Confidential

October 27, 1950

A. R. Fisher

Asbestos and Pulmonary Cancer

Here is the copy of the Proposal dated September 21, 1950, that Dr. Norwald sent to me. Attached also is George Foster's report to the C. A. M. A., dated September 25, 1950, which he had sent to you.

The main points were covered when you, Dr. Lanza, and I discussed this yesterday and I have made marginal notes in both booklets that may be of interest to you. Some items were:

(1) Make the best possible epidemiological study by personnel well qualified in this field. Desirable to have this precede Saranac dust studies if possible, but not necessary. (Dr. Lanza says Dr. E. K. Hammond is known to be good.)

(2) It might be well to have estimates on years beyond the first and second since Saranac estimates the possibility of a five-year program. Doubtless these years would not be any more expensive than the second year at $10,000.

(3) Under Item 15, page 11, in the Saranac Proposal, there is the usual stipulation about publication of the results. This appears to be all right, but it would be desirable if representatives from Saranac would not make talks before groups bringing out information about the investigation that is not yet ready for publication. As you will recall, this has been done in the past and possibly cannot be prevented.

As to Mr. Foster's report, it seems to me that the idea of putting out truthful counter-propaganda is a good one in order to counteract some of the wild statements made on the other side. I presume, when he speaks of having our doctors lecture at medical schools, that this would be only on certain occasions and not so frequently as to interfere with our normal business.

Dr. Lanza agreed with my thought that we would do well to avoid forming an institute for industrial chest diseases with other mining associations for the obvious reason that we have relatively minor problems and might become identified with some very serious problems in the industry in general where workmen are dying of silicosis, siderosis, and other ailments of this kind.

J. P. Woodard

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bc: H. M. Jackson

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