

J.O.Eby

QUEBEC ASBESTOS MINING ASSOCIATION

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QUEBEC 4, QUE.
Telephone 523-6751

November 15, 1968.

Mr. W.W. Oughtred	- Asbestos Corporation Limited
Mr. F.P. Smith	- Bell Asbestos Mines Limited
Mr. K.V. Lindell	- Canadian Johns-Manville Co. Ltd.
Mr. R.J. Merrill	- Carey-Canadian Mines Limited
Mr. J.A. Main	- Flintkote Mines Limited
Mr. M.J. Messel	- Lake Asbestos of Quebec Limited
Mr. R.S. Coleman	- National Asbestos Mines Limited
Mr. P.A. Meyer	- Nicolet Asbestos Mines Limited
Mr. I. Sabourin	- Council - QAMA
Mr. Geo. Robinson	- Treasurer - QAMA

MEETING OF THE QUEBEC ASBESTOS MINING ASSOCIATION

Dear Sir:

Please find attached 1 copy(ies) of minutes of the Special Meeting of the Quebec Asbestos Mining Association, held on Friday and Saturday, September 20th and 21st, 1968, at the Castle Harbour Beach and Golf Club, Bermuda.

Sincerely yours,



Paul A. Filteau,
General Manager.

PAF/dc
Encl.

SPECIAL MEETING

CASTLE HARBOUR BEACH AND GOLF CLUB, BERMUDA

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21st, 1969

In addition to the members and guests present at the meeting of Friday, September 20th, Dr. Wright attended the meeting as Chairman of the Scientific Committee of the Institute of Occupational and Environmental Health.

The President, Mr. W.W. Doughtred turned the meeting over to the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Institute, who then called on Dr. Wright to address the meeting.

INSTITUTE OF OCCUPATIONAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Comments by Chairman of Scientific Committee.

In his general remarks, Dr. Wright pointed out that interest from the scientific world had grown since the last Special Meeting in Grand Bahama. During the next few months, for instance, four (4) full-scale meetings will be devoted to the biological effects of asbestos, with specific reference to mesothelioma.

- 1.- A meeting called by Dr. Paul Kotin week of September 23rd in North Carolina on the Establishing of a National Registry of Mesothelioma Cases, and making a full scale study of mesothelioma
- 2.- A meeting to be held in Great Britain in the Spring of 1969, devoted to the Biological Aspects of Mesothelioma.

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3.- A meeting to be held in South Africa, by invitation only, sponsored by the Department of Mines, dealing with various kinds of pneumoconiosis.

4.- A meeting to be held in Tokyo to discuss maximum allowable concentration to which a person can be exposed. Doctors Noro, Wright and Pelnar to participate in discussion on health effects of asbestos. Reviewing the work of the Scientific Committee, the Chairman reported that Dr. McDonald was slightly ahead of schedule in his epidemiological survey. A paper on oils and wax adsorbed in asbestos fibres which may cause cancer has been submitted for publication. During testing of international samples for oils and hydrocarbons it was found that such adsorption resulted from the containers of fibre. It was not shown, however, that the oils were carcinogenic; nevertheless, samples should be placed in metal containers.

In his report at the Dresden Meeting, Dr. McDonald first confirmed earlier results obtained at Saranac, etc. on the gas function of the lung, the gradient of partial pressures between air and blood in the lung. Thus, a population could develop a greater resistance to fibres inhaled. Secondly, in connection with dust counts measurements, Dr. McDonald has developed a scale of exposures for various locations. Preliminary evidence would indicate that mesothelioma occurs in Canada according to density of population.

The study of Dr. Vigliani is progressing; there is nothing to report at this time. As to the project of Dr. Pernis, a progress report will be submitted later. Dr. Noro's research proposal on Exposure to Anthophyllite Asbestos is highly recommended, the final decision being left with the Executive Committee.

The Scientific Committee has just completed a three (3) volume report.

Volume 111 (three) contains published data which bear most strongly upon the four (4) specific questions or areas established by the Scientific Committee and explained by Dr. Wright at the Special Meeting in Grand Bahama of March 29, 1968. (See minutes page 5.)

Volume 11 (two) begins with an introduction setting forth the problem and essentials for a solution. Each of the four major questions is presented as a section; in each case there is a list of research projects being done and also an analysis of the areas where information is needed.

Volume 1 (one) is a digest of volume 11 (two) emphasizing areas where additional work must be stimulated and supported. An attempt is also being made to estimate the potential annual cost of such studies if and when recommended.

