PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

MET-256

February 20, 1945

Dr. G. J. Wherrett
Executive Secretary
Canadian Tuberculosis Association
Plaza Building
Ottawa, Ont., Canada

Dear Dr. Wherrett:

Thank you very much for your communication of February 13th relative to to the study which was made of the tuberculosis mortality of Thetford Mines and some other communities in the Province. I am glad that you raised the question about the possibility of a community survey in Thetford Mines. I think the time is ripe for such an undertaking. It will depend, however, on someone's taking the initiative to carry it through. As you may know, Dr. Jacques Cartier has been appointed Medical Director of the Industrial Health Clinic for the asbestos operators in Thetford Mines. Dr. Cartier has had experience in tuberculosis surveys through his connection with the Montreal Antituberculosis League. I think he would be interested in doing such a study if he were approached. I think you would know better than I whether a public or private agency should sponsor such a study. I think unquestionably the mine operators would be more receptive to such a study than at any time in the past.

I sent a copy of the report to Dr. Tourangeau, Director of Industrial Hygiene of the Provincial Health Department. He showed it to Dr. Parrot, the Provincial Demographer, but I do not know whether he showed it to Dr. Foley. I met Dr. Foley when I was in Quebec. I shall write to Dr. Tourangeau and suggest that he show the report to Dr. Foley. This may help pave the way for a proposal that the Provincial Health Department undertake a community survey, if this seems the best method of having the survey done.

I hope it will be possible for you to follow up the situation. Dr. Burnette will, I know, be just as interested as we in the outcome.and will want to cooperate in any way that is possible. With kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

0742

Assistant Medical Director

Copy to Dr. Burnette

Canadian Tuberculosis Association

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February 13, 1945.

Dr. George M. Wheatly,
Assistant Medical Director,
Metropolitan Life Insurance Company,
New York City, U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Wheatly:-

Dr. Burnette has passed along to me a copy of the very interesting study of tuberculosis mortality in Thetford Mines, P.Q., which you have recently made.

I think this is a very excellent report. This should tend to clear up any tendency to blame the high death rate for tuberculosis in this area on the asbestos industry.

The report will also be helpful in focussing attention on that locality and I am wondering if it would be possible to interest the provincial group to undertake a community survey there.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

G. J. Wherrett, M.D.,
Executive Secretary.

GJW/S.

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