

FILE NAME: Raybestos-Manhattan (RBM)

DATE: 1935

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DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Letters between Johns Manville and Raybestos-Manhattan Discussing Avoiding Publicity RE Asbestos

C. Van der Boven

"ASBESTOS"

Published by

SECRETARIAL SERVICE

16th Floor, Inquirer Bldg.
PHILADELPHIA, PA., U. S. A.

September 25, 1935.

Mr. Sumner Simpson, President,
Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.,
Bridgeport, Conn.

Dear Sir:

You may recall that we have written you on several occasions concerning the publishing of information, or discussion of, asbestosis and the work which has been, and is being done, to eliminate or at least reduce it.

Always you have requested that for certain obvious reasons we publish nothing, and, naturally your wishes have been respected.

Possibly by this time, however, the reasons for your objection to publicity on this subject have been eliminated, and if so, we would like very much to review the whole matter in "ASBESTOS".

Our thought is that we could either prepare from data which we have in our files, or obtain from Mr. W. A. Godfrey of the Cape Asbestos Company, London, who is much interested in the subject, an article on the work done in England and then follow it with an article written by someone in your organization, as to the work done here.

Amundson

We understand from Mr. Stover that your North Charleston plant, contains very complete dust control equipment and a description of such equipment, if you approve, would make a very interesting part of the article. Possibly even you could supply a photograph or two showing some part of this dust control equipment.

We await with much interest your reply. If there is no serious objection it would seem to be a most interesting subject for the pages of "ASBESTOS", and possibly a discussion of it in "ASBESTOS" along the right lines, would serve to combat some of the rather undesirable publicity given to it in current newspapers.

very truly yours
"ASBESTOS"

J. P. R. R. R.

Letter

— Johns-Manville —

TWENTY-TWO EAST FORTIETH STREET
NEW YORK, N.Y.



Tuesday
my

October 3, 1935

Mr. S. Simpson, President,
Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.,
Bridgeport, Conn.

My dear Mr. Simpson:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of yours of October 1st enclosing copy of the September 25th letter from the editor of the magazine "ASBESTOS". I quite agree with you that our interests are best served by having asbestosis receive the minimum of publicity. Even if we should eventually decide to raise no objection to the publication of an article on asbestosis in the magazine in question, I think we should warn the editors to use American data on the subject rather than English. Dr. Lanza has frequently remarked, to me personally and in some of his papers, that the clinical picture presented in North American localities where there is an asbestos dust hazard is considerably milder than that reported in England and South Africa.

I believe the question raised by Miss Rossiter might well be considered at the committee meeting scheduled for next Tuesday, at which I understand both you and Mr. Judd will be present.

Very truly yours,

Vandiver Brown
Vandiver Brown
Attorney.

in final

VB:T

Mr. Judd will see Stover & tell him he does not want any publicity

SD 10/8/35

005202

R 1124-A-44
11-29-77 OK

Bridgeport, Conn.
Oct. 1, 1935

Mr. Vandiver Brown, Attorney,
Johns-Manville Corp.,
22 East 40th St.,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Brown:

Enclosed is copy of a letter received from Miss Rossiter, of "Asbestos."

As I see it personally, we would be just as well off to say nothing about it until our survey is complete. I think the less said about asbestos, the better off we are, but at the same time, we cannot lose track of the fact that there have been a number of articles on asbestos dust control and asbestosis in the British trade magazines. The magazine "Asbestos" is in business to publish articles affecting the trade and they have been very decent about not re-printing the English articles.

I shall be pleased to have your opinion in the matter.

Very truly yours,

SS-G.

Enc.

President

C. Van Buren

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Very truly yours,

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Attorney

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