

MINUTES OF THE 106 MEETING OF THE
QUEBEC ASBESTOS MINING ASSOCIATION
HELD ON TUESDAY, JULY 30, 1968,
AT THE SONAVENTURE HOTEL, MONTREAL, QUE.

Present:

Messrs.	J.W. Doughtred✓	P.A. Meyer✓	J.R.M. Hutchison✓
	A.V. Lindell✓	F.P. Smith✓	H.S. Jobbins✓
	E.S. Coleman✓	F. Bolduc	D. Poirier
	A.A. Main✓	I.C. Campbell✓	P.H. Riordon
	E.J. Merrill✓	R. Dodds-Hebron✓	I. Sabourin✓
	A.J. Messel✓	W.H. Foster✓	P.A. Filteau✓

In his closing remarks, the President congratulated Mr. R.J. Merrill for his recent appointment as President of Carey Canadian Mines Limited. He also extended the condolences of the Association to the A.S. Johnson family. The General Manager was requested to forward flowers and a letter expressing the feelings of the Directors on this sad occasion.

Minutes of the Meeting of May 31st were adopted as distributed and amended in first paragraph of page 10.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

The Committee met on July 22nd and the Chairman reported as follows:

1. Filtration of Asbestos-Cement-Silica Mixes - The Subcommittee is scheduled to elaborate a new approach toward the accomplishment of their assigned task.

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2. Editorial Subcommittee - Mr. P.A. Fleureau informed the members that the French Company, Eternit S.A. uses the English text of the Manual of Testing Procedures, and that the Board of Directors of G.A.M.A. has decided that the translation project should be deferred for the present time. However, the question of translating only the abstracts was raised anew, and it was suggested that a motion to this effect be tabled at the next meeting of the Board. Such a motion was duly made and an amount of \$108.60, as quoted, was approved for said translation. The latter to be checked by the Technical Committee once completed.
3. Air Permeability Subcommittee - It was reported that the Subcommittee had communicated with the Toronto plant of the Canadian Johns-Manville Company Limited regarding details of the cell for the new model Dyckhoff apparatus. It was mentioned that cells are not necessarily interchangeable and that new model cells may not fit older apparatus, but that the new model can be considered as a suitable alternative.
4. Wet Classification Subcommittee - It was reported that the T & N Wet Classification Round Robin results had been received from all but one of the participants. Preliminary analysis of results reveal discrepancies which will have to be resolved.
It was also decided to submit a preliminary draft of the T & N Classifier procedure to the G.A.M.A. Editorial Subcommittee for revisions and for preparation of a manuscript.
5. Fibre Strength Unit Subcommittee - It was stated that the Subcommittee Chairman is expected to submit a report shortly and that good inter-laboratory reproducibility had been achieved.

The question of allowing correction factors to the cement, and the necessity of setting up cement blending facilities are of vital importance, since reproducible results have been shown to be dependant upon uniform cement.

6. Following the Copart meeting in San Francisco, Mr. J.R.M. Hutcheson has been officially acknowledged as delegate of the Q.A.M.A. and of U.S.A. to this international body.

UNIFORM CLASSIFICATION AND PENDING COMMITTEE

Sherbrooke Laboratory - The new University scale of salaries was received and increases of about 8% are effective July 1st. This adds a total of \$2,017 to our salary cost for the year 1968-9. However, we should end 1968 about \$8,000. under budget for salaries due to having less personnel.

The Director was offered a position at \$13,000. per year, compared to his scheduled \$10,600. (as of 1 June/68). The U.C.&G. Committee, at the July 3/68 meeting, approved in principle an increase to \$12,000., if necessary.

To suit the University scale and salary formula the Q.A.M.A. President authorized \$12,120. per year. Mr. Cossette has decided to stay. The approval of the President was formally ratified by the Directors.

The Chairman also advised that the U.C.&G. Committee met on July 3 and that the following points might be of interest to Directors:

A revision to the price list of tests as performed at Sherbrooke is in progress.

The Committee agreed that sampling and testing of fibres containing additives was meaningless, therefore, unnecessary.

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It was agreed that, effective with the August 1958 report, companies will report correlated Q.S. tests in future on the Monthly Shipping Test Reports.

The procedure for "Random Q.S. Production Sampling" was revised. The need for distinguishing between Q.S. and S.U. fibres becomes apparent. Some further technical points in connection with this "Q.S. Sampling" program were settled.

