

THE HON. THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH:

In February of this year Dr. Saint at Port Hedland drew attention to the unsatisfactory precautions against dust taken at the Wittenoom Gorge Asbestos Works.

During the past month two miners and one carpenter from there have been notified as cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

I understand that certain provisions of the Factories Act have not been made applicable North of 26th parallel. I think it is a matter of some urgency that the matter is taken up with the Minister of Labour and the area brought into line with the rest of the State whereupon a Factory Inspector could in conjunction with Dr. Saint inspect the works and enforce improvements.

W.S. Davidson

WSD/PB

14th November, 1949.

ACTING COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

THE HON. THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH:

You apparently minuted the above to the Minister of Labour. The file is there now.

Further, the Asbestos Company anticipate a population of 500-600 at Wittenoom for the next three years and thereafter a population of 1000.

Sanction for another doctor for the North-west, if not already obtained, is required.

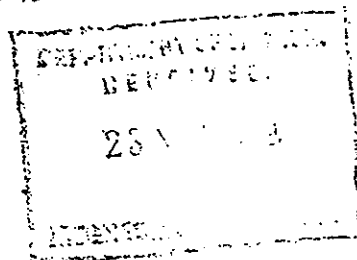
He will be stationed at Wittenoom or Roebourne.

WSD/PB

22nd November, 1949.

W.S. Davidson
ACTING COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Sec for Labour
Please advise 23/11/49



Chief Inspector of Factories
23/11/49