FILE NAME: Metropolitan Life (ML)

DATE: 0000

DOC#: ML009

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: BC Handwritten Notes on 11 Boxes of ML Docs

5h + 5+3+8

Box 1

Picher OK clinic set up w/ $8000 ea from
NLF and Bur. Mines, $16000 from (≈24)
local operators. 1927

entire workforce of "2 mines belonging to our groups"
800 men: 22% TB, 58% Sil's.

3/12/27 Lanza writes of Nat'l Lead Battery plant as
"stinkingest lead plant to be found
anywhere on God's green earth. It's a
crime to give people like that insurance."
urges sending Barrett to help plant clean up.
handwritten note from Hotel Miami to Wade

1/20/27 memo to President says clinic is to reduce
TB among the miners, most of whose
employers are covered by NLF
"it should prove financially profitable."

(1/18/27) detailed att. memo explains that there'd been
"great losses under group life and Health
contracts" (by Lanza & Wright)

1/29/26 Lanza memo also explains that "rampant" VD
prolongs periods of disability in accident cases
and "is responsible for sickness claims under
our group policies."

By the end of 1932 Longa convinced that VD treatment would reduce claims costs for accident compensation and reduce liability to silicosis (based on Meiwetha's observations)
12/28/32 letter to JG Cunningham, Toronto

Hayhurst 5/17/33 letter to AJL says defense bribed jurors in Jauley Bridge S'cis trial.
(mixed verdict 7:5)

Box 1 Picker Clinic & unrelated doc. in 1920's & 1930's

Box 2 mixed AJL corr.
1933-1937

5/18/34 letter to AJL from Bowditch re. to "Comments on Asbestos" (not in box)

(V. Brown corr. re editing ash paper not here)

corr. w/ govts/ind. societies/ Co's abt. Sisis

AJL notes on founding mtg. of IHF names all reps. present at 1/15/35 mtg.

Pichen OK Clinic files also are in this box late 1920's - early 1930's, mostly looks like bills (files)

suddenly jumps to mid-1950's Looks like junk

WP Shepard made 2d VP 12/22/53

Box 3

Starts w/ I.H. reports on K-M asbestos plant in 1930-1939

Jumped fold. by 1974 Met rept. "Exploring your Own Future Choice" !

and Met pubs. on safety/education. Menstruation, First Aid, Nutrition, and biographic writings on Florence Nightingale, Walter Reed, etc (not issued by Met Life)

At the rear appears copy of 2nd NY Library copy of 1944 Wheatley report, Lanza obituaries and news clips

One of the 3 opaluses ~~dedicating~~ dedicating N4C Lanza Laboratories was Churchill Rodgers, Gen Counsel of Met 5/13/64

At end of box is McGill stuff incl. Pedley's 1932 letter to Lanza

Box 1 - standing documents searched
Box 2 " " "
Box 3 entire box searched

* Check initials – A M George w/ Armstrong
≡ at IHT-founding
mtg 1935.

(Check cited paper & ref. in 4th ed.)

Box 4

early 1920's infant mortality nursing project, TB
1930s corr. re sponsorship of McGill,
Saranac, TB in Quebec, Group Nursing

521-522 – notes inquiries support of Saranac
incl. Employers, Liberty, Lumberman's)

626- Wheatley rept. 1944 TB + Asis –
no related corr. or memos.

712 - 1971 corr. re GM re asbestos workers
statistics & references

718 - ACL req. Wheatley article (2/3/48)
719 - Bell sent " "
1057 - "quite possible" the high TB rate
(13 deaths/28 claims) "due to conditions"
at the plant 6/13/44 memo → Wheatley

1064 - 1930 Pedley report
1081 - 1956 Ind. Hyg. Lab rpts. destroyed (Met)
1090 - Fehnel hired by Republic Steel 1/1/52

1128 - Dr. Wm. P. Shepard was Prof. Publ. Health, Stanford
Univ. in Mar. 1951
2172 CPS was Asst. Secy Pac. Coast Head Ofc, 1936

1235 WJ McConnell becomes chief of new Met Safety & Occup. Health Bureau

1243 WJ M-C retires end of 1956

2335 Armstrong Cork doc invites McConnell to local med. soc. to discuss "Industrial Medicine" Chas. R. Sullivan 12/2-3/48 - mtg. at the flooring plant.

