

FILE NAME: Johns-Manville (JMA)

DATE: 1934-1951

DOC#: JMA269

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Manville Plant, Industrial Hygiene Records

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CHQ. Box 91
July 16, 1947

H. F. Naylor - Maxville

**Industrial Health Survey - Maxville Plants
January - February 1947**

We have reviewed the report forwarded by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company following their survey of the Maxville Plants.

Since there are several areas in which conditions are definitely unfavorable, we would appreciate advice as to what steps are being taken to correct the hazards involved.

In general, there are conditions which represent potential silicosis hazards in the Textile, Cement, Magnesia, Asphalt and Rigid Shingle Departments; excessive exposure to lead in the Packing Department -- both of which should receive immediate attention.

It might be well to review pages 21, 22 and 23 listing the specific recommendations and to indicate what action is being taken for each.

H. M. Jackson

cc: A. R. Fisher
L. G. Hart
J. P. Woodard
G. W. Hite

PERSONAL

Manville Factory,
July 18, 1934.

Mr. S. A. Williams, V.P.,
General Headquarters.

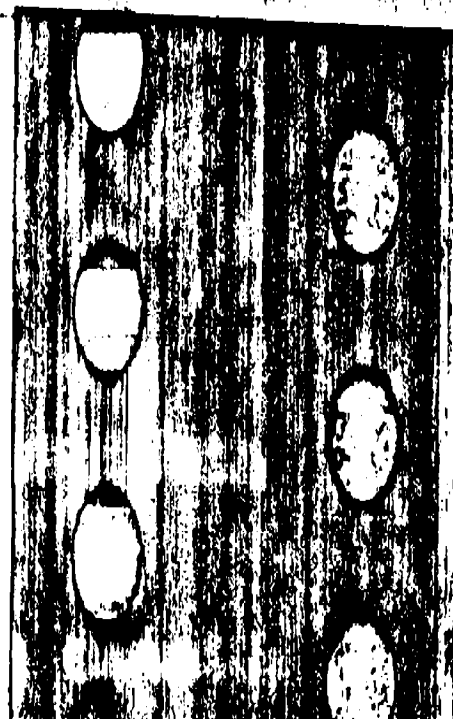
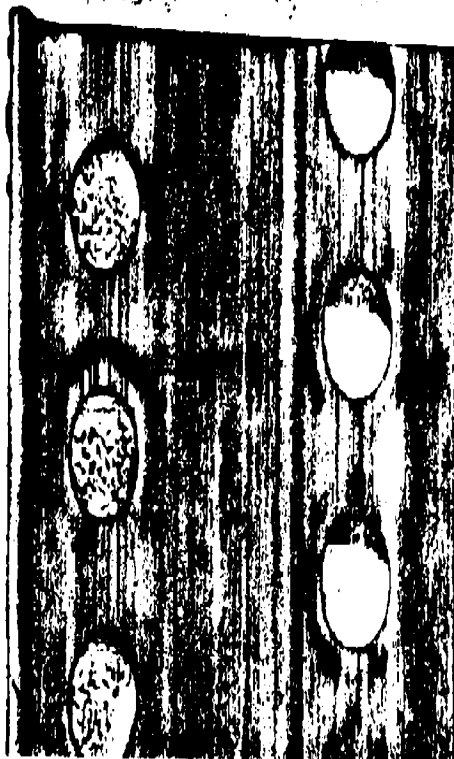
DUST CONDITIONS AT MANVILLE.
Yours of June 6th.

As you may recall from my letter of June 2nd, we have completed making an investigation of the several places in the plant where we consider we have dust conditions that should be corrected. However, we are reluctant to go ahead and do any work or ask for any appropriations until we have a dust count made.

It is with this thought in mind that I am asking when we can expect a visit from the engineer who has been making the dust counts at Waukegan.

