

MELLON INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

PROGRESS REPORT for the week ended February 22, 1936AIR HYGIENE FOUNDATION Industrial Fellowship No. 259-1

Subjects under ()
 which report is ()
 to be indexed ()

Feb. 17 - I assumed my duties as Executive Assistant of the Air Hygiene Foundation. Devoted most of the day to a study of literature dealing with pneumoconiosis. This included short bulletins of the U. S. Public Health Service and "Anthraco-Silicosis", a study conducted by the Public Health Service and published by the Pennsylvania Department of Labor.

At the suggestion of Mr. Meller I made up a list of questions dealing with subjects pertaining to the Foundation on which I desired more information. In the afternoon I accompanied Mr. Meller on a visit to Mellon Institute where we talked with Dr. Hamor. The conference was devoted to a discussion of the Foundation's problems and the procedure which should be followed in dealing with them.

In the evening I attended a meeting of the Pittsburgh Foundrymen's Association at which Mr. Meller was the principal speaker. I was introduced to the meeting and made a few brief comments on the public and industrial relations phases of the Foundation's activities.

Feb. 18 - Devoted the morning to a study of abstracts covering survey reports on pneumoconiosis and kindred dust diseases; and to a discussion of the Foundation's activities with Mr. Meller. We went over the questions I prepared the day before, Mr. Meller explaining the various topics about which I inquired.

In the afternoon I continued my study of the abstracts and called on J. A. Oartel, chairman of the Safety Committee of the Carnegie-Illinois Corp.

Met Mr. Oartel at the Foundrymen's meeting. He had expressed keen interest in the Foundation, declared he had asked Mr. Meller for more information and said he would like to affiliate. My call was a follow up. Supplied him with information regarding the Foundation. He again expressed interest since the parent company, the U. S. Steel Corp. might be put in an embarrassing position by the Foundation's join.

before. He went to it." He stated his firm position that the Foundation, Carnegie-Illinois

I assured him that direct membership in organizations, such as his, would be especially beneficial for all concerned, regardless of other affiliations of an indirect nature, such as through a trade organizations or a parent firm. He requested information on proper procedure in his case. I promised

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to lay the matter before Mr. Meller and to relay his advice. Mr. Meller suggested the matter be placed before H. A. Schultz, a member of the Foundation's Board of Trustees and an official of the U. S. Steel Corporation, providing Mr. Oartel approved of this procedure.

Feb. 19 - Devoted the morning to study of pneumoconiosis abstracts. Visited the County Law Library, where I looked up and read the case of Pero vs. Collier-Latimer, Inc., which had been called to our attention by Mr. Schultz. In this case the State Supreme Court of Wyoming upheld the ruling of the lower courts in awarding compensation to Pero. It was testified that he contracted what was diagnosed as "pneumoconiosis" and "chronic silicosis" after working about three months as an attendant at a rock crushing machine of Collier-Latimer, Inc. The Supreme Court ruled the man was injured "directly" in his work. The case may be found in the January 24, 1936, issue of the Pacific Reporter, page 690.

Called Mr. Oartel, seeking his approval of Mr. Meller's plan to contact Mr. Schultz. Mr. Oartel was out of town. Worked on my own files, gathering general information and background. Continued my study of industrial dust diseases.

Feb. 20 - Finished studying abstracts on "Prevention of Dust Diseases," and read "Determination of Dust in Air."

Telephoned Mr. Oartel and obtained his approval to have Mr. Meller consult with Mr. Schultz on the subject of Carnegie-Illinois Corp., membership in the Foundation. Wrote to a confidential source seeking a copy of a report concerning activities by a Saranac Lake institution in the field of pneumoconiosis. Accompanied Mr. Meller to Mellon Institute in the afternoon for a conference with Dr. Hamor. We discussed aims and purposes of the Foundation.

Feb. 21 - Continued my studies of pneumoconiosis abstracts. Called on Dr. B. D. Saklatwalla, the first step in my plan to contact members of the Foundation's Board of Trustees in this district in order to gather any suggestions and aid they can give me at the start of my undertaking. Dr. Saklatwalla was tied up with appointments for the day but he left his office for a few minutes to see me. He said he had several things he would like to talk about, including membership prospects, and cordially agreed to see me on Monday, February 24.

Lunched with officials of the Aluminum Company. They promised any aid they could give and I arranged for an appointment with Mr. Anderson, Personnel Executive, for Monday. Called on Mr. Leshner of the Pittsburgh Coal Company in the afternoon. He was booked up for the day but I arranged to see him on Monday. Called on H. S. Wherrett of the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company who was also tied up. Arranged to see him Monday, providing his schedule permits.

Visited the U. S. Bureau of Foreign & Domestic Commerce, seeking a list of foundries in the Pittsburgh district. They were unable to supply. I visited the Chamber of Commerce where I obtained the list. This will be helpful in covering the local field.

Pittsburgh, Pa.
February 21, 1936

John F. McMahon