

MINUTES of the General Meeting of the
Asbestos Textile Institute held June 9,
1955 in Philadelphia, Pa.

IN ATTENDANCE:

F. J. Mahan, President
JOHN-S-MANVILLE CORP.

AMERICAN ASBESTOS TEXTILE CORP.

J. W. Weber
A. J. Scanlan

ASBESTOS CORPORATION, LTD.

Paul LeClerc
George Jenkins

ASTORIA-HILL MANUFACTURING CO.

D. R. Holmes

BELL ASBESTOS MINES

J. A. Smith

CAPE ASBESTOS COMPANY, LTD.

R. E. Cryer

JOHN-S-MANVILLE CORP.

W. G. Hoffer
E. A. Schuman

JOHNSON'S COMPANY

A. W. G. Gibb

KEASBEY & MATTHEW CO.

C. R. Frederick
R. L. Lanz
D. W. Widmayer
A. E. Whitfield

RAYBESTOS-MANHATTAN, INC.

J. A. Lettes
J. A. Brown
H. W. Oliver

SOUTHERN ASBESTOS COMPANY

O. C. Fehrs
J. T. Griffiths
G. J. Harris
J. D. McCluer

UNION ASBESTOS & RUBBER CO.

J. F. Corcoran
F. B. Kreider

SOCIETE FRANCAISE DE L'AMIANTE

Pierre Savary

CANALADE, WICKERMAN & TAIT

H. I. Luddock

ASBESTOS TEXTILE INSTITUTE

H. C. Shaw

1. The meeting was called to order by President Mahan and an address of welcome extended to all those in attendance, especially recognizing the good representation of Associate members present. During the course of the introductory remarks the members were advised regarding the absence of George Marshall, Raybestos-Manhattan, one of the founders of the Institute and a member who rarely misses the Institute meetings. Mr. Marshall's absence on this occasion is due to the fact that he is presently under medical attention and treatment at the Kempner Clinic, Duke University. Hope was here expressed that Mr. Marshall's recovery would be speedy and that he would be able to attend the next meeting of this association.

Following these remarks each member was asked to introduce himself and identify his company affiliation.

2. The President introduced the minutes of the last meeting of the Institute for reading at this time, however, Mr. D. W. Edmayer moved that the reading be dispensed with at this time since all members had received copies of these minutes and were familiar with the actions there taken. Mr. D. W. Holmes seconded this motion and it was unanimously agreed upon.
3. The Treasurer's Report was presented by the Assistant Treasurer in the absence of Treasurer J. G. Schoepf. Following a discussion of this report, it was moved by J. A. Bettes, seconded by J. F. Corcoran, and unanimously agreed that the report be accepted. (Copy attached).
4. The Secretary's report was read by the Secretary and is attached as a part of the minutes of this meeting.
6. The first committee report was presented by Mr. D. R. Holmes on behalf of the Air Hygiene Committee. This report and the discussion pertaining thereto was mainly concerned with a proposal for research recently submitted to the Institute by the Air Hygiene Committee, said research covering the two projects: 1) a cardio-pulmonary study and 2) an autopsy study. It was generally agreed that the first project noted would be desirable and would undoubtedly provide some information of significance, however, the inability of member companies to obtain candidates for participation in this project, which would require hospitalization and observation, would seem to provide great difficulties in effectively carrying out such a program at this time. The second program listed was considered ill-advised at this time due to its implication that a relationship existed between asbestosis and carcinogenic development, a condition which, to date, has not been established although it has been given rather wide-spread publicity in the press.
7. The Technical Committee report was presented by Mr. J. D. McCluer, Chairman of that Committee. (Report attached). In pursuance of the several projects under consideration by this group the following results were reported: 1) the industry-wide tabulation of braided twine constructions have been drafted and are being submitted to the Sales Promotion Committee for consideration, 2) the tape list, covering an industry-wide selection of these materials, has been completed and is likewise being submitted to the Sales Promotion Committee for review, 3) the standard cloth list has been brought up to date, with changes being made with regard to the tensile strengths of certain grades of the HOPLO constructions. Many other activities of this committee were reported upon and the attached report covers the remarks in full.
8. The Fellowship Report was presented by the Fellow and covered, in the main, the results of recent work with respect to the determination of the elevated temperature characteristics of those asbestos textiles included in several federal and industrial specifications which contain provisions for a heat aging test. The Fellowship report is attached as a part of the minutes of this meeting.

