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

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

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

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

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

He looked at the workers in several plants