ARF:CVM

A. R. Fisher, Mgr.



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PERSONAL

Manville Factory,
May 8, 1936

Mr. S.A. Williams, V.P.
General Headquarters

METROPOLITAN SURVEY - OTTO BINDER
Yours May 1st

Mr. Binder was at the Plant this morning, and we discussed the dust situation, endeavoring to see what work had been done by the Raybestos Company at the Charleston Plant.

One of the outstanding things noticeable was the fact that at the time that the dust counts were taken at Charleston, weather conditions were good, so that the windows were able to be kept open.

You may recall that the first check made at this Plant was carried on during the time of the year when the windows in the Textile Department were also able to be kept open, and the dust counts showed results not far from those recently obtained at the Charleston Plant.

On the other hand, when the readings were made in the winter of 1935 at this location, there was a considerable increase in the number of dust counts.

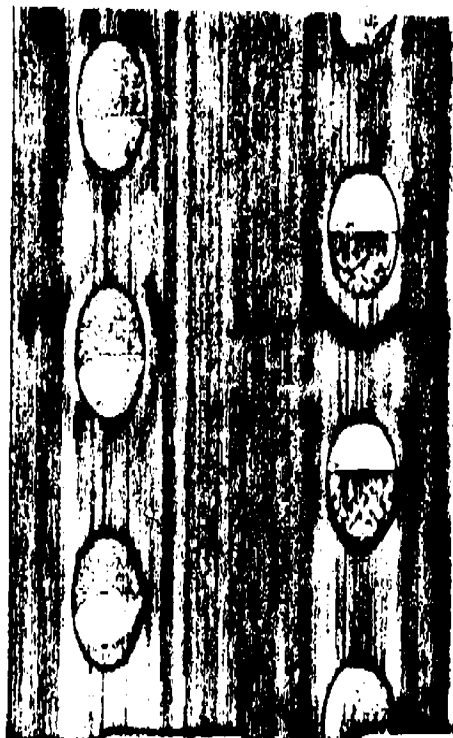
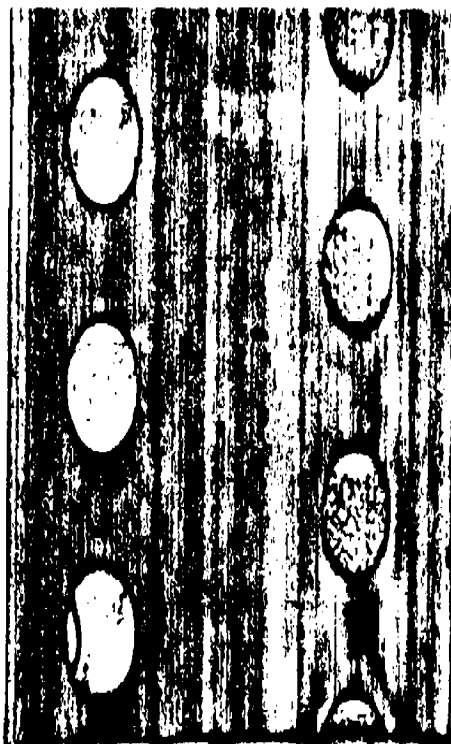
Mr. Binder spent the morning going through the Textile Plant with Mr. Cannon and Mr. Smith, and a questionnaire is to be made up, which will be handed to Mr. Binder, so that he will endeavor to obtain the information we would like to have in connection with the dust system at Charleston, and then we can discuss how much better this is than what we have, and if there is any further information that we need, in order to clear up this question, we may then consider asking permission to send Mr. Cannon and Mr. Smith to Charleston.

We have several ideas of our own in connection with the dust situation which we now have put down in print, but naturally, before we go ahead with any designing or installing of equipment, we would want to get the benefit of the experience in the field today.

ARF:KES

A.R. Fisher, Mgr.

CC: Mr. D.C. Renton
Mr. V. Brown, G.H.



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General Headquarters,
May 1, 1936.

Mr. Fisher
Mr. A.N. Fisher,
Manager,
Manville Factory.

