

FILE NAME: National Safety Council (NSC)

DATE: 1932 Feb

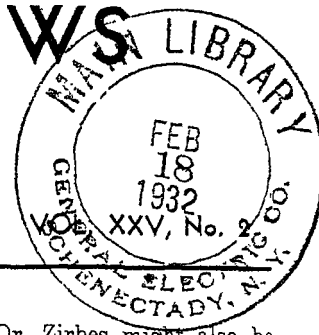
DOC#: NSC005

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: NSC - National Safety News

NATIONAL SAFETY NEWS

Published by the National Safety Council, Inc.
Chicago

FEBRUARY, 1932



The Council's Resources

ELSEWHERE in this issue will be found the annual reports of the treasurer, the chairman of the Finance Committee, and the managing director of the National Safety Council. They all contain information of importance to every member.

The financial statement shows that the Council, like almost every other organization, has suffered a reduction of income during the past year. This has meant the inevitable curtailment of certain activities but the Council's financial structure remains sound.

The report of the managing director presents a brighter side of the picture. The less tangible, but equally important assets of the Council, are unimpaired. The safety movement continues to enjoy the confidence of the public. Industry has supported the Council loyally and the net loss in membership has been relatively small.

The dues paid by members represent only a part of their contributions to the work. Many companies are also contributing the time of executives who hold office in the Council as well as their traveling expenses while on Council business. The experiences of these member companies, which have been contributed freely for mutual help, will not be found in the balance sheet but they constitute an asset which cannot be evaluated in terms of money. The resources of the Council are drawn not from the air but from the labor, the enterprise and the capacity of its members and cooperators.

This cooperative effort is a striking example of Einstein's statement that the expression of social responsibility is the most significant factor in American life. The curbing of accidents is indeed a social responsibility and the industrial and other interests represented in the Council's membership are pointing the way to the general public.

In This Issue

MANY readers will remember the spectacular trip of a Bureau of Mines car far into northern Ontario to assist in fighting a mine fire a few years ago, and the courage and skill displayed by the Bureau of Mines staff in scores of disasters at home is well known. No less important has been the work of the Bureau in promoting first aid training in the mining, petroleum, cement and quarry industries. This work is described by J. J. Forbes and M. J. Ankeny in "Training the Mineral Industries in First Aid."

We hope that no one will pass "The Progressive School Has a Place for Safety," thinking that it is for teachers only. From the standpoint of general interest it is worth reading, and there is helpful advice in it for parents. We believe that some of the principles of

child education described by Dr. Zirbes might also be applied to teaching adults.

Many laymen are inclined to believe that all dusts are dangerous. Dr. Sappington discusses various kinds of industrial dusts, pointing out the difference between those which are dangerous to health and those which cause merely minor functional disorders.

We hear less about guards nowadays but they are still important. P. S. Lang describes a few of the many interesting and practical safeguards in use at Hawthorne Works of the Western Electric Company.

"Employees Cooperate When They Understand," says A. L. Armstrong. The Eastman Kodak Company's fire prevention program has been founded on the principle of giving all employees thorough instruction in fire hazards and methods of prevention.

Modern traffic calls for "A New Order of Self Discipline," says Frank C. Berry, who discusses some fundamental issues in curbing the toll of public accidents.

Have you a problem in industrial health? Perhaps you will find it in "The Question Box," which has been added to Dr. Sappington's regular department. If not, send it in.

Statistics Wanted

MEMBERS of the National Safety Council are now reporting 1931 industrial injury experience to headquarters. These reports form the basis of the Council's annual statistical summary which is recognized everywhere for its accurate presentation of the industrial accident trend in this country.

Every industrial member of the Council should participate in this important activity. The safety movement needs to keep close watch on itself, to analyze carefully its successes and its failures. Such analysis is made possible only by the regular submission of accurate data by many hundreds of industrial plants.

A Guide to Council Service

THIS issue of the NATIONAL SAFETY NEWS is published in two sections. Part II, which has been compiled in response to numerous requests, describes the numerous services which are available to members of the National Safety Council.

Frequently we receive letters from members expressing surprise at finding available some special service which fills a long-felt need. Those who are not familiar with the many available aids to accident prevention will be astonished at the scope of the material which has been prepared, and all will find in Part II many helpful ideas for planning present and future safety activities.

FEBRUARY, 1932

PLAINTIFF'S
EXHIBIT

tabbies
NSC-3

the contracting of silicosis, if exposed to conditions which ordinarily produce this disease.