Tremendous amount of junk in here:
publications
date sheets

Box 5

Mt data sheets
Mt group policy holders publications

- Ruberoid group health / life insurance
- R-M policies for 1959 & other years

10/18/48 survey to Turner Newall Co., Montreal
Minimal dust, rec. preferred rating"
in insuring (JA Fehnel)

"loadings" for various industries' insurance
(don't see asbestos)

Box 6

insurance policies w/ Ruberoid, GAF, same covr. re TB in Quebec asbestos mining areas (esp. Thetford Mines).

Felmet made IH surveys of Johnson's, Bell, and ACL but the reports of findings aren't here. 11/24/44 memo

JUNK – annual statements of Met Life 1913; published financial reports
ann. reports of Welfare services, w/ one or two sentences on occ. health, some past have tables of data

Report of Welfare Services 1936, p. 6 says "special survey of asbestos plants was completed" incl. reading 3200 X-rays. (What did they find?)

Ann. Rep. of Ind. Health Section 1936 includes some details on p. 2. Surveys included plants + mines, plants listed include J-M (4) + R-M (1). it started in 1934 and concluded in 1936 ("Major Survey"). Richeck to measure dust control improvements at some plants, by dust measurements, also done (pp 2, 4)

Ann Rep Ind Health Section 1937 notes 1027 x-rays of asbestos workers that year (p. 3)

[redacted] 1937 Report of Welfare Services notes "marked increase in no. of lab. analyses, reflecting the continuation of the silicosis and asbestos work." (p. 12)

Report of Welfare Services 1938 (p. 15) notes decreased no. of lab analyses "reflects the completion for the time being of special studies previously undertaken in the silicosis and asbestosis fields."

The Manhattan Rubber Mfg. Division of R.M. survey done 1934 is a thick report with some high dust counts, special concern over lead exposure. Almost all samples of asbestos-cont. dust also included rubber and/or lead.

(Passaic NJ)

A Study of Dust Conditions in the Bridgeport and Stratford, Conn. Plant of R-M, 1930

Bridgeport Notes that plant performs finishing processes, which are less dusty than initial ones. Few of the counts (4/19) exceeded 5 MPPCF, none were 7 or above.

Stratford Medical: 2 dust counts given, both = 1 MPPCF
Physicals done on 91 workers w/ >3yr in the industry, from both plants
12 selected for X-ray
3 "unsatisfactory"
Of the 9 others, 5 were diagnosed with asbestosis (4: "first degree")
They had 8-16 yrs. exposure, all weavers except 1 foreman and 1 "elevator operator"

The Raybestos Division of Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc. Bridgeport, Conn. rpt. of June, 1935 survey
Shows dust counts "much higher" than in the 1930 survey.
⇒ contrasts with Lanza's 1936, 1938 publications that industry is taking care of its

Box 7

Begins with the last pages of the 1935 dust surveys of R-M Stratford Bridgeport plants, cont. w/ 1936, 1939 Stratford surveys (I.H.)

1939 rpt (p 2) refers to asbestos "dumped on the floor and then hand shoveled" and some high dust counts are rpt'd.

1930, 1934, 1936 rpts of R-M North Charleston plants follow. Looks like no improvement, some work in progress ("exhaust system"). Increased production offset dust controls overall it looks little improved if at all over this time.

1930, 1935, 1939 (1938 missing) Manheim R-M plant IH surveys.

R-M Group Ins. Certificate and what looks like a generic policy document. Fed. Hospital expense insurance refers to Medicare (on top) 1971 date on one of these forms

R-M Group Policy agreement executed 8/22/33
has individual info typed into form-letter
format. Life insurance and weekly temp.
disability payments tabulated for workers
and management employees.

Temp. Disability Insurance "not payable
... from injury or occupational disease"

1956 Accident + Health coverage similarly
excluded acc. disease + injury from
coverage, explicitly excluding
"sickness entitling the worker to
benefits under workers' comp or O.D. law."

More policy documents w/ R-M

Memos, calculations, etc. re insurance
coverage of R-M

Accident + Health coverage was later named
Accident + Sickness coverage

Extraneous material on insurance of
various companies and payment of claims.