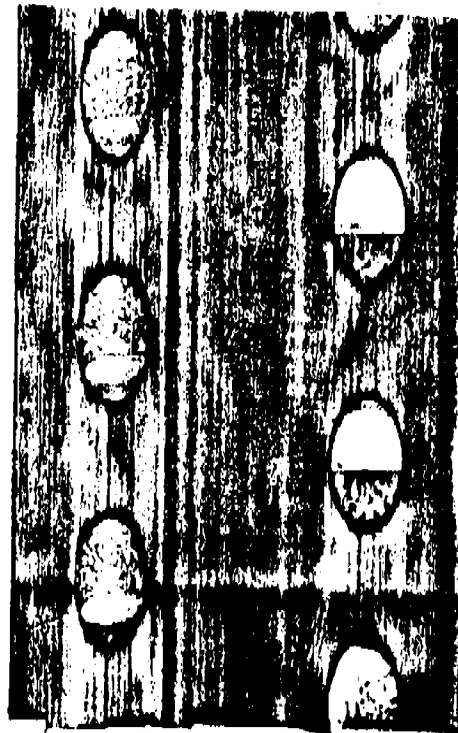
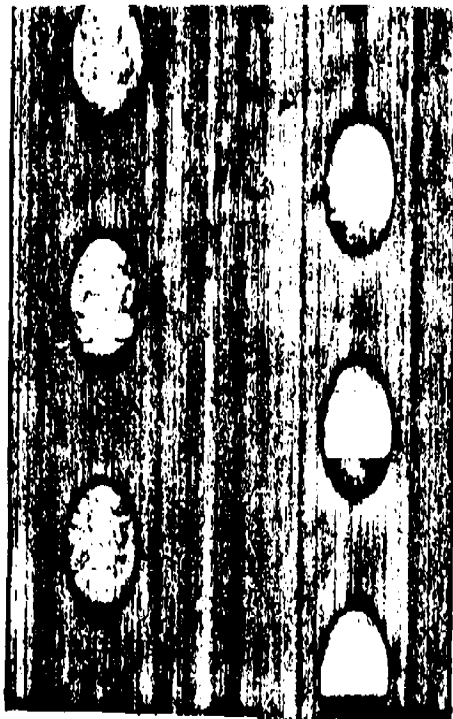
METROPOLITAN SURVEY - OTTO BINDER

Please note attached copy of letter from Mr. Vandiver Brown, dated April 29th, regarding Mr. Binder's re-check of the Raybestos Plant at Charleston. I would suggest that you get in touch with Mr. Binder and discuss this situation with him, at which discussion Mr. Renton and Mr. Cannon should be in attendance. Will you please do this at your convenience and let me have a report?

I am not particularly interested, unless there is no other way out, in exchanging visits with the Charleston Plant.

S.A. WILLIAMS
Vice President

CC: Mr. D.C. Renton, Manville.
Mr. V. Brown, G.H.



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General Headquarters
July 25, 1934

*See
man*
PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. A. R. Fisher,
Manville.

Not Survey
Re: Metropolitan Survey - Manville Factory

Referring to yours of July 18th to Mr. Williams, Dr. Lanza advises that Mr. Fehnel and Mr. Petrie of the Metropolitan Company, together with Mr. Binder, will call upon you at Manville on Friday, the 27th, for the purpose of surveying the plant preparatory to taking dust samples.

[Signature]
VANDYKE BROWN
Legal Department

VB:IT

CC: Mr. S. A. Williams ✓

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THE RAYBESTOS DIVISION OF RAYBESTOS-MANHATTAN, INC.

Raybestos
TRADE MARK REGISTERED

QUOTATIONS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE. ALL AGREEMENTS CONTINGENT UPON STRIKES, ACCIDENTS AND OTHER CONDITIONS BEYOND OUR CONTROL.
ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE COMPANY.

Bridgeport, Conn. July 26, 1934.

