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Mr. T. Noble,

London Office.

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TN/NO

RH/JM

12th October 1942.

Dear Mr. Noble,

Asbestosis

I have received your letter of the 10th October and, in the first place, would advise you that any employees in the T. & N. Ltd. group coming within the scope of the Asbestosis regulations are insured by the various unit companies paying to a central fund in Turner & Newall Ltd. contributions at a rate agreed by the Asbestosis Committee of the T. & N. Ltd. group: in other words, the T. & N. organisation carries its own insurance.

With regard to sub-contractors and their employees, this question was considered by the Asbestosis Committee in October 1931 and they accepted the contention that out-workers did not come within the Asbestosis scheme for insurance, consequently no contribution has ever been paid by us to the central fund which was established to provide for claims made under the Act.

As a matter of interest, I would advise you that special mention was made in the report, of the fact that definite instructions should be issued, and should form part of our standard Instructions to Fixers, that any cutting done on the job must be done in a wet state, i.e. after adding water to the sheet at the point of cutting.

I believe the reason for the decision that outworkers should not come within the scope of the Asbestosis regulations was that they do not cut asbestos sheets in an enclosed area, in a dry state, for more than eight hours a week: there may have been other points considered, but I believe this is the main one.

I think the foregoing will enable you to reply to Alexander Macquire Ltd., but if there is still any point of doubt perhaps you will let me know.

Yours faithfully,