October 17, 1955

MINUTES OF THE ASBESTOS TEXTILE INSTITUTE

AIR HYGIENE COMMITTEE MEETING

September 7, 1955

IN ATTENDANCE WERE: D. R. Holmes
J. W. Weber
R. C. Smith
H. M. Jackson

The Air Hygiene Committee was most pleased to have as its guests representatives of the Quebec Mining Association - Dr. Paul Cartier, Mr. Ivan Sabourin and Mr. Maurice La Chance.

Mr. Sabourin, general counsel for the Q.A.M.A. told of the history and function of that association. The Quebec Asbestos Mining Association has been operating for approximately 20 years, and its membership represents approximately 65% of the world supply of asbestos fibre. As an industry association, it functions quite similarly to the Asbestos Textile Institute. Considerable attention is given the health problems of the industry. There are two medical clinics; one at Asbestos, the other at Thetford, both fully staffed and with complete hospital facilities. Pre-employment and periodic health examinations are provided for all workers. Safety engineering services have been provided by the Association to its members for a number of years. More recently, an industrial hygiene engineer has been added to its staff. As a result of the industry emphasis on health, safety and dust control for the past ten years, there are practically no new cases of asbestosis other than those with twenty or more years exposure. Mr. Sabourin stated that the present major health problems of the industry pertained to the relationship of heart difficulties and cancer to asbestos exposure.

Dr. Paul Cartier told of the operation of the Thetford Clinic. Established in 1945, the Clinic provides health services to the Thetford people. Pre-employment and periodic annual examinations include an X-ray and electrocardiogram, as well as the other usual examination features.

Commenting on the occurrence of asbestosis, Dr. Cartier indicated that after ten years exposure, about 5% would have some histological evidence of asbestosis (minimal tissue changes not sufficient to be observed on the X-ray), 10% would have some radiological evidence and 2% might have some clinical evidence of disability from asbestosis.

In reference to the pulmonary cancer experience in the industry, Dr. Cartier stated that in the ten years of the clinic's operation; there have been fifteen cases of cancer observed. Nine of these on autopsy showed some histological evidence of asbestosis. In six, however, there was no evidence of asbestosis. This experience would indicate a very much lower attack rate than that reported from the British experience of 13%.

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Autopsy study is made of every occupational disease claim case, and as many others as possible. Dr. Cartier stated that this was of utmost importance not only in determining the extent of liability, but also in increasing the knowledge of the disease process. The clinic has not done any work with intermittent, positive pressure breathing, although some use of cortisone is being made. The experience to date, however, has been insufficient to justify any conclusions.

Dr. Cartier expressed the opinion that considerable research must be done in the fields of cancer and heart to define more clearly the role, if any, played by inhalation of asbestos.

Mr. Maurice La Chance told of the experience in dust control in the mines and mills of the Association members. Annual dust surveys are made at eleven mines and reports submitted to each. The standard U. S. Bureau of Mines technique is used for surveying with the midget impinger. For fibre evaluation, the definition of the length being three times the width is applied. Mr. La Chance stated that since the program was inaugurated in 1948, the average dust concentrations have been reduced 50%. In general, the fibre content of the total dust count ranged from 1% to 12%. In his opinion, the most effective dust collector system to date is the bag type Wheelabrator unit.

John Weber reported on the bag dumping unit now in operation in his plant. Photographs were shown and John indicated that full details may be obtained from the Wilkra Company, 71 Denton Avenue, New Hyde Park, Long Island, N. Y. Although dust counts have not yet been taken, visual observation indicates complete control of this usually dusty operation. The unit has not been in operation sufficiently long to estimate the maintenance and operating cost. The shaking cycle is less than one minute per bag, and John indicated that the bags were shaken considerably cleaner than by the hand method.

A general discussion of fibre conditioning agents was held, and it was suggested that the experience of our associate members might be of value to the technical committee which is further investigating this problem. We herewith extend an invitation to each associate member to forward a summary of its experience with fibre conditioning as a means of preventing dust control.

H. H. Jackson
Chairman
Air Hygiene Committee

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