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SARANAC LAKE, N. Y.

9559

January 12, 1944

Mr. Sumner Simpson
Raybestos-Manhattan Company
Bridgeport, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Simpson:

I am getting material together for our monograph on asbestosis. Among other things I would like to include a section dealing with X-ray appearances in human subjects. Noone has ever reported a comprehensive survey of serial films taken over a period of years on the same individuals.

I have written Vandiver Brown to ask permission to review the films of his employees at Manville and I am wondering whether you would permit me to review those of your group at Manheim. I would be glad to be able to get at such a study the latter part of February. I won't be able to touch it before because I am scheduled to leave for the West tomorrow.

It is, of course, our purpose to describe the evolution of the X-ray shadow pattern and no reference to individuals would be made. While I have been seeing films with Dr. Lanza and Dr. McConnell I have made no attempt to systematically record the successive changes for the purpose of description.

I hope that it may be possible for you to grant us this favor.

With very best wishes,

Cordially yours,

Leroy U. Gardner, M. D.
Director

LUG:VW

copy for Mr. Wallace Brown, Secretary
Johns-Manville Corporation

RAYBESTOS-MANHATTAN, INC.

Room 1626,
120 Broadway,
New York January 19,1944.

Leroy U. Gardner, M.D. Director,
The Saranac Laboratory
for the Study of Tuberculosis
of the Edward L. Trudeau Foundation,
Saranac Lake, New York.

Dear Doctor Gardner,

Replying to your letter of January 12th asking to be permitted to make a survey of the films of Manheim employees, would advise that Doctor Lanza has these films in his possession and it would be satisfactory for you to examine them and systematically record any changes or other information that you wish to obtain.

There are also some films at Manheim that have been taken of prospective employees who have worked in other industries that may have dust hazard and these are in possession of the Office at Manheim, Pa. and if you want to look at some of these, will you please contact:-

Mr. O.H. Gilley, Assistant General Manager,
United States Asbestos Division
of Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.,
Manheim, Pennsylvania.

and he will be very glad to show them to you.

Of course it is understood that our name will not be mentioned in any way in the examination or in your report of the films. For a matter of your records and the Metropolitan Insurance Company it is alright, but I mean general publication.

Yours very truly,

S. Simpson,
President
RAYBESTOS-MANHATTAN, INC.

JJM

9234

THE SARANAC LABORATORY
FOR THE STUDY OF TUBERCULOSIS
OF THE EDWARD L. TRUDEAU FOUNDATION
SARANAC LAKE, N.Y.

January 31, 1944

Mr. Sumner Simpson, President
Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc
Room 1823
120 Broadway, New York

Dear Mr. Simpson:

I appreciate very much your letter of the 18th which awaited my on my return from a recent trip. I am grateful to you for your offer to co-operate in the matter of reviewing films of your employees. I expect to see Dr. Lanza on Monday and will ask him to give my access to those films in his possession.

I do not believe that it would be profitable for us to review the pre-employment films that are at Manheim as we are particularly concerned now with the evolution of asbestosis.

I shall, of course, refrain from mentioning the names of any particular employer in publication but simply acknowledge my indebtedness to a group of companies who have made such a study possible.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Leroy U. Gardner, M. D.
Director

LUG:MH

UNITED STATES ASBESTOS DIVISION

of Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.

MANHEIM, PENNA.

May 2, 1944

MAY 5 - 1944

Mr. S. Simpson, President
Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.
Stratford, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Simpson:

Re: Industrial Hygiene Foundation of America, Inc.

After our conference in New York in January about the Metropolitan Life Insurance report on dust counts taken in the textile mill, I arranged with the Industrial Hygiene Foundation of America to send one of their engineers here to take dust counts in various textile departments. I am quoting from the summary from the Industrial Hygiene Foundation report:-

> "This is a report of a study undertaken to locate the most important sources of dust and to develop additional dust control measures at the Manheim plant of U. S. Asbestos Division of Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc. Sixteen dust counts were made in various departments. These samples indicate that conditions in the Picker House are not satisfactory but dustiness in the Carding, Spinning and Twisting Departments is less than 5 million particles per cubic foot. Recommendations are made that can lead to a reduction of dustiness in the Picker House as well as in the Carding Department. It is believed that while the card room is under considerable negative pressure the consequent starvation of the exhaust equipment is probably not in itself sufficient to account for any marked reduction in control of dust."