Dresden Meeting - Delegation from Russia and iron countries attended the Meeting. The most provocative paper was presented by Dr. Newhouse of Great Britain. Dr. Newhouse gave an alarming report on mesothelioma based on heavily, moderately and lightly exposed sections of people to asbestos fibre. An unexpectedly high degree of cancer was found in heavily exposed people. There would appear, however, to be a tolerable degree of asbestos exposure; the crux is what is moderate and light exposures. In the case of earlier reported neighbourhood exposures she concluded that such neighbourhood exposures must have been higher than in-plant exposures; dust could accumulate in houses of workers, if not properly cleaned and ventilated.

Insulation Workers - Studies of Dr. Selikoff - Until recently there was very little information on length of exposure but a great deal on severity. We now have some information from the shipyards in Great Britain and U.S.A. Concentrations of 40, 300, 3,000 fibres per c.c. have been encountered, where such should have been 2 and 12 fibres per c.c. It would appear that insulation workers must

have been exposed to extraordinarily high concentrations of fibre, since 20% of them have asbestosis. Dr. Selikoff for his present studies has obtained financial support from Unions and Industry. A Committee was formed of which Dr. Wright is a member. No further work is recommended.

Maximum Allowable Concentrations of Fibre - For some 20 years the maximum allowable concentration in the United States was 5,000,000 parts per cu. ft. In Great Britain the asbestos regulations refer to two standards. One applies to chrysotile, amosite and anthophyllite calling for a maximum of 2 fibres per c.c. If between 2 and 4 fibres per c.c., the inspector will visit the plant; between 4 and 10 the plant will be required to improve; in excess of 10, it is a branch of regulations. The second one concerns crocidolite; packages must bear a label with a proper warning (maximum to be 1/10 of above standards).

In U.S.A. there is no similar regulating body, but there is an Association of industrial hygienists which sets standards periodically. It is indicated that a standard of 2 particles per c.c. was about to be proposed, but the Antigua Conferences having a bearing on the decision (Drs. Crawley, Brown and Wright strongly objecting), such proposal was not adopted. It was agreed, however, that the old standard was inadequate. Accordingly, a new standard has been set at two millions particles per cu. ft. In the case of fibre count, this would mean 12 fibres per c.c. A particle so as to be considered a fibre must be three(3) times longer than its diameter. (5 microns) Over 50 microns, however, fibres are not counted. In answer to a question it was pointed out that the impinger dust counter does not collect fibres; the Bausch and Lomb unit counts total particles and not fibres. As a result, the temporary level of 12 fibers per c.c. is unrealistic, because it does not count the injurious material, namely asbestos fiber.

In concluding, Dr. Wright stated that it is not known today what asbestos does, and consequently one cannot evaluate that length or that size which should be allowed.

Comments by Counsel.

The point has been reached where clouds are about to burst. Data is being accumulated around the world with the view of achieving preparedness for actual trial. Claims are mounting up but the essential facts are usually missed by both the claimants and the employers involved. Procedures should be systematically established and it should be advisable to have all claims and "to-be-initiated" claims canalized with diligence through General Manager's Office so as to achieve constructive defense to such claims when defense is warranted.

It is fortunate that Dr. Wright is now sitting with Dr. Selikoff and others on a committee investigating the group of insulation workers. This is a very constructive development, apt to bring about among other things more moderation as to public statements. It is here, on this continent, that we have greater knowledge on the question. Our own group of doctors is respected and working seriously at the problems involved and their work is well coordinated by our Institute at Montreal.

Comments by the Chairman of the Executive Committee.

Mr. Lindell stated that he had studied the three volumes prepared by the Scientific Committee and was very pleased with their contents. Copies will be distributed to every company.

The matter of cost of future research is well set out; obviously a large amount of money is involved. How is such research to be funded? A charge per ton to manufacturers and by calling again on governments might be the answer. The suggestion was made to finance future projects through a surcharge of 1% on sales, $\frac{1}{2}$ % being charged to the customer. As to the tax angle, our Auditors' advise that there would be no problem for the mining companies, if the amount of the surcharge was credited to a "Liability" account and not to an "Income" account.

Mining companies would then pay to the Institute or Q.A.M.A. each month the amount of the surcharge of the preceeding month, to which would be added their respective share. Appropriate wording should be used on invoices covering export shipments since the funds thus collected could possibly be spent outside the importing country. The Executive Committee should look into it and take a decision by January 1st, 1969.

At the last meeting of the Executive Committee of the Institute, Dr. Noro's research proposal was approved. It has also been suggested to contact the Medical Research Council in Ottawa (as well as the Ottawa and Quebec governments as such) for grants concerning specific research projects.

Insulation Workers - Meetings were held to organize an Institute, but failed to do so; as a coalition of J.M. people and Union representatives was formed so as to study the problem with an initial contribution of some \$150,000. each. According to Dr. Selikoff, cigarettes smoking is definitely related to mesothelioma and lung cancer: "If you work with asbestos, you must not smoke" he says.

