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AMERICAN BRAKEBLOK CORPORATION

INDUSTRIAL AND AUTOMOTIVE DIVISION
THE AMERICAN BRAKE SHOE AND FOUNDRY COMPANY

Detroit, February 1, 1937

MAIN OFFICE
4800 HERRITT AVENUE
DETROIT

SALES OFFICES
NEW YORK
CLEVELAND
CHICAGO
ST. LOUIS
SAN FRANCISCO
LOS ANGELES

Mr. Sumner Simpson, President
Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.
Bridgeport, Conn.

Dear Sir:

With reference to your letter of January 29, addressed to Mr. Gillies, Vice President of this company, regarding the Memorandum of Agreement with Dr. Gardner, it is agreeable to us to come under the same category as the Union Asbestos & Rubber Company, that is \$250.00 per annum for three years, as you suggest.

I am, therefore, signing this agreement with that notation made as you will note.

Will you please direct that any reports which we are to receive will be forwarded to my attention.

Yours very truly,

AMERICAN BRAKEBLOK CORPORATION

W. A. Blume
Vice President

WAB:E
Encl.

Copy to Mr. K. L. R. P.

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SPNY 000465

October 27, 1948

to: 1. American Brake-Blok Div. of A.B.S.A.P.
2. J. G. G. Corporation x
3. Kearsby & Mattison Company x
4. Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc. x
5. The Russell Mfg. Co. x
6. The Arnold Company (Southern Asbestos) x
7. Union Asbestos & Rubber Co.
8. United States Asbestos Co. x

Sarason Laboratory
Asbestos Test Memorandum

With the request that you treat it with the utmost confidence and make it available to no one outside your organization, I am enclosing what purports to be "Part I" of a report by the Sarason Laboratory entitled "Asbestos Pneumoconiosis".

My own comments after a preliminary study of the report are contained in the attached memorandum, which will likewise refresh your recollection as to the origin of the experiments covered thereby.

Sarason will undoubtedly wish to publish the report either independently or in conjunction with the proposed report on "Human Asbestosis", and it would likewise appear desirable from the point of view of the industry that the report be published provided some of the speculative comments are omitted.

As a preliminary to a discussion with representatives of Sarason, a meeting of representatives of the companies which financed the experiments is indicated. I am therefore inviting the companies to which this memorandum is addressed to be represented at a luncheon in the Johns-Manville Corporation Board Room on Thursday, November 11, at 12:30 p.m. During and following the luncheon the report can be reviewed. If you are unable to have a representative attend, it would be desirable for you to designate some representative of another company to act for you in connection with decisions that will have to be made.

Please advise me as promptly as possible whether you will be able to attend and give me the name of your representative.

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In any event, please see that the draft of the report is returned to me on or before November 11 either by mail or by your representative. It is obviously undesirable that the report in its present form receive any distribution or publicity outside a limited number of people in our respective organizations.

Very truly yours,

Vandiver Brown,
Secretary and
General Attorney

VB:s
Enc.

bl cc A. R. Fisher
L. C. Hart
J. P. Woodard

SPM 200

AMERICAN BRAKE SHOE COMPANY

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT
2501 Blue Island Ave.
Chicago 8, Ill.C
O
P
Y

November 3, 1948.

I have read carefully the report you forwarded and am returning it with my comments.

Mr. Brown's remarks on the "qualifying adjectives" in the abstract and conclusions.

While admitting the advisability of reconciling the two, it must be remembered that any animal experimentation cannot be absolutely conclusive. Observations on the tissue reactions to various substances can mean nothing more than reasonably accurate supportive evidence that the effect noted is what is likely to occur in man after similar exposure. The report notes that the same result is not always obtained in each species of experimental animal used. It is therefore only possible to employ such phraseology as, "the dust apparently does not alter significantly the course of experimental tuberculosis in guinea pigs," etc. Possibly a similar experiment carried over a longer period of time could produce an entirely different result. There are too many intangibles to allow dogmatic or more definite statements. This is true of any experimental work in animals or humans. The value of the experimental work lies in the fact that it forms a reasonable basis for study of characteristic tissue changes which are similar to those seen in humans.

I gain the impression from Mr. Brown's letter that he is concerned with possible repercussions from the legal point of view but I must confess I do not see anything in the report in its present form which causes undue concern. Similar reports are frequent in the literature not only in this country but also from abroad.

Certain implications have been made in the report such as that referring to the high incidence of pneumonia among the experimental animals and the suggestion that asbestos dust might have some degree of responsibility for such a development, but these are explained and disputed in the ensuing text. Perhaps these implications might be modified somewhat pending further factual data.

I feel that since most of the basic facts with the exception of the more detailed studies mentioned in the report are already known and have been published in other studies on asbestos, no unfavorable reaction need be anticipated. I think the idea of reviewing the manuscript prior to publication is a good one in order to achieve mutual understanding with Sarneck, but I feel that this can be accomplished quite satisfactorily without my presence.

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Mr. Brown has stated that it would be advisable for us to designate a representative of another company to act for us in connection with the decisions to be made. I think this would be a satisfactory alternative and would like to suggest that we request him (Mr. Brown) to act for us. It would be most difficult for me to attend personally at this time because of the meetings I mentioned to you over the phone. I am sure our interest in the matter could be adequately protected by Mr. Brown.

/s/ L. E. Hamlin
Medical Director