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Foundation Facts

C. RICHARD WALMER, M.D., Pittsburgh

It is indeed a pleasure to welcome all of you to this 22d Annual Meeting of Industrial Hygiene Foundation, not only because I am always happy to see so many members of the Foundation here, but because I believe this audience represents the formula for hurdling obstacles that present themselves in just about every major human endeavor. And that formula is communication—not just communication within the boundaries of our own specialties, but communication across lines, across barriers of misunderstanding that lack of information and insight can create.

We hope that the program which has been arranged for you will help to bring about a clearer understanding of the interrelationship of management, technical, and medical aspects of health maintenance.

We want at this time to welcome 11 new members to this year's meeting. They are the following:

The American Metal Co., Ltd.
The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway System
Brazilian National Steel Company
Dick Corporation
General Foods Corporation
Ingersoll-Humphreys Division of Borg-Warner Corporation
Lukens Steel Company
Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing Co.
Reaction Motors, Inc.
Research-Cottrell, Inc.
Sheffield Steel Division of Armco Steel Corporation

We hope that you will consider the Foundation as part of your own technical staff, and we look forward to being of assistance to you.

During the past year the Foundation's staff completed a number of important field and research projects. Environmental surveys were made for member companies to evaluate the degree of hazardous exposures to dust, fumes, and other atmospheric contaminants. Control measures were based upon this evaluation of the working environment. Investigations were also made of community air pollution, and stack discharges at industrial plants were measured to determine whether these were a contributing factor.

Two major epidemiological studies were carried on during the year, one to determine the health status of workers in a specific industry and whether there is a relationship between environmental exposures and certain biologic effects, and the other to investigate the biologic effects of certain chemical compounds.

Another major medical study was the survey of the medical program of one member company, a redesigning of it, and the preparation of a manual of procedures.

A number of research investigations in the Foundation's toxicological laboratory were concerned with the development of fundamental information appraising and controlling occupational disease hazards. Among long-range projects of this type is one being conducted for an association of industries to study biological factors in air pollution. Another is a research project to study potential hazards of a new product, and includes pulmonary, gastrointestinal, and eye-irritation studies. Findings serve as a basis for evolving proper control measures to protect the health of workers and consumers.

These are just the highlights of the work carried on this year. There were many other projects of a lesser magnitude but equally