Warning Label - The warning referred to in previous meetings (as to what should appear on containers) has been implemented by J.M. with printed words on back and face of bags; customers have been forewarned of such a move.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Paul A. Filteau,
General Manager
&
Secretary.

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SPECIAL MEETING

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MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
QUEBEC ASBESTOS MINING ASSOCIATION
HELD ON SEPTEMBER 20-21, 1968

AT THE CASTLE HARBOUR BEACH AND GOLF CLUB, BERMUDA

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20th, 1968

Present:

Messrs:	W.W. Doughtred	C.B. Burnett	R. Hennebach
	K.V. Lindell	I.C. Campbell	J.R.M. Hutcheson
	R.S. Coleman	D.T. Colton	D. Poirier
	J.A. Main	J.D. Christian	D. Poutiatine
	R.J. Merrill	R. Dodds-Hebron	P.H. Riordon
	M.J. Messel	J.W. Duncan	G.W. Smith
	P.A. Meyer	J.O. Eby	W.J.W. Smith
	F.P. Smith	W.H. Foster	G. Robinson
	A.H. Bagenstose	R.P. Gagnon	I. Sabourin
	R.D. Bradford	N.W. Hendry	P.A. Filteau

The President, Mr. W.W. Doughtred was in the chair. In his opening remarks, the President extended a cordial welcome to all those present and more specifically to Messrs. Christian and Hennebach, the latter attending a meeting of the Association for the first time.

Approval of minutes of the meeting of July 30, 1968 was deferred to next regular meeting, so as to allow directors to verify their content.

The President then called on the Chairmen of the various standing committees to present their reports. Copies of these reports were distributed in a consolidated format and therefore need not be repeated in the minutes.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

The Chairman indicated that all his sub-committees are progressing in their work quite satisfactorily; recommendations will be forthcoming in due course.

UNIFORM CLASSIFICATION AND GRADING COMMITTEE

The Chairman reviewed briefly the work in progress at the Sherbrooke Laboratory, as well as the status of the Random Q.S. Production Sampling Program.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The Chairman pointed out that the Q.A.M.A. Workmen's Compensation experience is good, with an average rate of \$1.85 per \$100.00 (1.85/100) for last year. However, an increasing number of industrial disease claims is expected, as a result of many employees filing a claim for industrial disease impairment upon retirement.

A review of recent labour contracts showed that in the case of Lake Asbestos the agreement contains an opening clause on wages and holidays for April 1969. As for Bell Mines a two year contract was signed with a 5.5% wage increase effective July 1st, 1969. If wages in the area are higher at that time, the difference will be compensated retroactive to January 1st, 1969. Pension age has been reduced from 68 to 66. The steelworkers representing the Bell employees insist that the latter take their annual holidays -and no payment in lieu of holidays not taken- the objective being to place more people on company payrolls. Increases in fringe benefits do not seem to be justified. The unions are more militant, with the steelworkers resuming activity in the Thetford area.

3.

The Industrial Relations Committee is getting ready for the next negotiations. A wage survey is being made, etc. The C.N.T.U. pattern for their next demands is influenced by present disputes elsewhere in the Province (Dontar, Q.L.B., etc.).

The Caasiar situation with the Steelworkers (C.W.S) representing the employees was also briefly discussed by Mr. Christian.

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

In his report the Chairman of the Committee brought to the attention of the meeting the negotiations presently under way concerning the following items:

1. N.H.B. Top Wharfage Charges
2. Middle Atlantic Truck Rates
3. Inter-American Freight Conference
4. Canadian Continental Conference

The terms of the negotiations should be finalized before next meeting.

LEGISLATION AND TAXATION COMMITTEE

In the first part of his remarks, the Chairman explained briefly the recent orders-in-council enacted by the Government, namely:

Order-in-council number 2126 re Diesel Oil used in explosives

Order-in-council number 2525 re Electricity used in the transforming of a product

Bill 37, re increased paid-up capital tax

Order-in-council number 2124 re Deduction of charitable contributions

In ending the Chairman emphasized that price and wage stability would no doubt be major subjects of discussion at all levels in the coming months.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

After reading the report submitted by Editas on the political situation in the Province of Quebec, a report which dwells primarily on the use of the French language in business and industry, the Chairman tabled a draft of a new fact booklet and the text of a first basic talk, on the need to export fibre, as part of a speech kit to be used by representatives of the Industry. Comments are requested and should be forwarded to the Chairman of the Committee.

In the same vein, the General Manager added that during the recent Mines Ministers' Conference in Quebec City, a good deal of time was devoted to a discussion on ways and means to improve the image of the mining industry through a concerted public relations program.

To this effect, the Mining Association of Canada has solicited the assistance of the various mining associations and institutes.

The moving of the asbestos block from "Terre des Hommes" to Laval University will take place after the closing of the Montreal Expo, i.e. around October the 15th.

