PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

IHF-579

February 21, 1934.

Mr. E. B. Keller, Managing Director,
Air Hygiene Foundation of America, Inc.,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Keller:

Your letter of February 20th outlining the demands made by Labor in connection with compensation for silicosis has been received. Their request for a guaranteed sum of $11,000.00 in cases of first degree silicosis is utterly ridiculous. It is unusual to have any fixed amount made payable for a specific condition.

There is precedent, however, for such procedure. In South Africa, which really is the cradle of silicosis, medicalwise and legislativewise, the statute recognizes first, second and third stage silicosis. In cases of first stage, the employee is paid a flat sum of $500.00; for second stage, the sum of $1,000.00; the payment of flat sums for these two stages is because in neither instance is the employee disabled, nor is he likely to become disabled unless he continues his work in a dusty atmosphere. The money paid is regarded as a rehabilitation fund to permit the employee to find work elsewhere and still have something to live on during the transitory period.

It is my belief that no real medical expert on the subject would testify that first stage silicosis is progressive.

This demand by Labor is some evidence of what we may expect in the future.

With kindest regards.

Sincerely,

A.C. Hoot

ACH:eh
eh

cc Mr. Hitchings
Mr. Brown
Dr. Saklatvalla
Mr. Leghart
Mr. Sherwood
Mr. Schulte
Mr. Williams

PRODUCED
JW 83