Rept. on Health + Welfare Services 1949
says plant IH services were done
for J-M and Armstrong Cork

Rept on H+W.S. 1950 field lab. surveys
done at J-M, Armstrong, Union Carbide

Rept of H+WS 1947 surveys (I.H.) at J-M,
Armstrong, R-M

Box 8

Ann. Rpts. of Health & Welfare Services,
Ind. Health Section from 1944,
1945, '46, '47

1942 IHS rept mentions req. for plant
surveys by J-M and others, no loc. given.
1941 IHS rept mentions req for "plant surveys
and information" from ... J-M (NY)

Cov re Gauley Bridge, silicosis generally in
the 1930's

June 1932 agreement between Dept. Commerce
(Bur. Mines) and Met puts "control"
of publication in gov't hands, but
also requires pre-publ. manuscripts
to be submitted to Met "for comment and
criticism." Re Picher, OK clinic.
Oct 24, 1929 version of agreement ~~also~~ in file,
~~[redacted]~~ letter of that date says agreement
is identical to that signed every year
since clinic began (1927). ~~Contract found.~~
Century Zinc exec also praised jointly
(incl. corporate operators) sponsored
Picher Clinic in 1929.

2/22/29 Letter from Tri-State Zinc & Lead Ore Producers Assn (p. 1 only) protests magazine article that had not first been shown to the industry. Refers to contract between Bureau of Mines and this trade association "which requires that all manuscripts be submitted to the Association before publication."

nephew Wm. Lanza hired as clerk by Pat in 1937, became VP claims

1947 - Met considers closing nursing service in Thetford Mines, worker/union concerns about Cartier's clinic noted.

2/23/34 Gardner writes AJL that he hopes to limit silicosis "school" attendees to plant physicians

3/9/28 Lanza memo on Piche clinic says object is to keep tuberculous men out of the mines. Refers to absence of complaints about the clinic from the men (all "Americans, there being no foreigners and no Negroes in that part of the country." (D2)

Picher Clinic served 5-6 Met policyholders (3/31/27 memo)

1/17/31 Merivether thanks Lanza for asbestosis plates. This is a year before the date of Manville plant study write-up but it could be that group.

7/34 Lanza helps P. Drinker assist St. Joseph Lead Co. defend comp. claims

3/10/33? AJL writes Drinker about fraudulent claims at Jarley Bridge and a visit by Winans of Union Carbide. Expresses skepticism that negro claims are the work of a clever lawyer.

(end of Box 8)

Box 9

10/11/35 By then Mut had contributed $30,000 to Saranac Lab and was able to cut off as Saranac had other supporters.

7/7/32 Vare note to Dublin points out that Picher clinic apparently made "no provision" to provide compensation for the men who become silicotic."

3/12/30 AJL tells Meriwether Reilly is sending down 150 x-rays, says these and 50 more are going out to Picher with McConnell for readings. So these may be the x-rays Meriwether refers to in 1/17/31 letter to AJL (Box 8).

[3/ finished Box 9]

Oct 1944 documents make clear that J.M had Accident + Health (A+H) Coverage from Mut. What premium?

Feb 23, 28 Gardner letter to Selbourne suggesting ways to show asbestos not causing TB deaths at mines in Que. - Was this the genesis of Wheeler's?

6/29/34 memo to the Executive reviews Met's Saranac support

1930-31 Mitts shows Pitch clinic received X-rays of A's is for Met

1/15/35 attendees at Mellon Institute founding mtg Air Hygiene Foundation

Industrial Hygiene Surveys 5/18 - 4/50

5/23/30 Meriwether quotes Eagle-Pitcher guy as worried about "asbestos legislation".

Box 10

7/1/38 AP Green Co thanks Met for I.H. services

12/37 I.H. Section reviewed X-rays of 1025 workers at Asbestos Quebec for J-M, rept → VB

6/23/44 Premiums raised for Johnson's Co. Cost of deaths includes many from TB, none attributed to Asbestosis

10/2/48 actuarial report on T+N operation and consideration of extra premium

10/18/48 JW Fehnel report on T+N plant in Montreal

4/12/54 Lanza letter for paint industry opposing warning label requirement on leaded paint to New York City Commissioner of Health

11/9/34 Armstrong Cork - 4 deaths from respiratory disease, one diagnosed by company Dr. Staher (?) as pneumoconiosis. All worked in oxidizing department. (Another document spells it "Stahr.")

1930, 1939 books of Group Insurance Policyholders — not copied

Box 11

List of Lonza publications through 1932

"Group Rate Book" 1945 Index -
book not attached.

10-17-44 "Extra Premiums" for Group Life Insurance in "Hazardous Industries" include asbestos

5-1-49 Premiums "No Industry Loading"

4-45 Additional Loadings due to Industry (C-P only, no ref. to asbestos)

Feb. 1927 explains decision to contribute to Picher, OK clinic follow death and sickness claims showing a deficit