

FILE NAME: Johns-Manville (JMA)

DATE: 0000

DOC#: JMA313

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Public Health Service Approach to Study
Asbestos, Porter (K&M) Reaction

Dr. Selikoff asked Mr. Schall whether his department would assist in the project. Mr. Schall said that they had no physician so they could not be of help in the medical aspects, however, they would be willing to assist with the engineering aspects.

Dr. Sachs asked Dr. Selikoff how the study was to be designed. This brought up much discussion as to whether asbestos dust was a mechanical or chemical irritant. There is no answer to this, it just is not known. Dr. Sachs mentioned magnesium silicate in talc and the small incidence of talcosis around. Both Dr. Selikoff and Dr. Churg said that although about 25% of most asbestos is magnesium silicate, it may be that this, in combination with the other materials in asbestos, makes it harmful, or it may be another material in the asbestos. Dr. Sachs asked Dr. Selikoff how he intended to proceed. Dr. Selikoff said that he had the following at his disposal (1) Dr. Churg to prepare tissue cultures, (2) pulmonary function laboratories, (3) 2 clinicians - Dr. Coleman Rubin and himself, (4) pathology department. Dr. Selikoff said he would proceed in the following way:

- (1) Work out a list of plants in which asbestos is used in any great quantity (these do not have to be confined to Passaic County). Dr. Selikoff needs help on how to do this. Mr. Schall suggested the Industrial Directory.
- (2) After this is reviewed, Dr. Selikoff would then do X-ray surveys (NJTHA and SDH participating) in areas of potential exposure.

Dr. Sachs thought it would be difficult to get asbestos industries and labor unions to cooperate. Dr. Selikoff thought this was worth exploring.

Dr. Selikoff stated that basic research is needed - (1) chemical analysis of sputa, (2) pulmonary function patterns which will pick up asbestosis, (3) other laboratory studies.

There was much discussion back and forth between Dr. Selikoff and Mr. Schall. Dr. Selikoff made one point clear - he would need the help of NJTHA and SDH, but he intends to proceed whether or not he gets help or not. He would like to set up an occupational health laboratory at Barnert with the clinical laboratory for it.

The next steps (1) Mr. Schall will talk to Dr. Kandle, (2) Mr. Schall will set up meeting of this group with Dr. Magnuson, (3) Dr. Kandle agrees (3) Mr. Schall will prepare list of asbestos plants.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Purpose accomplished.

OBSERVATIONS:

Dr. Selikoff, although he has always been enthusiastic, has never been so forceful in his statements about asbestos, regardless of help - this may be due to the encouragement of Dr. Magnuson.

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PRODUCTS

TODAY

Manville Plants News Letter

9:00 A.M. WEATHER REPORT

Temperature: 34° Humidity: 93%

Barometer: 29.79 Falling

Rain this morning mixed with snow ending around noon, followed by partial clearing this afternoon. Highest temperature: 37 to 40°. Fair tonight and Thursday. Lowest temperature: 20° in 20's. Highest Thursday in mid-30's.

TO THE EDITOR:

FROM THE EDITOR:

DEAR SIR:

RE: [illegible]

RE: [illegible]

RE: [illegible]

RE: [illegible]

RE: [illegible]

RE: [illegible]

RE: [illegible]

RE: [illegible]

RE: [illegible]

RE: [illegible]

RE: [illegible]

RE: [illegible]

RE: [illegible]

RE: [illegible]

RE: [illegible]

VISITORS

Visitors at the Manville Plant, February 17 and 18, will include DR. E. W. SMITH, Medical Director of Johns-Manville Corporation, accompanied by DR. E. J. CHALLET, DR. R. GIBSON, DR. P. W. KENTLINE of the U. S. Public Health Service, and MR. E. L. SCHALL of the New Jersey Department of Health. These men are interested in learning various aspects of the Asbestos Industry. Johns-Manville is happy to cooperate in demonstrating how Asbestos Fibre is used in industry.

Hotel. Midland Hotel, Manchester.

8th April. a.m. Visit to plant of Turner Brothers Asbestos Co. Ltd. at Reckdale.
p.m. Visit continued at Reckdale.
Dinner as guests of Turner Brothers Ltd.
Hotel. Guests of Turner Brothers Ltd. at their guest House at Reckdale.

9th April a.m. Travel to Cleckheaton to visit plant of British Belting Co.
p.m. Continue visit.
Travel to London by train.
Hotel. Brown's Hotel.

10th April a.m. Visit to the Barking plant of Cape Asbestos Co.
p.m. Continue visit.
Hotel. Brown's Hotel.

11th April a.m. Travel to Cambridge.
Demonstration of electron microscopic studies of human and experimental asbestosis.
p.m. Sight seeing in Cambridge.
Dinner at Queens' College.
Hotel. Garden House Hotel, Cambridge.

12th April a.m. Return to London.
p.m. Fly to Paris.

I am in contact with Dr. Jean Avril, Medical Officer of the Perote Company of France about a programme of visits to the Perote plants and with Dr. Jean Champoux of Clermont-Ferrand Medical Officer at the Michellie plant to see this plant and the experimental work on pulmonary function tests on asbestos workers.

If you agree with this outline I shall make the necessary hotel reservations for your party including Dr. Paul Gross. The travel arrangements within England will be worked out in some detail later but as the distances are relatively short it will not be necessary for you to make any bookings in the United States.

With my best wishes for the New Year,

Yours sincerely,

John Baptiste.