RAYBESTOS LININGS

P G Brake Lining Sets
A and I Woven Sheet Stock
Molded Slab Stock
Silver Edge Woven
Gold Edge Woven
Velcoe Woven
F. W. Heavy Duty
Molded Segments
Molded Lining in Rolls
Woven Segments
Die Pressed Segments
Hydraulic Compressed Lining
Transmission Linings—Ford

CLUTCH FACINGS

Woven
Molded
Segmental

BRAKE SERVICE STATION EQUIPMENT

Drum Lathe
Drilling and Countersinking
Machines
Riveting Machines
Heavy Duty Riveter
Semi Automatic Riveter
Lining Cutter
Wheel Pullers
Pedal Depressors
Hydraulicist
Air Jacks
Refining Straps
Brake Lining Grinders

BRAKES

Automobile
Industrial, Special

WICKS

Range Burner
Oil Stove

RIVETS

Tubular Brass
Split Brass
Rayluminum

PACKINGS

Brake Shim Stock
Asbestos
Red and Black Wire Inserted
Wick Packing
Twisted Packing
Compressed Jointing

FAN BELTS

CAR MATS

HOSE

Air Hose
Car Washer Hose
Car Heater Hose
Generator Tubing
Radiator Hose
Water Hose
Windshield Wiper Hose
Welding Hose

Mr. Vandiver Brown,
Johns-Manville Corporation,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Brown:

This will confirm our telephone conversation of today.

Dr. Fulton has already been to Manheim, and it is our desire, therefore, to have Mr. Binder go to Manheim at the earliest possible moment to make his dust counts. It is my understanding with you that Mr. Binder, together with Mr. Fehnel of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company will go to Manheim the early part of the coming week, July 30, and I will so advise Manheim.

I also want to confirm my understanding with you that he should be through with Manheim within two or three days, and from there he will go to Manville, New Jersey. At Manville, his work will require about ten days, after which he will go to Passaic, New Jersey and contact with Mr. A. F. Townsend of The Manhattan Rubber Mfg. Division.

This will also confirm our understanding regarding the Canadian Raybestos Co. Ltd. of Peterborough. We would prefer that the visit to this Plant be deferred as long as possible, as for the time being, we have no need or desire to attract attention to this Plant, inasmuch as we have never had any difficulty, and question very much if the dust condition there is of sufficient importance to give it serious consideration.

A copy of this letter is being sent to both Mr. Weber of the Manheim Plant and Mr. Townsend of the Manhattan Rubber Plant.

Yours very truly,

M. F. Judd
M. F. Judd.

MFJ-0. 7/27/34: Copies sent to
Messrs. EMVOORHEES
SAWILLIAMS
Dr. AJ CANZA

CABLE ADDRESS "RAYBESTOS" BRIDGEPORT, CONN.

July 27, 1934

Dr. A. J. Lanza,
Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.,
1 Madison Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Dr. Lanza:

Enclosed herewith is copy of letter I have just received from Mr. Judd of Raybestos.

The procedure outlined by Mr. Judd in respect to the taking of dust counts at Manheim, Manville and Passaic is satisfactory to us if it can be fitted into your program.

I shall appreciate hearing from you in regard to the foregoing, although I assume you will not be able to give me a definite reply until after Dr. McConnell has seen Miss Carr.

