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70 Concerns Here Cited as Polluters

By EDWARD C. BURKS

The Department of Air Resources reported yesterday a record crackdown on industrial air polluters here with the beginning of show-cause proceedings against 70 plants.

Deputy Commissioner Fred C. Hart said the department was still sending out the show-cause orders, which eventually will total 125.

"We have never done anything of this magnitude as far as industrial polluters are concerned," he said.

The show-cause notices instruct the violators to send representatives to a hearing in the department offices at 51 Astor Place to explain why an order should not be issued to "seal," or close down, the offending equipment.

In the first batch of 70

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City Moves Against 70 Plants In a Crackdown on Air Pollution

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orders, plants were cited in every borough, including smelting operations, dyers, asbestos and chemical companies.

Most of the plants—operated by 70 separate companies—are relatively small. But Mr. Hart emphasized that the pollution involved was not just smoke, soot and grime but in a number of cases included "exotic pollutants"—chemicals and fumes that could be far more dangerous.

The department also said that there were large plants, such as those of Phelps Dodge in Queens and U.S. Gypsum on Staten Island, on the list of plants not yet officially served with show-cause orders.

Hearings have already been set up through the first week of August.

The first hearing, yesterday morning, involved Nassau Smelting and Refining Company on Staten Island. Mr. Hart said that as a result of the hearing an agreement had been reached with the company on a schedule for its compliance with pollution-code regulations.

The second hearing, scheduled for yesterday afternoon, was for National Dye Works, Inc., of Ridgewood, Queens, Mr. Hart said, but no one from the company showed up.

Mr. Hart detailed the chronology of the stepped-up activity against industrial polluters.

Months ago an Air Resources Department five-man task force headed by Ben Radzka, and including engineers and inspectors, was set up to "identify the problem" and to concentrate on the worst industrial offenders.

Starting last February and continuing through May the task force mailed out notices to the 250 worst offenders, pointing out violations and giving the companies 30 days to comply with regulations. Half of those notified complied sufficiently to get off the "blacklist," according to the department.

It is against the remaining 125 alleged offenders that the department is now moving, with 70 of the notices already sent out. The new campaign goes far beyond another method used by the department—the issuing of a summons, which can result in a fine of $25 to $200 in court.

Under the show-cause procedure, the department is empowered to require a schedule for compliance or issue an order "sealing the equipment," closing it down, until compliance.

In addition to Nassau Smelting and National Dye Works, the companies that have received show-cause notices follow:

MANHATTAN

Henry A. Wolfe & Son, Inc.
Ampco Printing Advertisers Offset Corp.
Allast Leather Specialty Co.
W. & E. Baum Bronze Tablet Co.
Columbus Jewelry Contractors.
Telesca-Helman, Inc.
Vallant Metal Products Corp. (home office, Weehawken, N. J.).
Vinyl Bonded Products.
Finell Jewelry Casting.
D'Angelo's Furniture Co.
Swift Laundry.
Sidlor Brothers Furniture, Inc.

THE BRONX

Bustelo Coffee Co. (Division of Beech-Nut Foods).
City Steel Door Corp.
Acrite Industries.

BROOKLYN

Acme Steel Drum Co.
J. R. Elkins, Inc.
General Switch Co., Inc.
Hedeya Brothers.
Kaye Thermometer Co.
Julius Zwernick Co.
Asbeka Asbestos Machining Corp.
Ace Dye Works, Inc.
Bilirite Baby Carriage Co. (division of U. S. Industries).
Brooklyn Locksmith and Mower Corp.
Cloer Chemical and Refining Co.
Scottex, Inc.
Fischer Knit Finishing Corp.
J. & A. Knitting Mills.
Lori Dye Works.
Morsid Industries, Inc.
National Sawdust Co.
Royal Yarn and Dyeing Corp.
Sherron Metallic Corp.
United Metal Goods Manufacturing Co., Inc.
Jaymee Dyeing and Finishing Co.
Vogue Heel Corp.
Wall Panel, Inc.

QUEENS

Paragon Smelting Corp.
Kent Dry Cleaners (Whitestone).
Novaslas Corp.
A. & F. Manikin Co. (Long Island City)
Exhibit Graphics, Inc.
Exhibitors Displays Co.
Hebrew National Kosher Foods, Inc.
Landaw Metal Products.
Syntex Dyers.
York Metal Products, Inc. (Long Island City).
Columbia Asphalt Corp. (Flushing).
J. & L. Adikes, Inc.
Alva Museum Replicas.
Macasphalt Contracting Co. (Flushing).
Enterprise Wood Products, Inc. (Rockaway Beach).
Jet Asphalt Co. (Flushing).
Frank Mascali Construction Co.
McGuire Brothers (Long Island City).
Sam Steinglass, Inc.
Star Chromium Corp.
Star Corrugated Box Co., Inc. (Maspeth).
Superior Metal Lithographic Corp.
Tannenbaum Industries, Inc. (also known as Studio Lighting).
United Coating Co., Inc.
Universal Electric Sign Co., Inc. (Maspeth).
F. & R. Enterprises, also known as Cofire, (Flushing).
Independent Chemical Corp. (Glendale).

STATEN ISLAND

Graphic Displays, Ltd.
Tech Products, Inc.
The USMP Co., Inc.

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