

1 the presence of these coated fibrous bodies which they
2 called curious bodies, and we now call asbestos
3 bodies, and coined the term asbestosis as a label for
4 this form of diffuse lung scarring.

5 At the same time Cooke had found out about
6 an earlier case not in the medical literature, but in
7 the records of the British home office at the turn of
8 the century describing a similar case.

9 Over the rest of the '20s, there were
10 additional case reports both in Britain and the United
11 States of a form of diffuse lung scarring associated
12 with asbestos exposure.

13 At that time it was well-known that some
14 dust, particularly silica, could cause diffuse lung
15 fibrosis.

16 So in 1929 the first study of a population,
17 an epidemiologic study, was done in Great Britain and
18 published in 1930, and this was a study by a physician
19 named Merewether who was the Chief Inspector of
20 Factories for the United Kingdom.

21 He looked at the workers in several plants