A visit from Mr. Winer indicates that a program of testing out nitrogen absorption at Sherbrooke may be indicated for 1959. The Chairman of the Technical Committee and the U.C. & G. Committee will probably visit Ottawa in September to discuss this and other areas in which this Ottawa department might be helpful.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

A regular meeting was held Tuesday, July 23.

A review of the contracts of Lake and Bell Companies, and the problems encountered, took the major part of the meeting. A considerable discussion of the effect on contracts for 1959 took place. The minimum pattern appears to be 5½% plus additional fringe benefits.

The steelworkers activities at this time are reported to be nil, but rumors seem to suggest considerable action when the present contracts' re-opening dates arrive.

The Ventilation Engineer reported that his dust counter has been repaired and is continuing with his correlation with the impinger. It appears that it will be a very useful instrument. He will also try to check it against other dust collection counters.

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Liaison Committee with Workmen's Compensation Board - As provided in section 3 of the Workmen's Compensation Act, a Committee has been formed to represent part of the employers listed under Class 5, i.e. the employers members of the Q.M.M.A. and Q.A.M.A. The functions of this committee are to watch over the interest of the Associations in the interpretation and application of the act and to consult periodically with the W.C.B. and the employers. Mr. J.O. Eby is the delegate of our Association on this Committee. So far, the members have visited twice with the President of the Workmen's Compensation Board, Judge Parineau, who welcomed the initiative of our Associations and promised the entire cooperation of the Commission.

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

- A) The imposition of exparte increase No. 259 on all U.S. rail traffic has resulted in a 3% increase on asbestos rates effective June 30th. This is an interim measure pending consideration by I.C.C. of U.S.R.F.'s request for a 5% increase.
- B) Mid Atlantic Conference Truck Conference (Eastern U.S.) has tabled a proposal for new revised rates on asbestos based on cost which are not acceptable to the trade. A meeting has been arranged to discuss the matter with the Truck Operators on August 7th in Montreal.
- C) The old River Plate Conference, which disbanded last year has been reorganized into what is now called the Interamerican Freight Conference, and a Canadian Section comprised of seven lines of this Conference (Argentine, Brodin, Columbus, Lloyd Brasileiro, Moore McCormack, Netmar, Uruguyan), has been established in Montreal. This is something the Association has been fighting for some time. They are proposing a 10% increase on asbestos rates effective the 15th September. A meeting is being arranged to discuss this proposal at the end of August.

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- D) The Continental service continues to be unsatisfactory mainly because of the after effects of the seaway strike and continued dock labour troubles. Unless there is some improvement in the latter part of the year, we will have to consider operating non-conferences next year.
- E) The Canadian Shippers Council is meeting in Ottawa on August 8th to discuss forthcoming legislation governing the operation of steamship conferences in Canada.
- F) The Chairman reported that he had a visit from two officials of the National Harbours Board who are conducting a survey as to the anticipated growth and the use of the Port of Three Rivers, with the idea of expanding the facilities at that port. Questionnaires have been forwarded to the Traffic Managers of each member companies.

LEGISLATION AND TAXATION COMMITTEE

The Chairman remarked that taxes seem to increase year after year, especially school taxes.

Two bills assented to by the Provincial Government on July 5 are of interest to the mining industry. Bills #48 and #49 are meant to amend the Mining Act and the Mining Duties Act with respect mainly to exploration, development and use of underground reservoirs, such as petroleum and natural gas. Certain clauses, however, envisage changes to the Mining Act which concern specifically exploration and mining operations.

Bill # 48

- A) Section - reduces from 60 to 30 days the delay for appeal from the Minister's decision cancelling a claim.

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Sections 5 and 6 provide that claims and mining leases do not confer the right to develop or use underground reservoirs.

- B) Sections 18 and 19 of the bill clarify the requirements of the last paragraph of section 224 of the act by making it obligatory, in all cases of expropriation to obtain prior authorization from the Lieutenant-Governor in Council after notice to the owner.
- C) Sections 21 and 22 oblige not only every operator, but also every holder of mining rights carrying on underground mining exploration work, to keep up to date certain plans and to deliver to the Minister any other plan that he may require under the act.
Section 23 obliges not only the operator but also any person engaged in mining exploration to notify the Minister of Natural Resources of any accident that occurs during the exploration or operation of a mine.
- D) Section 25 limits to one square mile, instead of 25 square miles, the minimum area of a territory, in the Province of Quebec, which may be covered by exploration licences for mineral substances other than petroleum and natural gas.