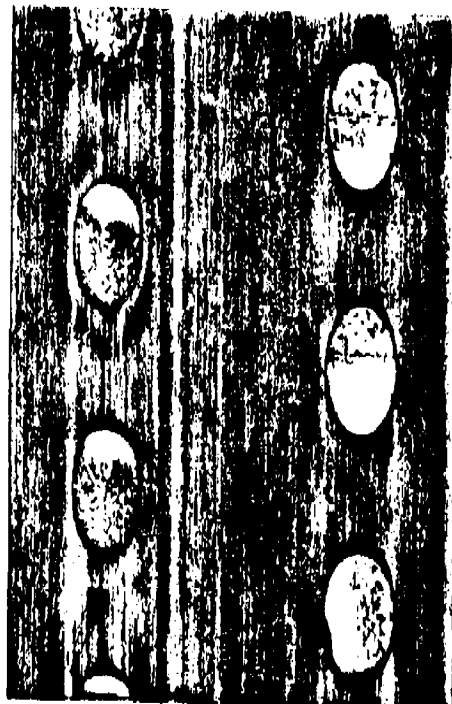
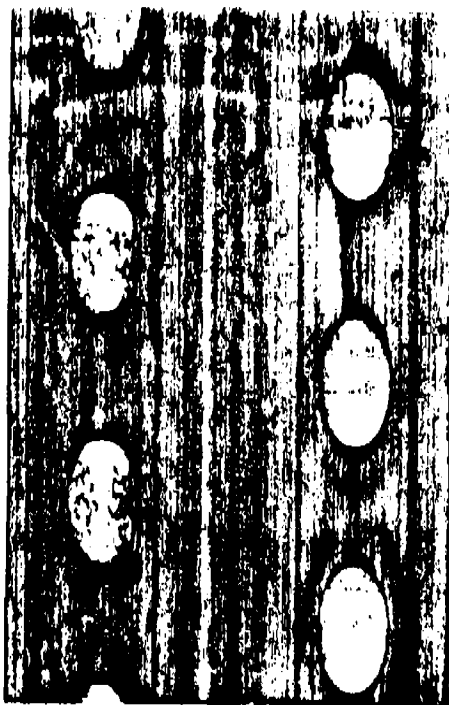
Very truly yours,

Vandiver Brown
Attorney

VBT
Enclosure

CC: Messrs. R. H. Voorhees
S. A. Williams

M. F. Judd (Raybestos)



PERSONAL

Sas. Man

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Manville Factory,
August 7, 1934.

Mr. S.A. Williams, V.P.,
General Headquarters.

METROPOLITAN SURVEY - MANVILLE FACTORY.

Messrs. Fehnel and Petrie, of the Metropolitan Company, and Mr. Binder were at the plant on Friday, August 3rd, and the writer in company with Mr. Hughes made a check-up of the various operations where we are proposing to have dust counts taken. Mr. Fehnel is to advise us a few days in advance of their visit to the plant for the taking of these readings.

ARF:CYM

CC: Mr. V. Brown, G.H.

A.R. Fisher, Ngr

AUG 8 1934



Soc. & Tuna, UMI

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General Headquarters
November 5, 1934

Mr. S. A. Williams,
11th Floor.

Re: Metropolitan Survey

Dr. Lanza advises that there is no objection on their part to having Mr. Fehnel and Mr. Binder make dust counts at Manville before going to Canada and he will issue instructions accordingly.

Mr. Fehnel is at present in the Middle West and may be tied up there for a week or two, after which time we may expect him to commence the Manville survey.

VANDIVER BROWN
Legal Department

VB:T

CC: Messrs. E. M. Voorhees
A. R. Fisher (M'ville)

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General Headquarters
May 9, 1935

Mr. S. A. Williams,
11th Floor.

Re: Metropolitan Survey - Manville Factory

Messrs. Binder and Fehnel have just completed a week at Asbestos and I understand that they are now at Nashua.

You have asked me in your letter of April 30th if there is anything that can be done to speed up the report at Manville and my answer is that I know of no way in which this can be done. We are riding a free horse in this case and I cannot see that we have any legitimate cause for complaint if he proves slow or even balky. I am convinced that Metropolitan has been pushing this program as rapidly as their facilities have permitted.

For the purpose of the record, I wish to call to your attention that the survey was not commenced until last May so that only a year, and not a year and a half, has elapsed since the work was started.

VANDIVER BROWN
Legal Department

VB:T

CC: Messrs. E. H. Voorhees
A. R. Fisher (N'ville)

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METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

FREDERICK H. ECKER, PRESIDENT

NEW YORK CITY

WILLIAM J. McCONNELL, M.D.
Assistant Medical Director

June 10, 1935

Mr. Vandiver Brown,
Johns-Manville,
22 East 40th Street,
New York City.

