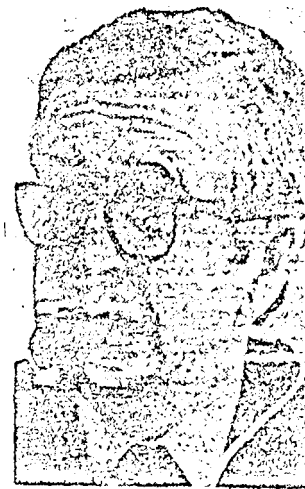
"From what modern medicine knows about the disease, there appears to be a slight progression even after contact with asbestos fibres has ceased."

He admits there were "a few unfortunate incidents" involving workers who died a few months after receiving a clean bill of health from his clinic.

"But most of these deaths seemed to be the result of heart problems, which may or may not have been connected to lung ailments."

Cartier says, however, that when a

See DOCTOR, Page A-2



Dr. Paul Cartier

Rail, grain move again after strike settlement

Canadian Press

The mail was moving normally around the country today but an enormous backlog of export grain remained to be tackled following a tentative settlement of the wage dispute that brought on more than a month of warring strikes.

While first reaction to last night's settlement was mixed among union members, a survey across the country today indicated that generally members of the Public Service Alliance Canada (PSAC) were back on the job.

However in Thunder Bay the grain weighmen and samplers voted unanimously to reject the tentative contract settlement and will continue their strike at the Thunder Bay terminals.

The post office also faced another — though lesser — problem in a "ban the postal code day" called today. But a departmental spokesman said this was not expected to run much trouble.

The tentative settlement of strikes, arrived at through mediation, would provide the 18,600 PSAC members with a 20.25 per cent raise over the next three years.

Moral: Don't scrap art

[illegible]

The study, led by Dr. Robert L. Johnson, reported that the women in the sample group, who had all been classified A, had their annual checkups at the company's medical clinic. This led the OSHA to partially finance a two-year study by a team from New York's Mount Sinai Medical School which said in the recent report that 51 per cent of 1100 asbestos workers in Bedford mines with more than 20 years' experience have developed lung abnormalities. Eighty per cent were found to have asbestos in their lungs.

"I found some people I considered to be in very serious condition who told me that only months before they had been classified A by the camp's medical clinic."

Users began to compile files on corruption in 1992. Included in these files at the time the Mount Sinai team was called in were the

3. Inmate was received on A-1 at company medical in January 1941 and died in October 1941. Autopsy revealed death from alcoholism.

A union spokesman said workers at Carey Canadian Mine, 15 miles from Thibault Mines, had lost confidence in the company's clinic and had begun to go for checkups infrequently, despite a government regulation requiring annual visits. Last year Carey Canadian workers stopped attending the clinic altogether, and went instead to the Thibault Mines hospital.

The clinic was set up by Thorold Fibres asbestos companies more than 50 years ago in response to a 1932

Until last year when he relinquished his job as director and became a consultant, Carrier ran the clinic. The only other doctor working with him was Dr. Jacques Dussault, who joined the staff 17 years ago.

"I wanted to tell the worker everything and send him to compensation, but Cartier was the boss and I stood by his decision.

"Perhaps I wasn't severe enough in explaining the seriousness of the disease. But most of them didn't want to go to compensation - they knew there weren't very many jobs outside the mine and there was no guarantee the company could find them another job if they were removed from their present ones.

"They said that they would like to go to compensation if I could give them another job where there was no asbestos dust. I explained that all I could do was classify them as sick, but I couldn't give them another job. It wasn't my department.

"So most of them never went — they were frightened they'd lose their jobs and have no way of making a

THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 1975

opped going to clinic

job security deterred most men from seeking compensation.

Laurent Cote, vice-president of the CNTU-affiliated union at Asbestos Corp., said: "Asbestos workers have absolutely no guarantee of work if they're removed from the mills or mines for asbestosis."

"There just aren't available jobs outside the mine or mill — so the guy who's sick has to choose between his health and the ability to support his family. That's no choice."

"A guy of 55, trained in one occupation is scared stiff of losing his job, so even if someone tells him he's a little sick, he sometimes doesn't have the guts to admit it and take the chance. If these doctors really wanted to help the workers, why didn't they at least tell the union or the companies that there were sick people going back to work?"

Dussault claims that on several occasions he discussed the problem of whether or not to remove sick men from the job with company representatives, whom he refused to name, but "nothing ever came of it."

Unaware

Oughtred said he was unaware that workers were not seeking compensation for fear of losing their jobs.

"I'm not sure," he said, "but I believe we have a clause in the contract that guarantees them a job in the event they have to leave their job because of dust conditions."