Neither is there any known way, by which a person may be freed of silicosis after he has developed it. One of the important points about silicosis is its progressiveness; after a victim has reached the third stage and in some instances the second stage, the disease goes on to a fatal termination, even if the employee has been removed from further exposure. This is called a "progressive" type of lung pathology.

Stages of Silicosis

Three stages are recognized: the so-called ante-primary, the primary, and the secondary. These names were given to the various stages through the British experience in South Africa, which has finally come to be a model for all other countries.

In the ante-primary stage there may be no other symptoms than those of a common cold. The physical signs may be quite indefinite and not characteristic. Usually, however, there is some diminution of chest expansion and some shortness of breath on exertion.

In the primary stage there is more diminution of chest expansion, more shortness of breath on exertion, and the chest findings are indicative of definite lung disease. The X-ray picture quite frequently shows an enlargement of the glands at the root of the lungs, with an increased amount of fibrosis, an extension of the lineal markings out beyond what is called the "periphery," and a beaded appearance of these bronchial markings caused by the laying down of fibrous tissue, and collections of devouring cells.

In the secondary stage, which is the final stage of silicosis, there is considerable disability due to the increased diminution of lung expansion and shortness of breath on exertion. There may be cough and some sputum. The X-ray findings are quite definite now and are characteristic, showing an infiltration over the entire middle portion of both sides of the lungs, with what is known as a coarse mottled or "snowstorm" appearance.

We have to keep in mind always that any case of silicosis may be complicated by tuberculosis, in fact in a certain number of instances, the ter-

minal picture is one of silico-tuberculosis or pure tuberculosis.

Post-mortem findings have consistently shown that there are small nodules of fibrous tissue formed in advanced cases of silicosis. In such cases there are even particles of very fine sand present. This is not a new finding, it having been demonstrated by an Italian named Ramazzini, as far back as the year 1700.

Methods of Protection

In considering methods of protection it is wise to mention that the National Safety Council in conjunction with the U. S. Public Health Service has just completed a field study relating to the health hazards of sandblasting processes in industry. Briefly, surveys have been made of various types of sandblasting equipment, protective apparatus, and other relative factors. Dust counts have been made, showing the exact number of particles per cubic foot of air under various conditions. Petrographic analyses have been made showing the exact percentage of free silica under certain conditions, and medical histories, together with X-ray findings have also been developed. It is hoped that through this study, certain standards can be suggested for the safe conduct of sandblasting processes, which will form a definite step toward the protection of workmen in these occupations.

So far, the best method of protection as far as respiratory apparatus of each exposed employee is concerned, is the positive pressure hose mask. Together with this, it is often necessary to use properly equipped and maintained systems of exhaust ventilation.

In addition to these methods, special housing in the form of cabinets and barrels and sandblast rooms have also been found valuable. It is very important, however, that such enclosures should not only completely house all apparatus, but should be built in such a way that the dust concentration will be kept down to a point which is compatible with healthful working conditions.

In the experience of most companies, it is impossible to adequately protect such workmen without periodic medical supervision. This takes the form of periodic examinations, together with X-ray pictures, on employees who are already working, and also a very painstaking employment

examination, and history, which will show the employee capable of working under such conditions.

Legislation

It is interesting to note that in three provinces of Canada, namely Ontario, Saskatchewan and Quebec, there are silicosis laws, which provide for the protection of workmen in industries where such processes are commonly used.

The Ontario law may be taken as an example. To carry out the various procedures necessary, a Silicosis Commission composed of three expert physicians has been appointed; it is the duty of this commission to make employment examinations on all persons entering industries where there is a silicosis hazard, to make periodic examinations on all persons so employed, and to rate persons who have contracted silicosis.

The Ontario law provides that there must be from three to five years' exposure, three years in stone-cutting trades and five years in other industries. In the ante-primary stage, showing the earliest detectable physical signs of silicosis, which have been or are present, a lump sum of \$500 is awarded, whether or not the capacity for work is or has been impaired. In the primary stage where physical signs are more constant and radiographic changes are also more characteristic, there is an impairment which is usually not serious and permanent; for this stage a lump sum of \$1000 is awarded. In the secondary and final stage of silicosis where the findings are rarely unmistakable, the impairment is considered serious and permanent and the employee is awarded two-thirds of his wages for the rest of his life.

Although the laws in Saskatchewan and Quebec are not exactly the same, they are very similar and in these other instances are administered in a similar way.

There are six states in the United States, which have complete occupational disease coverage, California, Connecticut, Maryland, Massachusetts, North Dakota, and Wisconsin. Hawaii is also included.

It is interesting that Illinois enumerates the dangerous processes for which compensation will be paid, if the claim is justified: these include processes involving lead, arsenic, brass, and zinc.