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MINUTES of the Meeting of the Board of Governors of the Asbestos Textile Institute held March 7, 1956 in Philadelphia, Pa.

IN ATTENDANCE:

F. J. Wakem, President
JOHNS-MANVILLE CORP.

ASBESTOS TEXTILE CORP.
A. J. Scanlan

ASTEN-HILL MANUFACTURING CO.
D. R. Holmes

KEASBEY & MATTISON CO.
A. E. Whitfield

RAYBESTOS-MANHATTAN, INC.
J. A. Bettes

SOUTHERN ASBESTOS CO.
R. S. Hulse

CADWALADER, WICKERSHAM & TAFT
M. I. Ruddock

ASBESTOS TEXTILE INSTITUTE
M. C. Shaw

1. The meeting was called to order by President Wakem and recognition was extended to Mr. J. A. Bettes representing Mr. G. W. Marshall, Jr., Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.; Mr. D. R. Holmes representing Mr. J. C. Schoepf, Asten-Hill Mfg. Co.; and Mr. A. E. Whitfield representing D. W. Widmayer, Keasbey & Mattison Co.

2. The first segment of the meeting was devoted to the presentation of committee reports.

a) The Air Hygiene Committee report was presented by two representatives from that committee, Dr. Kenneth Smith and Mr. D. R. Holmes, Chairman of the Committee. Dr. Smith addressed the meeting first with remarks directing attention to a report issued by Dr. Hueper titled "Public Health Monograph #36, A quest into the environmental causes of Cancer of the Lung". Much of the information set forth in this report is unsubstantiated and is in variance with established understanding and knowledge of informed men in the medical profession. However, this article is apparently assumed to be the only authentic treatise today available which may be used as a reference for court action involving asbestosis and its relationship to heart disease and lung cancer. Dr. Smith strongly recommended that the Institute initiate a program of investigation and publicity to counteract the unfavorable publicity presently directed to the asbestos industries as a result of the work of Dr. Hueper. It was recommended that the Industrial Air Hygiene Foundation be engaged to collect the necessary information and to publicize the results so obtained.

As a result of these recommendations, it was moved by D. R. Holmes, seconded by R. S. Hulse and unanimously agreed that the Industrial Air Hygiene Foundation be engaged to conduct a preliminary survey to determine the scope and expense which would be incurred in a detailed study concerned with the relationship of asbestosis to cancer. The cost of this preliminary survey is not to exceed $1000.00. It was further unanimously agreed that Garlock Packing Company and Asbestos Textile Company should be invited to participate in this preliminary investigation.

D. R. Holmes completed the report for the Air Hygiene Committee, presenting the results of discussions pursued during the course of the committee meeting held earlier on this date. The full report covering these remarks is attached as a part of the minutes of the General meeting.

b) The Sales Promotion Committee report was presented by J. T. Griffis, Chairman of that Committee. The meeting of this committee held earlier on this date was devoted to discussions related to a variety of subjects concerned with advancing attention and interest in the products of the asbestos textile industry. Action was taken directing the permanent placement of a Visual Aid Display at Lowell Textile Institute and a temperatory placement at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Also, plans were further advanced for the construction of the new display which has been under consideration by the Institute for the past year.

The committee also considered the report presented by Dr. Shaw related to efforts that were made during the past months to endeavor to arrest the marketing of certain ironing board covers, the sales of which are promoted through a misrepresentation as to the asbestos content of the covers. Efforts by the Institute to interest the Federal Trade Commission in this matter have not, to date, been successful and the matter was referred to Mr. Ruddock and Dr. Shaw for further consideration.

The Technical Committee, through its Chairman, Mr. H. W. Oliver, sought the assistance of the Sales Promotion Committee in its endeavor to establish a standard heat aging test for asbestos textiles. In light of related work being conducted by the Fellow it was agreed that action in this regard should be deferred until the Fellowship investigations can provide a basis for some more definite conclusions.

The full report covering the activities of the Sales Promotion Committee is attached as a part of the Minutes of the General Meeting.

c) The Technical Committee report was presented by H. W. Oliver, Chairman of that Committee. The work of the several task groups assigned problems related to cloth, braid and tape were discussed and the results of these endeavors set forth. The complete report covering the activities of this committee is attached as a part of the Minutes of the General meeting.

3. Following the committee reports, the regular agenda for the meeting was undertaken. The first subject introduced was the Treasurer's Report and following a discussion of the matters here presented it was moved by A. E. Whitfield, seconded by J. A. Bettes and unanimously agreed that the report be recommended for approval at the General meeting.

4. The President announced that the next General meeting of the Institute would be held at Thetford Mines, Canada, on June 6 and 7, 1956. A discussion followed concerning this meeting and it was agreed that the Secretary should direct a questionnaire to each member of the Board of Governors in an effort to ascertain how many members of the Institute would attend this meeting. Following the accumulation of this information, it is to be turned over to the President who will endeavor to establish the proper meeting facilities in the Thetford area and travel accommodations for the group.

APPEARANCES:

For the Plaintiffs:

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Thereupon
RONALD E. GOTS, M.D., PH.D.
a witness, called for examination by counsel for the plaintiffs, and after having been first duly sworn by the Notary Public, was examined and testified as follows:

EXAMINATION BY COUNSEL FOR THE PLAINTIFFS

BY MR. WOLF:

Q Will you please state your name?

A Ronald E. Gots.

Q Do you spell your last name G-O-T-S?

A That's correct.

MR. WOLF: Let the record reflect that this is the discovery deposition taken of Dr. Ronald Gots, taken pursuant to notice and pursuant to agreement by the parties and by Dr. Gots. Let the record also reflect that this deposition is being taken in accordance with all applicable rules under the state of Illinois.

BY MR. WOLF:

Q Dr. Gots, my name is Steve Wolf. As you know, I'm the attorney for the plaintiffs in the case that you've become involved in by way of your expertise, and I'm going to be asking you some questions. I know that you've given depositions in the past, but nonetheless, I'd just like to go through a couple ground rules so we're on the same page, okay?

A Yes. I understand, yes.

Q And if you would like to answer a question in the affirmative, please use the word yes. If you would like to answer in the negative, please use the word no. Try and avoid saying things like yeah or uh-huh or shrugging your shoulders or nodding your head. Do you understand that?

A Yes.

Q If you anticipate a question that I am asking, please allow me to complete my question before you begin your answer so the court reporter can take the entire question