COPY

November 7th, 1957.

Karl Lindell, Esq.,
Chairman - C.A.M.A.,
Asbestos, P.Q.

Dear Karl:-

RE: INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE FOUNDATION STUDY
(LUNG CANCER).-

Following the annual I. H. F. (Mellon Institute - Pittsburgh) meeting I have perused advance copy of the epidemiological survey we entrusted with the I. H. F.. I enclose herewith a copy of the Summary and Conclusions for your confidential information. The whole survey, in print, will be available in a few days and mailed you. The enclosed photostat is not of the best quality and I am alone guilty in that respect.

I thought you would be deeply interested in having as soon as possible this "summary and conclusions" which tell us of the substance of the findings in the report which, I suggest, is well presented, has logical sequence and is particularly not unfavourable and rather effectively combats the growing concept of later years in Quebec City (Dr. Vidal was holding the fort consistently with the W. C. B.) in Washington, and in Europe where it originated and develops most.

I. H. F. seems to have made the best out of the material available (cancer statistical data were as you know excessively meagre in the whole world and very poor in the Province as report of cancer as cause of death is not compellable by law whereas v.g. Tuberculosis must be reported).

The presentation of the survey appears objective, to the point, and I strongly believe immediate attention should be given to capitalizing upon the report.

IVAN SABOURIN, Q.C.
ALDRED BUILDING
Montreal.

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Asbestos, Que.

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The underscoring and marginal lines are mine (except for the word "recorded" at page 75).

Dr. Braun and those associated with him in this work in my modest opinion have made their good work.

I had a chance to discuss with Dr. Braun the suggestions he makes at the very end, as to independent X-ray reading. This must not be construed pejoratively and so as to incriminate the reading methods of our Doctors at Thetford and Asbestos. Our method is orthodox and is scientifically sound, objective and in no way antiquated. What the report rather implies as to X-ray reading is that our classification has for object to determine the various stages of a significant fibrosis of asbestotic nature, "significant" meaning a fibrosis having reached a stage where it may be said that it could play a part in the causality of a certain incapacity to work (presently or in the future). Asbestosis is in our view a disease when it has gone beyond those preliminary stages which are not in themselves significant from a compensation point of view. The author of the survey suggests that independent reading would take into consideration the preliminary stages of asbestosis (which we set aside as insignificant) and would classify them as cases which would be reported for a study, such as that conducted by I. H. F. Thus, the reported cases of asbestosis (whether significant or not) would be more considerable and the lung cancer incidence would fall below the actual figures - - - but I would rather shun suggesting we refer our readings to an independent source as I firmly believe our Doctors at Asbestos and Thetford Mines are eminently qualified for readings and that few are as qualified anywhere.

Yours faithfully,

IVAN SABOURIN

IVAN SABOURIN, Q.C.
ALDRED BUILDING
Montreal.