Union spokesmen deny this, saying it is one of the clauses they are now striving to obtain.

ing compensation doesn't being given clean bills of health. Cartier but he believed this was happening "because of changing standards at the compensation board."

"It's more like a welfare system now than like workmen's compensation. Older miners put in claims before they retire and get it automatically ... everybody gets 10 per cent. But I've never met anybody who said he had asbestosis."

Thetford Mines CNTU council president Oliva Lemay said this is not the case. He said 101 of the 251 people his unions have referred to the board in the last seven years have been refused compensation.

Paul Filteau, secretary-general of the Quebec Asbestos Mining Association to which all four employers belong while stating that the association was in no way responsible for the clinic, said some company officials were long aware of Cartier's practice of "keeping certain information on workers' health to himself."

"If you tell a 55-year-old man he's really sick, you may do him more harm psychologically than good physically. It's a difficult decision ... and company officials felt they shouldn't interfere."

"Cartier told the workers they were all right, let them go back to their jobs and, if he thought the case serious, recommended that they visit their family doctor."

"But the companies never told him to do this — it was his decision. We never interfered."

lished a system of inspection (Regulation 197 of the Quebec Mining Act) which required a government inspector "to examine company clinical records and issue annual medical certificates to those with health problems."

However, because they appointed Cartier to that job for Eastern Quebec (a region including Gaspe, Quebec City and Thetford Mines), Cartier was in effect examining his own work.

When he examined workers was a company doctor; then would "change hats" and examine their test results as a government representative, deciding which workers would receive their miner's certificates and which would be denied them and subsequently recommended for compensation.

Cartier continued to hold the conflicting posts until 1972 at which time, according to Dr. Bertrand Bellemare, a long-time workmen's compensation commissioner, he was replaced by Philippe Duval, because was not really proper that a company man should work for the government."

"But at the time he was first employed, there was nothing incorrect Bellemare maintained. "The government needed a good pneumonologist: he (Cartier) had an international reputation."

Despite his replacement, Cartier continued to act as a consultant in regard to X-rays for the government until 1974. He was replaced as head of the Thetford Mines company clinic

A Doctor Told It Best For Men To Stay On Job

From Page A-1

Continued from Page A-1

The NSA has been department reorganized and restructured to provide security services. Security agency and group have up to at manufacturing posts. Listening through listening foreign. So. ry rather than the en involved in three operations reported National Broadcasting were. g. with British help gear from a Soviet d in the North Sea

y of electronic listen- a Soviet vessel that of Japan four years

y of a nuclear weapon igne that crashed in a five years ago.

Cruise Cunard

ES (Rother) — A fi- nited world cruise by r Queen Elizabeth II mon-eling British line the first time in many r d. managing-director id yesterday. e from Britain to Los present at the liner's he United States west d its 12-day world cruise. post up to \$100,000 for a expensive suite on the ntrics. An average suite a couple, Mitchell said.

weather

venter. It's an extraordinary find. August, the right ventricle of his heart, which operates in conjunction with the lungs, has to work overtime and this could lead to a fatal enlargement of the ventricle.

But it is so hard to show a direct relationship between the two lung disease and heart failure that Montreal's two top pathologists refuse systematically to perform autopsies on this type of death because they know they can't prove the relationship in the event of a court case.

While Cartier freely admits he acquiesced to workers' wishes to remain

at their jobs in spite of the hazards, he vehemently denies any collusion between himself and the mining companies which paid his salary and for the upkeep of the clinic.

"I can swear that I was never given any directives by the companies and that I acted solely on the basis of my extensive training in some of the world's leading medical centres."

Union claims that Cartier was reluctant to refer workers to the Workmen's Compensation Board because the companies didn't want to pay lump sum compensation premiums are "totally false," he says.

"I worked on the principle that if the worker showed a slight trace of

asbestosis I warned him about it and let him decide if he wanted to remain at his job.

"My policy was to try and do as much good for him as was possible without causing him any harm."

"I was acting on behalf of the worker who was worried about losing income. I wasn't doing it for pecuniary rewards from the companies. I've never been one to go in for that sort of thing. I worked myself through medical school by keeping a job at the post office from 6 p.m. to 3 a.m. every day."

"But no matter what I say, people are still going to think that I had sold out to the companies. I just tried to do my best."

Cartier says that throughout his career at the clinic he was under the impression that if the condition of workers was being made worse by their continued exposure to asbestos fibres this fact would have been brought to his attention by the Quebec Asbestos Mining Association.

"The association was forever financing costly research projects, and impressive medical teams visited my clinic from leading hospitals in Detroit, New York, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh."

"I would have made recommendations for improving working conditions but I was hampered by these big-name teams which spent up to two months at a time here."