Bill # 49

Sections 2 and 3 are concordance provisions necessitated by amendments made to the Provincial Income Tax Act by the act 15-16 Elizabeth II, chapter 32, so as to indicate clearly that appeals from decisions of the Minister of Natural Resources on objections to assessments are heard by the Provincial Court before they are heard by the Court of Queen's Bench.

The briefs on the "Diesel Oil Tax" and "Exploration Regulations of the Mining Act", jointly prepared with the Q.M.P., are now ready for submission to the Government. It is planned to meet with the Minister of Natural Resources and the Minister of Finance during the second week of September and formally present the briefs.

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Copies of a well expressed editorial on "Depletion Allowances" released in the Gazette of July 11, 1968, were distributed to all present.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The meeting was informed by the Chairman that Edits was preparing an up-to-date copy of the folder "Facts about the Quebec Asbestos Mining Industry" and also a speech kit.

Mr. I.C. Campbell has been appointed a member of the P.R. Committee of the Mining Association of Canada. The latter Association is presently studying our own P.R. Program preliminary to launching a long term project aimed at improving the image of industry.

The Canadian Trade Commissioner in New Zealand has solicited the participation of the Canadian Asbestos Exporters in the Auckland International Trade Fair to be held in August 1969. It was the general consensus that such participation should rather be left with the asbestos products manufacturing and not the mining firms.

The plans for the Laval Geological Garden are almost completed and the ground work is expected to be terminated for the official opening on September 21st. The General Manager has discussed with both the Manager of "Terre des Hommes" and the Mayor of Montreal the transfer of the asbestos rock and fountain to Laval campus; the move should take place in the early days of September, as determined by the progress of construction.

INSTITUTE OF OCCUPATIONAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Chairman reported that the executive committee had met on July 29 and that no new projects had been approved. Two (2) requests for research funds have been received and are presently under study by the

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Scientific Committee; if recommended by the latter and approved by the Executive Committee, funds can be awarded out of the present budget. The Scientific Committee to meet on August 1st.

The report on the status of the asbestos medical problem has just been completed. This review gives a compilation of present and future research projects under four (4) main headings:

- 1.- Studies dealing with maximum allowable concentrations of asbestos fibres in the environment of man
- 2.- Studies dealing with the determinants and mechanisms of the biological action of asbestos fibre
- 3.- Studies dealing with reducing the concentration and numbers of inhaled asbestos fibres
- 4.- Studies dealing with development and evaluation of methods used in the preceding considerations

Warning on fibre bags - The proposed labelling of a caution on fibre bags would read as follows:

"CAUTION

This bag contains chrysotile asbestos fibre.
Persons exposed to inhalation of this material
should use adequate protective devices as
inhalation of this material over long periods
may be harmful."

Johns-Manville intends to implement this proposal after notifying its customers. It was pointed out that the warning should reach the man who handles the asbestos bags and consequently should be readily visible to the eye.

The Chairman of Executive Committee also briefly discussed the meeting with Dr. Selikoff on May 14th, 1968, a meeting attended by Counsel. This was a get-together of insulators and manufacturers and apparently was sabotaged by the contractors. Nevertheless Johns-Manville decided to re-inaugurate a program with the insulators' union and possibly may have to face the whole bill of such a venture (\$2,000,000. in five years.) A meeting with the in-

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sulation people is scheduled for 1963 August 5th. That is the status of the question at this moment.

DUST ABATEMENT COMMITTEE

The Chairman reviewed briefly the status of current projects.

A) Lake Asbestos of Quebec Limited

Bag Filters - A report on the performance of the four bag compartments was presented. The highlights are:

Excellent efficiencies - 88 to 99%

Outlet grain loadings of 0.006 to 0.005 grains/cu.ft.

Cost per ton dried now below $\frac{1}{2}\%$ per ton.

A fibre glass bag which can resist temperatures of 500-550 deg.F is under test. Cost is 36.00 versus \$4.00 for conventional cloth.

This experience certainly indicates that a properly maintained cloth collector will do an excellent job.

B) Canadian Johns-Manville Company Limited

The 20,000 c.f.m. unit has been in operation for a week at which time it was shut down for application of an insulating cover to reduce heat losses. The current problems which will be resolved are:

Gases dropping below the dew point.

Temperature control on dried gases to hold maximum to 260 deg.F. under all operating conditions.

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Although no dust count measurements have as yet been made, visual inspections indicate no dust emission.