Noted 6/10/35

Dear Mr. Brown:

I am enclosing two copies of the report of the
survey of your Manville, N.J. plant.

Very truly yours,

W. J. McConnell, M.D.

W. J. McConnell, M.D.
Assistant Medical Director
Director, Industrial Health Section

General Headquarters
June 13, 1935

Mr. S. A. Williams,
11th Floor.

Re: Metropolitan Survey - Manville Plant

I enclose herewith the Report by the Industrial Health Section of Metropolitan Life Insurance Company upon their survey of dust and health conditions at the Manville, New Jersey, plant. It is in two bound folders, the first covering Buildings A, A-1, B, C and D and the second covering Buildings E, F, G, H, Rock Wool Building and Power House.

Even a cursory examination indicates many excessively high dust counts (bearing in mind that 5 million particles less than ten microns per cubic foot of air is the danger point) and hazardous exposures to lead and benzol in addition to various forms of dust. *probably*

I believe someone at Manville should be assigned the task of studying the Report and particularly the "Conclusions and Recommendations" respecting each building inspected and advise to what extent these recommendations can be complied with, listing those which may be impossible or impractical, the reasons therefor, and suggesting alternative methods of eliminating the unsatisfactory condition.

The lead and benzol hazards should receive particular attention as these substances are highly toxic.

The second volume of the Report contains, on page 35, a general discussion of the various substances encountered in the survey which are toxic or otherwise deleterious.

It should be noted that most prevalent among the recommendations is the one concerning the providing of efficient respirators. In two or three cases positive pressure respirators are recommended. As heretofore advised, the Government issued in August of 1934 a bulletin entitled an "Approval Schedule" concerning the "Procedure for Testing Filter-Type Dust, Fume and Mist Respirators for Permissibility". On January 29, 1935 three types of respirators had met the prescribed tests:

- (1) MSA Confo Respirator, manufactured by Mine Safety Appliances Company, Pittsburgh.
- (2) Willson Bag Respirator No. 300, manufactured by Willson Products, Inc., Reading, Pa.
- (3) Willson Bag Respirator No. 400, manufactured by the same concern.

-2-

I received the impression at the Saranac Symposium on Silicosis that this number of respirators has now grown to seven. I believe we should be certain that all obsolete types of respirators are discarded and that those provided our workmen are all of approved types. No mention is made as to the types of respirators used; however, one of the pictures shows a respirator in use and I note that it is of the "pig snout" type which was exhibited at Saranac as an obsolete type which did not meet the Government's Approval Schedule.

In several instances dust counts obtained during the first survey are compared with those obtained during the present one. In the case of the Textile Building this comparing is very disheartening as a very large increase is indicated in each case. Several explanations are offered as to this startling difference, one of which is that it may be attributed to the fact that a shorter fibre is used at the present time. Another is that at the time of the first survey the larger size particles were filtered out of the entire amount secured and in this sieving process there is a possibility that some of the smaller particles were occluded by the larger size material.

In Building H the exhaust device installed in connection with the carborundum cutting wheels is condemned as inadequate and its revision is suggested.

In certain spots a real silicosis hazard is presented as will be noted from Sample No. 189 in Building G in connection with the unloading of sand. A high count of free silica is found at this point. The same is true of the slate, mica, sand and talc hoppers of the roofing machines in Building F.

A calcium oxide hazard is also disclosed in the making of magnesia. This is in the case of the workman at the tanks where the rock is dissolved in water. The recommendation is made that he should be supplied with an efficient respirator and also goggles.

I have only attempted to touch the high and unusual spots in the survey. It is clearly evident that a great deal must be done to put the Plant in a clean condition by Metropolitan Life Insurance Company's standards.

VANDIVER BROWN
Legal Department

VB:T
Enclosures

CC: Mr. E. M. Voorhees

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METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

LEROY A. LINCOLN, *President*

ONE MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK 10, N.Y.

