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Minutes: Air Hygiene & Manufacturing Committee
October 8, 1964
Barbizon-Plaza Hotel, New York, N. Y.
9:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Studio C

Attending:

L. C. Williams, Chairman	Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.
W. C. Atkinson	Johns-Manville Corp.
D. T. Austin	United States Rubber
J. L. Rainey	American Asbestos Textile
Hans Walter	American Asbestos Textile
C. L. Sheckler	Johns-Manville Corp.
A. P. Gouveia	H. K. Porter Co., Inc.
T. C. McCluskey, Jr.	Tallman-McCluskey Fabrics Co.

Absent:

A. C. Link	United States Rubber

Public Health Service Survey
Dr. Lewis J. Cralley,
Scientist Director, Assistant Chief

Dr. Cralley was unable to attend our committee meeting. However, reports were made on the status of the environmental studies being conducted by Dr. Cralley and his group. They have completed six in-plant studies and are currently working at Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., Manheim, Pa. There are three or four more companies to be studied in order to complete the Textile section of the survey. Reports to date from all companies are very complimentary to Dr. Cralley and the efficiency he and his group display. They are well accepted by both Management and employee. Dr. Cralley has stated he is very encouraged with the studies he has made to date.

Conference - "Biological Effects of Asbestos"
October 19-20-21, 1964
New York City

We discussed this conference at our June 4, 1964 meeting and at that time agreed the ATI would not take an active part in the Conference but each company would send representatives as they saw fit. The picture has now changed somewhat as recent publications again point out the intent of this Conference headed by Dr. Selikoff. Since they are linking asbestos with cancer, the committee feels this Conference will have an effect on the entire Industry and are concerned as how best the results of the Conference can be investigated and rebutted.

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After considerable discussion it was suggested a Public Relations man with our help would be the quickest way to get accurate publicity to the public. We all recognize that Dr. Selikoff has a plan for news releases; the latest one given to approximately 1950 individual news medians. We assume that news releases such as this will continue to flow from Dr. Selikoff and our concern for both the immediate industry and the customer as to the influence it will have on the use of asbestos. The committee reported our thinking as stated above to the Board of Governors and they will act as they feel necessary.

Published Pamphlet - "Method for Determining Asbestos Dust Concentrations"

A summary for the period July 1 thru September 30, 1964 shows 27 copies sold and 103 copies given away for publicity. We received letters of appreciation from four companies for the complimentary copy.

1. Chester Beatty Research Institute
   Dr. J. S. Harington

2. London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
   Dr. M. L. Thomson

3. Atlas Asbestos Company
   N. L. Barr, Vice President

4. Mineral Fiber Products Bureau
   F. S. Nestle, Sec'y to Managing Director

The printing costs were 37¢ each. The Board of Governors set the price at 50¢ for members of the Institute and $1.00 for non-members. We have sufficient copies on hand and additional copies may be purchased by writing to Asbestos Textile Institute, P.O. Box #239, Pompton Lakes, N.J., 07442.

Dust Monitoring Equipment

At the June 4th meeting the Phoenix-Precision Instrument Co. demonstrated a dust monitoring unit. Since each company has complete information on this unit the committee agreed to drop it from the agenda and each company will use the information as they desire.

Quality Control Systems under MIL-Q-9858 A.

At the request of several members the committee reviewed this specification. It was agreed it is

desirable to be covered by this military specification if you are producing for the Government as it reduces the time involved for product inspection because your Quality program has been standardized and you certify to each shipment. In discussing this military specification I was pleased to find that most member companies are qualified.

General Discussion

Items of interest to Management such as employee infractions, disciplinary action, hiring, lay-off and overtime practices, Foremen's Manual and plant housekeeping were discussed.

Review of Committee Activities for Past Year

Meeting - June 6, 1963

1. Draft submitted on Institute approved dust counting method.

2. Asbestos Related Lung Cancer Study - Dr. Selikoff's study on 1500 asbestos workers largely on the asbestos insulation applications.