"They spent an enormous amount of money and I figured that if there was anything wrong with our operation they would have made recommendations to the companies."

"When they came I reproached them on the fact that they didn't seem to follow up their tests with recommendations for improving working conditions."

"They could have made a great contribution with all their up-to-date expertise. They were in a better position than our little clinic which was isolated from medical centres. I thought they would recommend im-

found nothing to complain about, so who was I to add my two cents worth."

"I guess I was too timid; I should have spoken out. My friends have always told me that I'm too timid."

Cartier remains sceptical, however, about the validity of the recent Mount Sinai study which found a very high incidence of lung disease among veteran Thetford Mines workers.

He says that during contract negotiations which led to the violent and bitter asbestos strike of 1949, the unions sought to dramatize their demands by trying to establish a link between asbestos mining and tuberculosis. The asbestos workers' union are on strike for the first time since 1949 and safety clauses are among their chief demands.

"Today, the same thing is true and in order to make their point that mining asbestos leads to asbestosis, they commissioned Dr. Irving Selikoff of the Mount Sinai College of Medicine in New York to study the situation here."

"Now, it is common knowledge in our field that Selikoff finds 100 per cent more abnormalities in lung x-rays than anyone else."

"When you read x-rays — and I used to read 10,000 a year in my day — you can over-read, under-read or arrive at a happy medium."

"Selikoff over-reads and the unions knew that and that's why they went after him."

Cartier says that by over-reading, any doctor can look at x-rays of the lungs of persons over age 50 in any line of work and discover "all sorts of abnormalities."

safety to be tightene

The Star's Quebec Bureau

QUEBEC — Tougher inspection and stiffer fines will be introduced early this year to control conditions hazardous to Quebec asbestos miners. Mines and Natural Resources Minister Gilles Masse announced yesterday.

But the minister told the national assembly the existing air pollution standards would remain in force.

Masse said the number of inspectors would be increased from 17 and spot checks would be made without advising the union company in advance.

He said the practice in the past had been to give 24 hours notice of visit by an inspector so that the unions could arrange to have a representative available.

Masse said the present system of fines, providing for a \$25-a-day penalty for a company violating rules, were "very minimal, ridiculous."

The minister said he was unable to say yet how stiff the new rules would be.

The present on-the-job pollution limit of five asbestos fibres per cubic centimetre of air will remain in force, Masse said.

The level is accepted by U.S. authorities, he said. A reduction to one fibre per cubic centimetre, as demanded by the Canadian union, "not technically possible," Masse said.

'Clinic revamped,' says new chief

to the
suits
said.

rather

in could go away

maybe it will. We can expect
our region overnight, leave-
now and the prospects for a
cloudy tomorrow, the cloud
Temperatures will be a bit
not some pretty strong gusts
a Celsius). High tomorrow,

cloud is mainly sunny with

British Columbia: Showers

4 snowflurries in the south.
flurries, except sunny in the
with occasional light rain.
sunny in the south. Maritimes:
therly winds. Newfoundland:

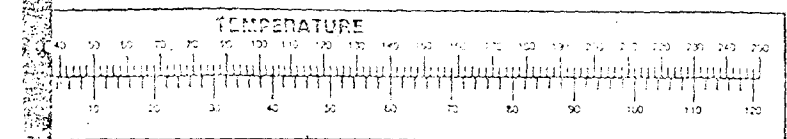
Temperature at 10 a.m.
perature yesterday, 47(3);
ame date last year, 41(5);
as at sea level at 10 a.m.
2.55 at 11 p.m.; humidity at

24 hours

a.m. Set at 6:07 p.m.

clearing tomorrow. Windy, at
9). High tomorrow near 55(2).

tern Territories: Snowflurries
now with chance of a few
ly. Low overnight, 22(-4) to



Q

A

A

A

A

A

The temperatures

Overnight low temperatures and yesterday's high. Bracketed figures are Celsius equivalents.

At home		In the U.S.	
	Min. Max.		
Montreal (Dorval)	37(3) 45(8)	Chicago	26 42
Quebec	37(3) 41(5)	Detroit	38 55
Ottawa	37(3) 53(4)	Buffalo	34 55
Vancouver	35 47	Albany	36 49
Victoria	35 49	Boston	45 54
			45 56
Calgary	23 35	New York	43 56
Regina	23 36	Washington	51 69
Winnipeg	15 33	Atlanta	42 57
Thunder Bay	24 45	Miami	55 84
Toronto	33 45	New Orleans	41 72
Fredericton	33 52	St. Louis	47 63
Saint John	32 43	Los Angeles	56 63
Halifax	23 46	San Francisco	42 57

Pollution over Montreal Island for 24 hr. period up to 8 a.m. today

CONCENTRATIONS ON WEIGHT PER VOLUME BASIS					
PLANT	TEST SITE	1st	2nd	3rd	Average
Molson	Atmosphere	36	216	260	72
	Water	7	7	7	7
Beaumont	Atmosphere	2	35	15	11
	Water	4	5	5	5

seem to follow up their tests with
recommendations for improving work-
ing conditions.