WILLIAM J. McCONNELL, M.D.
ASSISTANT MEDICAL DIRECTOR

February 16, 1951

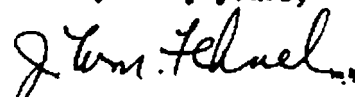
Mr. Hugh M. Jackson
 Johns Manville Products Corporation
 22 East 40 Street
 New York 16, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Jackson:

The following are analyses of air samples collected in the
 Manville Plant by Mr. E. Culwick on February 2, 1951, and received in
 our Laboratory on February 9, 1951.

Sample No.	Date	Description	Dust M.P.P.C.F.	Percent Fibre	Fibre M.P.P.C.F.
18	2/2/51	#114 L Frame Dept. Sample taken in aisle between machines #1 and 2. No exhaust nor protective equipment.	5.7	22.0	.1
19	2/2/51	#114 L Frame Dept. Sample taken in aisle between machines 2 and 3.	7.3	16.6	1
20	2/2/51	#114 L Frame Dept. Sample taken in aisle between Machines 3 and 4	10.7	18.6	1
21	2/2/51	#114 L Frame Dept. Sample taken between machines 5 and 5204.	9.9	13.8	1
22		Blank	13 particles per counting field.	-	

Very truly yours,



J. Wm. Fehnel, Director
 Industrial Hygiene Laboratory
 Health and Welfare Division

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J-M INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE SURVEY REPORT

Metropolitan Life Insurance Co
Industrial Health Laboratory
1 Madison Ave. N.Y.C. N.Y.

Manville

PLANT

10: Travellers' Insurance Co
700 Main Street
Hartford, Conn. Att'n. Chemical Engineering Laboratory

Sample No. 18 Date 2-2-51 Dept. No. 114 L-Frame
Time elapsed 30 min. Rate 928 cu.ft./min. Volume 27.84 cu.ft.
Ventilation None Atmosphere Clear and Cold
Materials 10-10
Description Dept. has 8 machines. 5 are L-frames. 6 Women operate the machines collectively, not individually. No protective equipment-no exhaust system. Sample taken between machine No. 1 and 2 in aisle.

Sample No. 19 Date 2-2-51 Dept. No. 114 L-Frame
Time elapsed 30 min. Rate 952 cu.ft./min. Volume 28.56 cu.ft.
Ventilation None Atmosphere Clear and cold
Materials 10-10
Description Same as above except sample taken in aisle between machines No. 2 and 3.

Sample No. 20 Date 2-2-51 Dept. No. 114 L-Frame
Time elapsed 30 min. Rate 951 cu.ft./min. Volume 28.53 cu.ft.
Ventilation None Atmosphere Clear and cold
Materials 10-10
Description Same as above except sample taken in aisle between machines No. 3 and 4.

Sample No. 21 Date 2-2-51 Dept. No. 114 L-Frame
Time elapsed 30 min. Rate 970 cu.ft./min. Volume 29.10 cu.ft.
Ventilation 1 window open Atmosphere Clear and cold
Materials 10-10 and Russia
Description Same as above except sample taken between machines No. 5 and 5204.

Sample No. 22 Date 2-2-51 Dept. -
Time elapsed - min. Rate - cu.ft./min. Volume - cu.ft.
Ventilation - Atmosphere -
Materials -
Description Blank of sampling fluid used.

Plant Manager
CH Safety Engineer ✓
File

Date forwarded: 2-5-51

Observer E. P. Chirick

General Headquarters
April 30, 1935

Mr. Vandiver Brown
Legal Department
General Headquarters



MANVILLE FACTORY
Dust Survey.

Sec. & Admin. Office

Cannot something be done to speed up the report on the dust survey at Manville Factory? About April 9th Messrs. Binder and Fehnel completed their preliminary dust survey and were to give us a report within a short time. Please bear in mind that we have been doing practically nothing at Manville Factory by way of dust elimination, pending this survey and report, and it is now getting pretty close to a year and a half since we started this work.

S. A. WILLIAMS

Vice President

cc. Mr. A. R. Fisher - Manville
Mr. E. M. Veerhues - C.H.Q.

