MINUTES OF THE ASBESTOS TEXTILE INSTITUTE

AIR HYGIENE AND MANUFACTURING COMMITTEE

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT
D-312

March 7th, 1957

IN ATTENDANCE WERE:

D. R. Holmes - Asten-Hill Mfg. Co.
R. B. Smith - Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.
B. W. Luttenberger - Raybestos-Manhattan Inc.
J. W. Heber - American Asbestos Textile Corp.
A. E. May - Keasbey & Mattison Co.
W. C. Atkinson - Johns-Manville Corp.
J. L. Mitchell - Southern Asbestos Co.

MORNING SESSION

The first item for discussion was the "Memorandum on Proposed Epidemiological Study of Lung Cancer in Asbestos Workers" for the Asbestos Textile Institute.

This proposal had been under discussion for approximately one year and the cost of it could run from about $17,000.00 to possibly $30,000.00. After a lengthy discussion, the proposal was put to a vote and six of the eight members of the Committee voted against the continuance of the consideration of the proposal. It, therefore, was rejected for the following reasons.

1. It was decided that as the Q.A.M.A. has a similar program, we should not enter into a program of our own as the results of the Q.A.M.A. investigation will be made available to us upon the conclusion of that investigation.

2. There is a feeling among certain members that such an investigation would stir up a hornet's nest and put the whole industry under suspicion.

3. We do not believe there is enough evidence of cancer or asbestosis, or cancer and asbestosis, in this industry to warrant this survey.

The second item to be taken up was a "Memorandum regarding Environmental Dust Survey" for the Asbestos Textile Institute.

This survey would have cost in the vicinity of $7500.00 to $8,000.00, and it would have been part of the type survey made for the industry back in 1947. However, dust counts would only be taken and recommendations made. There would be little or no engineering information or data made available for such a survey due to its low cost.

After much discussion by the committee, a vote was taken on this survey and the entire committee voted against it as it was the opinion of the committee that we did not believe it to be of great enough value to justify the cost. It was our opinion that we can locate our own trouble spots involving high dust counts and correct them, and perhaps later on, we could

use the facilities of Travelers Life Insurance Company laboratories to make a comparison of dust counts for little or no expense similar to the survey made by the committee three years ago.

The Chairman was instructed by the committee on both of the above proposals to advise the Industrial Hygiene Foundation that both of the proposals are to be withdrawn.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The entire afternoon was taken up with open discussion concerning methods and means of eliminating dust in plants of member companies.

We discussed the means and methods of eliminating dust from the following type machines: Flyframes, Cards, Twisters, Spinners, Kickers, Blending, Batching, Dust Collectors, etc.

It is understandable that when we have a discussion concerning the elimination of dust by whatever means that we get into many ramifications involving manufacturing methods. This does not mean that we compare or exchange manufacturing ideas or secrets, but it only means that as far as elimination of dust is concerned, we do have open discussion and free exchange of information on each type of machine in order that we may aid each other in eliminating these hazardous dust spots. This discussion took up the entire afternoon.

The committee was very happy to receive in attendance two new members, Mr. W. C. Atkinson from Johns-Manville and Mr. Jerry Mitchell from the Southern Asbestos Company.

Mr. Mitchell indicated at the end of our meeting that he would be the permanent member of our committee.

NEXT MEETING AGENDA

1. Analysis and discussion of the Southern Asbestos Company Report entitled "Analysis of Fibres as Received from Bags", as reported in the Minutes of the Technical Committee for the December Meeting.

2. A continued discussion of Dust Collectors and the best methods of operating such equipment.

3. A continued discussion of the removal of dust from any and all sections of manufacturing by any means.

4. A discussion of dust counts in high count areas and methods of correction.

D. R. Holmes, Chairman
Air Hygiene Committee
Asbestos Textile Institute