


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

IN ATTENDANCE:

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

AMERICAN ASBESTOS TEXTILE CORP.
J. W. Weber
A. J. Scanlan

ASBESTOS CORPORATION, LTD.
Paul LeClerc
George Jenkins

ASTEN-HILL MANUFACTURING CO.
D. E. Holmes

BELL ASBESTOS MINES
J. A. Smith

CAPE ASBESTOS COMPANY, LTD.
Cryor

JOHNS-MANVILLE CORP.
W. G. Hoffer
E. A. Schuman

JOHNSON'S COMPANY
A. W. G. Gibb

KASBEY & MATTISON CO.
C. R. Frederick
R. L. Lanz
D. W. Widmayer
A. E. Whitfield

RAYBESTOS-MANHATTAN, INC.
J. A. Bettes
J. A. Brown
H. W. Oliver

SOUTHERN ASBESTOS COMPANY
O. C. Fehrens
J. T. Griffis
G. J. Harris
J. D. McCluer

UNION ASBESTOS & RUBBER CO.
J. F. Corcoran
F. B. Kreider

SOCIETE FRANCAISE DE L'AMIANTE
Pierre Savary

CADWALADER, WICKERSHAM & TAFT
H. I. Ruddock

ASBESTOS TEXTILE INSTITUTE
H. C. Shaw

The meeting was called to order by President Wakem 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. Mahayer 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. R. 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. Dettes, 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 desireable 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 tubing 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 4OP10 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.

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT 342

Asbestos Textile Institute - Air Hygiene Committee
Proposal for Asbestosis Research

It is the recommendation of the Air Hygiene Committee that the individual members of the Asbestos Textile Institute participate voluntarily in further research of Asbestosis through (1) cardio-pulmonary and (2) autopsy studies.

1. Cardio-pulmonary Study.

The cardio-pulmonary studies would be conducted by Dr. P.A. Theodos at the Barton Memorial Hospital, 121 South Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Approximately one weeks hospitalization per patient would be necessary for the studies which would include:

1. A complete medical and industrial history, physical examination, and routine laboratory studies including x-rays of the chest and electrocardiograms.

2. Complete pulmonary function studies including measurements of the ventilation, degree of emphysema and the respiratory gas exchange.

3. Cardiac catheterization to determine the pressure in the pulmonary circulation and to correlate these with the clinical features and the pulmonary function studies.

4. Lung biopsy under local anesthesia in selected cases to correlate the pathological features with the clinical and laboratory findings.

It is indicated that the hospital charges would approximate $300. per patient. The cost to the member company would, of course, include the additional expenses of transportation, wage loss, etc. A Group Hospitalization plan might absorb a portion of the costs.

Report of all medical data for each patient would be forwarded to the company physician and to the family physician, if desired. Following a series of studies, Dr. Theodos would summarize and report his findings to the Instite membership.

This type of investigation is of considerable value to each participating Member and to the Institute as a whole. The results of the study of the patient would indicate objectively the evaluation of cause and extent of disability. Since the usual case sent for this examination would be a current or potential workmen's compensation occupational disease claim, this report would assist in determining the validity of the claim and the extent of the disability and therefore, the liability.

2. Autopsy Study.

The pathological and analytical studies of autopsy specimens would be made by Dr. G. W. H. Schepers, Saranac Laboratory, Saranac, New York. The study consists of reports of the pathology, the petrographic analysis and tissue ashing.

Autopsy specimens would be obtained and forwarded by the plant physician. Details of the medical routines, the employment and medical histories, and specimen preparation were given each doctor at the October, 1954 meeting.

Report of the study would be sent to the plant physician, with additional copies for the pathologist performing the autopsy and the family doctor as desired. The cost of the complete study approximates $200. - $250.

This type of investigation, too, is of considerable value to the participating company and to the entire Institute. The individual reports will establish, in a manner not possible by X-ray and clinical diagnosis, the nature and extent of the disease process. This will have important bearing on Workmen's Compensation liability for a particular case.

After a series of case studies, Dr. Schepers will summarize and report to the Institute membership his findings and observations. While animal experimentation has contributed greatly, the autopsy studies can develop even more complete knowledge of the disease process; which in turn can lead to more effective medical and exposure control.

Industry participation in these programs would insure advance in Medical Knowledge regarding Asbestosis. Since the cases in any one company are so few, the cumulative industry experience is necessary to provide a large enough sample to produce valid data.

The cost for each member is nominal and immediate value is obtained through the case reports which provide a basis for equitable settlement of Workmen's Compensation claims.

While the Board of Governors has approved these programs in principle, we desire to have a direct indication from each member company as to whether they will participate in them. It is understood that such might require clarification or modification of some management policies.

Would you kindly review the above proposals and indicate the intent of your company regarding them.

Should general participation be agreed to, complete details, procedures, addresses, etc. will be forwarded each member for distribution to appropriate company personnel.

H. H. Jackson, Chairman
Air Hygiene Committee

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 8% 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