

July 3, 1947

Re: O.D. 33719
Henry Storms

Medical Department
Industrial Commission of Ohio
Columbus, Ohio

Gentlemen:

On June 30 the writer visited the plant of the Ironton Fire Brick Co. to check conditions under which the above named claimant had worked. This company manufactures fire brick and special fire resistant mortars.

The claimant had worked at two different jobs while in the plant. He had spent most of the time packing brick on the molding floor. This consisted of piling the green brick prior to transfer to the kilns. His last work had been on the transfer car track. In this job he pushed drier cars loaded with green brick from the rear-end machines to the drier. This work was done in a large building having a good overhead clearance. The molding floors are located on either side of the drier. The company has installed an exhaust system at the dry pans. This system appears to be satisfactory in that the dust in the plant at the time the writer was present was very meager.

At the time when Don Hanna visited the plant in October 1944 the dust count at the dry pans was 37 million particles per cubic foot of air while one taken where an employee was shovelling clay in a wheelbarrow contained 17 million particles per cubic foot of air. The condition in the plant now is much better than at that time in that the greater portion of the dust which is released at the dry pans and at the screens is being collected. Information furnished to Mr. Hanna showed that the clays used contained from 5 to 10 per cent free silica.

Respectfully submitted,

Lester M. Merritt
Safety Advisor

LM:JF