DUST ABATEMENT COMMITTEE

According to the report read by the Chairman, three (3) specific projects are presently being tested at various plants within the industry.

A) Dryer Stack Control

Experimental measures under test are:

1. Bag Collectors
2. Rotoclone Collector
3. Electrostatic Precipitator

B) Miscellaneous Equipment

Two types of units are presently studied:

1. Pulsaire Collector
2. Aerodyne Collector

C) Stabilization of Tailings Piles

The Director of the Sherbrooke Laboratory has made a preliminary study to define the problems involved. Feasibility studies are planned.

The Chairman will attend a private industry conference on pollution control in the mining industry on October 17th, in Toronto. He will give a paper on the work done by the industry in regards to the suppression of waste into the air.

As a last item, the Chairman suggested that the name of his committee be changed from Dust Abatement to Environmental Control Committee. Opinions were aired by the directors and counsel, following which it was proposed and seconded to make the suggested change. CARRIED.

COMMENTS BY THE GENERAL MANAGER

At this point the General Manager reported briefly on the presentation of the briefs on Diesel Oil Tax and Exploration to the Minister of Natural Resources. Judging from the comments of the Minister and his staff, favorable recommendations on these two points are expected to be submitted to the cabinet.

The Department of Natural Resources is also ready to finalize the transfer of the property and equipment of the Thetford Mine Rescue Station, pending an official resolution of transfer of property and rights of occupation on the part of our Association.

The General Manager attended the recent Mines Ministers' Conference and the Joint Meeting of the Provincial Mining Associations held in Quebec City, September 15th to 19th. Two items of interest on the agenda were:

- 1.- Effects of noise on mine workers health.
- 2.- Pollution control and mining land reclamation.

NEW BUSINESS

Treasurer

The Meeting was advised of the transfer of the Treasurer's office from Thetford Mines to Montreal, and in this connection on motion regularly made, seconded and unanimously carried, it was

RESOLVED:

THAT the Meeting approve the transfer of the Treasurer's office from Thetford Mines, Que., to the office of the Association located in Suite 1210, IBM Building, 5 Place Ville Marie, Montréal, Que.;

THAT the Association's Bank account, presently with The Royal Bank of Canada in Thetford Mines, Que., be transferred to The Royal Bank of Canada, 1 Place Ville Marie, Montreal, Que.;

AND THAT the Secretary and the Treasurer be and they are hereby authorized and directed to do, sign and execute all things, deeds and documents necessary or desirable for the due carrying out of the foregoing.

ADOPTED.

Budget forms for 1969 estimates are about to be distributed to various Committee Chairmen.

Request from Laval University

In reply to a request for financial assistance towards the cost of erecting a geological garden at Laval, the directors proposed that the Association pay the moving of the asbestos rock from Montreal to Laval University, for a maximum contribution of \$2,000.00 ADOPTED.

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GENERAL BUSINESS CONDITIONS

Generally speaking the construction industry is expected to show a decisive up-swing in 1968 and 69. If housing starts in U.S.A. stood at 1,600,000 to 1,700,000, the industry's welfare would indeed benefit. Mobile housing is looming up as a possible charge steadying factor in the face of ever rising costs in said connection.

Some lines of asbestos products are down, such as asbestos-cement pipe, roofing, flat and corrugated sheets; others, however, seem to improve, such as flooring and insulation.

As a whole, business has been good in the first 8 months of this year, but should level off in the next 6 months. A small increase in volume is expected in 1969.

Industry is quite concerned with increased wages in the construction industry. In this respect, the Government has been urging the unions to ease off a little on their demands.

In Canada the situation follows somewhat the same trend. A small increase in business volume is expected in 1969. In brief industry is modestly optimistic for 1969 and more so for 1970.

HISTORY OF BELL ASBESTOS MINES

Mr. Geo. W. Smith has just completed after many months of hard work the detailed history of Bell Asbestos Mines. Mr. Smith has graciously proposed to make copies available to members of the Asbestos Mining fraternity.

FUTURE SPECIAL MEETINGS

The dates of the 1969 Special Spring Meeting have been changed to April 17th-20th.

Since the Cloister cannot offer space during the 3rd week of March for the 1972 Winter Meeting, the General Manager has been asked to contact an other location.

NEXT MEETING

It has been suggested that a reception for Government officials and other mining body officials be offered by the Association sometimes during the fall. A possibility would be to hold such a reception in Quebec together with the next regular meeting of the Association scheduled for November 26. If, for instance, the reception was held on Sunday evening, November 24, the meeting could be on Monday morning November 25 ; or alternatively, the reception could be on November 25 and the meeting either November 25 or 26. Directors will be advised as soon as date can be confirmed with the Department of Natural Resources.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Paul-A. Filteau,
General Manager
&
Secretary.

.../ September 21st.