

SUMMARY AND EVALUATION

Subject: Study of the health of Oregon asbestos workers. Of interest and importance.

Evaluation: The entire March issue of the publication of the Oregon Board of Health is devoted to asbestos. The February issue reprinted part of Paul Brodeur's New Yorker article. The March issue completes the article, illustrating it with photos of an insulator at work. Pages 9-10 are devoted to a report of the health of these workers conducted by the Oregon Board of Health.

Author: Washburn, S. A. (Editor)

Journal: Oregon Health Bulletin, March 1969.

Title: "Oregon's 1968 Asbestosis Study."

Summary: Almost the entire membership of Local 36 of the Asbestos Workers Union, 103 men, were studied and compared with two control groups not exposed to asbestos. Of the asbestos workers, 30 showed chest abnormality on X-rays, and 18 were judged to "have conditions which could be related to asbestosis." As compared to controls, asbestos workers exhibit abnormal reduction in pulmonary function at the age of 40 (rather than age 50), regardless of smoking habits. From January 1966 to December 1968, 13 members of the Asbestos Workers Union died; five deaths were due to lung cancer.



PRODUCED
JM - 83