Rotoclone Wet Collector-C.J.-W Plant 4A - The tests to-date indicate the efficiency to vary considerably depending on variables such as water volume, water application, air volume, etc. The dust discharge is about .04 grains per cubic foot. Although such discharge would be acceptable in most communities, the dust emission is still visible and further tests will be carried out in an effort to further improve the collector's efficiency.

Rotoclone Wet Collector-C.J.-M Plant 5A - A rotoclone of a 45,000 c.f.m. capacity has been installed at a cost of \$25,000. at Mill 5A to clean up the gases leaving the Buell type cyclone collectors. Mill 5A has started operations and the unit is being run in. Tests will be reported as soon as available.

Aerodyne Dust Collector - A project has been approved to test a 2,000 c.f.m. unit at a cost of 39,700. The unit will be installed in August, and will be run both wet and dry. Aerodyne collector originates from the Siemens Plant in Germany. It is fundamentally a dry dust collector operating on the principle of inducing a centrifugal action on the dust by the injection of secondary air.

Bailey Dust Density Meter - Because the amount of dust emitted from Rotoclone is small, the usual method of sampling the stack by aspirating a dust sample is not always representative. Also, it is difficult to relate the changes in efficiency with the changes in operating conditions of the dryer and the collector. To overcome these difficulties, a Bailey Dust Meter and Recorder has been purchased by C.J.-M. for \$2,300. for experimental purposes. The unit, which operates on the principle of light

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absorption by the dust in the measured sample, is scheduled to be delivered early July. It will be installed at Plant 4A. The light sensitive cell in the stack is designed to measure, indicate and record instantly changes in the dust content in the emitted air.

Asbestos Corporation Limited

Electrostatic Precipitator - A revised proposal has been tendered to Asbestos Corporation by the manufacturer for a unit to handle 172,000 c.f.m. at 300 daps for the ring drying plant. This represents a 20% increase in air handling requirement over original plan. The price has been increased to \$150,000. with a performance guarantee. Anticipated input grain loadings at 0.50 per cu. ft. with stack emission at 0.03.

Asbestos Corporation engineers reported favorably on the examination of a unit in operation at St. Lawrence Cement. It is anticipated that this project will get under way in the third quarter.

Pulseair Collectors - Asbestos Corporation is ordering a 1000 c.f.m. unit costing \$1,600. on dust control on a transfer point in S.C. #2 Mill. C.J-M have ordered a 4000 c.f.m. high efficiency unit costing \$10,000. for trial as a fibre recovery collector in addition to its dust control function.

Stabilization of Tailings Piles - A paper presented by I.N.C.O. at the Ontario Industrial Waste Conference at Niagara Falls on June 10, 1968 was reviewed. The INCO experience has no immediate usefulness to our problem since it is concerned with the growing of hay, rye and oats on hydraulically deposited tailings.

At the suggestion of the Chairman of the Uniform Classification and Grading Committee, the problem of surface hardening or crusting by

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some chemical or mechanical tests has been turned over to the Director of the Sherbrooke Lab. for study.

MISCELLANEOUS

The General Manager gave a brief account of the meeting with Honorable P. Allard Minister of Natural Resources, at which time the brief prepared by Dr. J. Latandre on the proposed Mining Fund was discussed at length with the Minister. The brief, at the request of the Minister, will be supplemented with details of past occurrences of mine closures or merger experienced by certain companies.

The meeting was informed that at the annual meeting of the Q.M.M.A. at the Gray Rocks Inn. offers had again been made to merge both the Q.M.M.A. and E.M.A. together into one Association. However, it was quickly realised that the problems of the two (2) Associations were somewhat different, as well as the budgets required to carry out their programs.

SPECIAL MEETINGS

Consistent with the report submitted by the General Manager on the preferences of the Directors of the Association, it was agreed that future Special Winter Meetings should be held during the third week of March and future Fall Meetings during the first week of October. Accordingly, the General Manager will seek to obtain reservations at the various locations, in the order of preference indicated in the report.

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NEW BUSINESS

Contribution to CIM Education Committee - A letter of appeal for financial assistance was received from the General Committee of Education. CIM and tabled at the meeting. The main item on the Committee's budget is the cost of preparing a course on "Computer Control Systems". Following a brief discussion, it was moved that a contribution of \$250.00 be made to this effect.

ADOPTED.

Salary Increases to Office Staff - In line with present trend in wage and salary increases it was moved that an 8% salary increase be granted to Miss Toupin and Miss Côté, effective as of September the first 1969.

CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was formally adjourned.

Paul A. Filteau,
General Manager
&
Secretary.