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FORM NO. 803 (6-61)

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

FROM: T. Price | OFFICE Cleveland C

TO: T. Price | OFFICE Ft. Wash.

SUBJECT: | DATE 5/29/63

MESSAGE:

Bill Hankins picked these up from an engineer in W. Va. Maybe you have already seen. If not, that you would be interested.

SIGNED [signature]

REPLY:

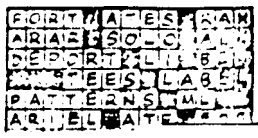
RECEIVED
GENERAL SALES A/C PIPE
MAY 31 1968

REPLIER'S COPY—RETAIN FOR YOUR FILES | DATE | SIGNED

Castleman.CERT000278

HARKINS

ACROSS
1-Dance step
4-Separate
8-Free ticket
3-Impassive
4-Vessels
5-Beverage
6-Distant





Health Board Advises Against Asbestos Pipe

By DICK BATTLE

The Metropolitan Board of Health recommended today asbestos cement pipe not be used in the Metropolitan water system "until more evidence can be developed" concerning any health hazard from asbestos fibers.

Dr. Joseph Bistowish, director of health, said the board "has instructed me to recommend to Mr. Lawrence (director of water and sewerage services Robert L. Lawrence) against the use of asbestos pipe at this time until we can get more evidence. We want more information about it before we can make a firm decision."

Councilman James LaPenna has been urging that bidding be opened to allow purchase of asbestos-cement pipe.

Rejected Plea

Lawrence, who is responsible for specifications on materials, has rejected LaPenna's suggestions on the basis cast iron pipe is superior to the asbestos pipe in tensile strength and suitability for use here.

Several medical experts have suggested the possibility that the ingestion of asbestos fibers from the use of asbestos pipe might be a cause of intestinal cancer.

Dr. Bistowish said he also has asked the Nashville Academy of Medicine, through its Public Health Committee headed by Dr. Alvin Keller, to investigate the use of asbestos pipe.

The board in other actions this morning voted to add measles vaccination to the immunizations required for admission to schools, nursery schools and day care centers.

Delays Clinic

The board delayed opening of a public health clinic in the Edgehill Urban renewal project pending "discussion of several problems . . . including the level of indigency and how we can assure follow up care . . ." The director said he would probably discuss the matter with Vanderbilt and General Hospital officials.

Dr. Bistowish said a study of influenza cases involving employes at a local industrial plant indicates a new strain of flu virus, "A-2 Taiwan" was the cause of much of the recent flu epidemic.

He said clinical evidence might develop another strain but "we know this new (A-2 Taiwan) strain has been prevalent here based on the small number of cases checked at one industrial plant."

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HARKINS

THE NASHVILLE TENNESSEAN
Nashville, Tennessee
December 12, 1967 (p.1)

Asbestos Pipe, Cancer Tie Hit

By JIM SQUIRES
Staff Correspondent

NEW YORK — There is no evidence to support a recent statement by a Nashville doctor that use of asbestos—cement water pipe might cause cancer, a noted cancer researcher said here yesterday.

Dr. George Wright, chairman of The Institute for Occupational and Environmental Health, said he did not think such a relationship "will ever be established."

WRIGHT, HEAD of the department of medical research in internal medicine at St. Luke's Hospital in Cleveland, Ohio, said a letter from Dr. James Snell, an assistant professor at Vanderbilt University school of medicine, suggesting such a relationship "apparently arises out of an incomplete perspective" of the problem.

Wright spoke to nine Metro councilmen here to tour a Johns-Manville plant in Newark, N.J., a manufacturer of asbestos-cement pipe.

Snell sent a letter last month to Metro waterworks director Robert L. Lawrence supporting Lawrence's decision to prohibit asbestor-cement manufacturers from bidding on Metro waterpipe purchases.

The council committee on purchasing had suggested that Lawrence allow asbestos-cement manufacturers to bid because the product is less expensive than the cast iron pipe now being used.

SNELL WROTE that asbestos is a known cause of cancer and can contaminate drinking water. The physician said he did not believe this fact had been brought to the attention of the U.S. Public Health Service.