I am also including herewith a record of the dust counts taken in the various departments.

Picker House	Particles per cu.ft.
At Pan Crushers	8.7 million
Floor Batching	1.7 million
Batch feeding vertical opener	9.9 million
52 minute sample at central point of room for "general air"-(near vertical opener)	5.6 million

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All prices are subject to change in respect of duties, excise taxes, or other charges, hereafter imposed by any Federal, State, or Municipal authority, or because of

	Particles per cu.ft.
Carding	
General air conditions at various points in the Breaker Card Room	4.0 million
General air conditions in Finisher Card Room	2.8 million
At a point beside the condensers in Breaker Card Room	3.8 million
At a point near the card condensers in the Finisher Card Room	4.3 million
Along central aisle-Finisher Card Room	4.8 million
Spinning - - - -	
At mules	4.8 million
At L-Frames on 2nd floor	3.6 million
At L-Frames on 1st floor	2.0 million
Twisters	
Average for all aisles	4.0 million
Universal Winders	3.0 million

In commenting on this report on the phone, Mr. McMahon, Managing Director of the Industrial Hygiene Foundation stated, that the control of dust in this mill was far above the average for an asbestos textile plant. He indicated that a dust count under 5 million particles per cubic foot is good. However we recognize that this is a continuing program, and we propose to first correct the conditions in the Picker House at those points where the dust concentration is over 5 million particles per cubic foot. We then propose to make some changes in the card room, which will result in further improvement.

We are continuing to experiment with the application of oil to the fibre. We believe that this will result in further improvement throughout the plant.

Please consider this as a preliminary report as I plan to advise you from time to time of improvements that have been made.

A little later, after we have made some changes suggested by the Industrial Hygiene Foundation engineer, we shall arrange with Mr. Fehnel, of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, to make additional dust counts in our various departments.

Yours very truly,

O. H. Gilley

O. H. Gilley

mrs.

OF THE EDWARD L. TRUDEAU FOUNDATION
SARANAC LAKE, N.Y.

9561

July 15, 1944

Mr. Vandiver Brown
Johns-Manville Corporation
22 East 40th Street
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Brown:

I am happy to inform you that we have just returned from a most interesting trip to Asbestos, Quebec. I took with me our roentgenologist, Dr. Robert, also Dr. Vestal of the North Carolina State Industrial Commission as he has had a lot of experience in this field and has seen a great deal of real asbestosis. In company with Dr. Stevenson we reviewed and read between two and three hundred of the X-ray films in his files. We found only two cases out of the lot which could be diagnosed as questionable first degree asbestosis. I was greatly relieved to discover that the two experts did corroborate me on previous observations that asbestosis was a rarity in the Asbestos-Thetford area.

We are still at a loss to explain the situation because of the conditions in the textile mill which certainly would be capable of causing characteristic disease in exposed workmen. The only difference that we can see between this mill and that in similar plants in the U.S. is the absence of African fibre. However, I doubt whether this is the significant factor.

Mr. Fehnel, of the Metropolitan, writes me that he is planning to go to Asbestos for another survey in August. He will collect air-borne samples of dust; one half of each will be sent to this laboratory and he will retain the other one half for analysis. We hope that by making such a study in Quebec and comparing it with similar samples at Manville that we may arrive at some conclusion.

While we were up there it seemed highly desirable if I were to report our experimentation with asbestosis I should make mention of the clinical and X-ray experience on the North American Continent. In order to do this in an authoritative manner I should have the collaboration of the clinicians and roentgenologists. I proposed to Drs. Vestal and Robert that they join me in the venture. They would be very glad to do so and I think we might produce something that would be definitely worth while. It was agreed that it might be desirable to have our Dr. Robert review all the films that have been taken at Thetford. Dr. Stevenson felt that this could be done and would be very glad to have them sent down to us. This would give us a basis for statistical analysis and information on the incidence of various X-ray abnormalities.

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Before attempting the publication, of course, we must have the further information which Mr. Fehnel's counts may supply and we must examine more films from the American textile plants. I trust that this proposal may meet with your approval.

Very truly yours,

Leroy U. Gardner, M. D.
Director

LUG:RH

cc to Mr. H. J. Sherry