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Medical report on status of survey of the plant
of Lowe Brothers, Inc., Dayton, Ohio

Lead exposure

No clinical studies of the men exposed to lead dust have been made. It is apparent from the survey of the operating conditions at the plant both that a potentially hazardous lead exposure exists, and that efforts have been made by the company to control the hazard. Because of the presence of hazardous concentrations of dust in the air under certain operating conditions, a history, a physical examination and laboratory studies should be made on each man exposed to such concentrations. The frequency of such examinations will depend upon what is found at the time of examination, and the conclusions drawn from continued observation of the conditions at the plant.

Silica and asbestine exposure

The X-ray survey is considered adequate evidence of the absence of incapacitating pneumoconiosis among the men. Two men were found with lesions in the chest which require clinical study. If symptoms of pulmonary disease are absent from all the men, and since we know the general type of exposure to such dusts that exists at the plant, this type of survey indicates that pneumoconiosis is not an uncontrolled hazard at the plant. It is felt that the using of approved dust masks during the addition of asbestine to the mixers, during the baling operation, and during the unloading and stacking operations, will effectively control this hazard.

Ethylene dichloride and benzol exposure

From inspection of the operation it appears that a hazardous exposure to these solvents may exist at times. The extent of this exposure should be determined by adequate sampling procedures. A clinical study of three men exposed to these solvents leads to the conclusion that such men should be carefully followed at frequent intervals.

Varnish plant exposures

From inspection of the operations and sampling of phthalic anhydride, it appears that the possibility of hazardous exposure of varnish makers to acrolein and carbon monoxide should be further investigated. This would require adequate sampling procedures, and clinical study of the men if harmful concentrations of these compounds are found.

Lacquer plant exposures

It would appear that adequate air sampling for the acetates and aromatics would be sufficient to determine the hazard in this plant. No clinical studies of the men beyond the periodic studies that should be made on all men in chemical plants, are suggested at present.

Report by:
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Approved _____
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