Wright an adviser to the U.S. Public Health Service, said the asbestos-cement pipe industry had long been aware of a link between certain types of asbestos fibers and lung cancer and with Mesothelioma, a rare malignant tumor found on the lung covering and the gastrointestinal tract.

He pointed out, however, that asbestosis (a lung tissue disease) and lung cancer are caused only by inhalation of certain asbestos fibers in large amounts and over long periods of time.

MESOTHELIOMA, he said, has never been linked positively with swallowed amounts of asbestos and is "extremely rare."

"Evidence of research indicates that virtually everyone is exposed to asbestos fibers," he said. "In fact, it would appear reasonable to assume that there is no such thing as not having been exposed. If mere exposure is a cause, we would all have it."

Wright cited widespread use of asbestos fibers in insulation, electrical wiring and stove ovens and toasters.

"THERE IS A great upswing in the use of asbestos fiber, but the incidence of cancer has actually fallen off," Wright said.

Wright said asbestos-cement pipe, consisting of 20% asbestos fiber, has been in water systems in some areas for as long as 30 years. In many instances, he said, there is no evidence of wear in these pipes to release asbestos fiber.

"After this many years of experience, if these fibers were to be a source of Mesothelioma — a dramatic tumor — it would be known," Wright stated.

"THIS WOULD not escape. This is not a new point of interest to the industry," he added.

Wright said manufacturers of asbestos products were among the first to discover its possible biological effects and have spent "millions of dollars" in the field.

The doctor said he is preparing a written answer to Snell's statement.

"I don't know Snell or his background in this area," Wright said. "But no doctor is knowledgeable in all areas. I have spent much of my life in this field, and even I am not."

SNELL WROTE Lawrence Nov. 14, stating he would consider the use of asbestos-cement pipe "a medical hazard of significant degree" until the U.S. Public Health Service had checked it out completely.

Officials of the Johns-Manville Co., asked about this yesterday, said the Public Health Service is among its customers.

"We have sold them thousands of feet of pipe," said Jay Baker, product manager. "I feel certain we will sell them much more."

THE COUNCILMEN are scheduled to tour the manufacturing plant and research center today. The company claims its product will save Metro $300,000 a year on pipe purchases.

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HARKINS

Tennessee Banner

Oldest Newspaper
April 10, 1876

All The

NO. 202 NOV. 30, 1967

PRICE

Asbestos-Cement Warning Sounded

By DICK BATTLE

Health and medical authorities have warned Metro Director of Water and Sewerage Services Robert L. Lawrence Jr. that substitution of asbestos-cement pipe for cast iron water mains may create a "medical hazard of significant degree."

"Asbestos has been fairly well established in medical circles as causing a high incidence of cancer" in the lungs or gastro-intestinal tract, one letter to Lawrence stated. A copy of the letter was also sent to Councilman James J. LaPenna, chairman of the council's purchasing committee who has urged broadening water pipe specifications to include bidding by asbestos-cement pipe manufacturers.

Warning

The warning expressed by Dr. James D. Snell Jr., assistant professor of medicine, Vanderbilt University, and by Dr. J. M. Bistowish, Metro director of health, follows efforts by Councilman LaPenna on Nov. 21 to promote an all expense paid trip for councilmen to visit the "research center" of an asbestos-cement pipe manufacturer "30 minutes outside New York City."

For many years Lawrence has insisted on the use of cast iron pipe for the local water system. He has informed LaPenna he does not consider asbestos-cement pipe comparable

(Please Turn to Page 13, Col. 1)

Christmas Lighting Set At 6 Tonight

Gov. Buford Ellington and Mayor Beverly Briley will press a combination of switches to activate more than 20,000 Christmas lights in the downtown area at 6 p.m. today at the War Memorial Building.

The annual lighting program is a project of the retail division of the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce. Terry Hart, Christmas program chairman of the division, will preside.

Giant Tree

Gov. Ellington will switch on lights decorating the State Capitol and the War Memorial Building and Mayor Briley will perform a similar function for

FEATURE INDEX

ORIGINAL FORWARDED TO MR. HENRY BROOKS
EDA/WASH. 1/29/07

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