"They could have made a great
contribution with all their up-to-date
expertise. They were in a better posi-
tion than our little clinic which was
isolated from medical centres. I
thought 'they would recommend im-
provements to the industry but they
never seemed to do it."

"I was open to recommendations.
But it was embarrassing for a little
French-Canadian doctor in the boon-
docks like me to come along after all
those big shots and tell the industry
to make improvements.

"The companies would surely have
told me to mind my own business,
that the leading world experts had

Agreement

Continued from Page A-1

plete stop to Canada's export grain
movement, closed some airports peri-
odically and upset mail service, par-
ticularly at Toronto's postal Terminal
A that handles half the letters mailed
in Canada.

Toronto postal officials reported to-
day that Terminal A was ticking nor-
mally, with all first and second class
mail cleared though with a backlog of
parcels and other material running
between three and 10 days behind de-
livery schedule.

Despite a general PSAC return to
work, there were still spots where
members were picketing the job, and
there was some grumbling from union
members here and there about the
terms of the settlement.

Weightmen and handlers continued to
picket the Canadian Grain Commis-
sion's building in Winnipeg.

Strongest dissatisfaction with the
wage settlement was expressed in the
Atlantic provinces, where Larry Wal-
lace, president of a PSAC local at the
Canadian Forces base in Gagetown,
N.B., said he and other union officials
are meeting today to consider voting
non-confidence in the union's bargain-
ing team.

'Clinic revamped,' says new chief

By JOSH FREED
Star Staff Reporter

THETFORD MINES — The asber-
tos companies' clinic here has been
revamped, says Dr. Michel Lesage,
the man responsible for the clinic
since April, 1974.

Lesage, filling the newly created
post of company "medical advisor,"
whose most recent position was ad-
visor to the ministry of social affairs.

Lesage has hired a new physician,
Richard Lambert to replace Dr. Paul
Cartier, former head and now con-
sultant at the clinic. Cartier will re-
tire in June.

"I think it was a good clinic when
it was set up," Lesage said, "but in
recent years it had fallen somewhat
behind the times."

The companies should have taken
steps to update the clinic's operation
earlier, he said, but added that un-
ions and government also could have
taken more initiative in improving
conditions.

Lesage said that as of Jan. 1 the
clinic was completely revamped, with
the addition of modern equipment,
and a policy of complete medical
check-ups. Previously, workers had
been checked only for asbestos-re-
lated diseases.

"Anyone with lung scarring or as-
bestos-related diseases will be sent
for an immediate examination at the
Workman's Compensation Board
clinic in Montreal, so that no one will
suddenly surface with disabilities
higher than 10 per cent," Lambert
said.

"But I'm sure it will take time to
re-establish the clinic's credibility.
Many workers appear to have lost
confidence in it."

Lesage intends to press for im-
provements in the area of disease

prevention as well. He says the Thet-
ford Mines companies have spent \$20
million on ventilation alone in the
last five years, but adds "it is not
enough" in light of the Mount Sinai
results.

The Montreal Star

HOME DELIVERY RATES

Metropolitan Montreal (in most cases)
MONDAY TO SATURDAY — \$1.00
SATURDAY — 30¢

Outside Montreal (where available)
MONDAY TO SATURDAY — \$1.65
SATURDAY — 30¢

SINGLE COPY RATES

DAILY (MONDAY TO FRIDAY) — 15¢
SATURDAY — 10¢
SUNDAY — 30¢

The Canadian Press is exclusively entitled to
the use for reproduction of all news dis-
patches in the paper credited to it or to the
Associated Press or Reuters and also the
local news published therein. All rights of
reproduction of special dispatches therein
are reserved.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Our telephone system provides convenient
direct dialing to all Star departments.
To reach departments not listed here, call
282-2211

ADVERTISING

Births, Deaths — see front page rates
Classified Advertising 282-2345
Display Advertising 282-2781

CIRCULATION

Home Delivery
• Montreal 282-2211
• Quebec City Area 243-3975
• Mail Subscriptions 282-2912

EDITORIAL

282-2211

ADDRESS ROOMS
CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT
Mon. to Fri. 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Closed Saturdays

The Montreal Star
Head Office:
245 St. James Street
Montreal, Quebec
H2Y 1K2