3. Open forum to introduce Dr. Cralley and the start of the U. S. Public Health Survey.

Meeting - October 4, 1963

1. Reviewed annual report of Asbestos Reaearch Council of England.

2. Started investigation of Dust Monitoring Equipment.

3. Method for Determining Asbestos Dust Concentrations Approved by the Asbestos Textile Institute.

Meeting - February 7, 1964

1. Published and made available to anyone upon request the Method for Determining Asbestos Dust Concentrations. Will consider placing this method in the Asbestos Textile Handbook next issue.

2. Public Health Service Survey - Change of format - Dr. Cralley to be invited to the June ATI meeting. He will be requested to answer questions that have come up.

3. Announcement of the Conference "Biological Effects of Asbestos". Will hold all proceedings as to ATI participation until more information is received.

Tentatively recommended Mr. Sunbury, the ATI Secretary, be there as an observer.

Meeting - June 5, 1964

1. Public Health Service Survey - Progress report by Dr. Cralley. Questions answered.

2. Dust Monitoring Equipment demonstrated. Each member has complete information on this unit called the Sinclair-Phoenix Dust and Smoke Photometer. Cost approximately $2500 plus $700 for the recorder.

3. Asbestos Research Council of England - Reviewed reports received from Dr. Holmes.

4. Conference - "Biological Effects of Asbestos". The Committee agreed that ATI will not take an active part in this Conference. Each company will represent themselves as they see fit.

L. C. Williams, Chairman
Air Hygiene & Mfg. Committee

Minutes
BOARD OF GOVERNOR'S MEETING
Asbestos Textile Institute
Barbizon-Plaza Hotel, New York City
October 8, 1964

In Attendance:

S,J, Peele,Jr., - United States Rubber Company
J.A. Bettes,Jr., - Raybestos-Manhattan,Inc.
J.A. Brown,Jr., - " " "
J.T. Griffis - H.K. Porter Comanp.Inc.
W.S. Hough - Johns-Manville Corporation
J.L. Rainey - American Asbestos Textile Corp.
Ted D. McCluskey - Tallman-McCluskey Fabrics Company
Jay Flocken - Cadwalader,Wickersham & Taft (Legal Counsel)
H.E. Sunbury - Asbestos Textile Institute (Secretary)

1. The meeting was called to order by President Peele,who noted that Mr. J.L. Rainey and Mr. Ted D. McCluskey had been properly accredited by their respective companies to serve in the absence of Messers J.W. Weber and T.C. McCluskey.

2. The minutes of the last meeting were presented for reading.It was moved by Mr. Bettes,and seconded by Mr. Griffis,that the minutes be accepted without reading.Agreement was unanimous.

3. The Financial Report as of September 9, 1964,was presented by Treasurer J.A. Brown. Mr. Peele stated that he had received a letter from Mr. Charles W. Briggs,Jr., of Raybestos-Manhattan,Inc., dated October 2, 1964, in which Mr. Briggs reported that he had examined the books of the Institute for the year ending Sept.9,1964 and the Financial Report as presented by Mr. Brown "presented fairly the financial position of the Institute on that date." It was moved by Mr. Hough,and seconded by Mr. Griffis,that the report be accepted as read, and made a part of these minutes. So agreed.

4. President Peele brought up the subject of the coming Conference on "Biological Effects of Asbestos" to be held under the auspices of the New York Academy of Sciences,Oct.19-21,1964. He asked what further action,if any,should be taken in respect to the position of the Institute towards this conference,as adopted at our last meeting,in view of the publicity which appeared in many newspapers on October 6th, in which asbestos was cited as a possible cause of cancer. This adverse publicity, relaeased by Dr.Selikoff and his associates, is based on very limited background information, as compared to that of the asbestos industry, but is very harmful to the entire industry.
There was a lengthy discussion as to ways and means of combating this unfavorable publicity. The question was raised as to whether those who have issued the publicity could be warned of the gravity of their charges, and its unfavorable effect on the entire asbestos industry, without giving the impression that an attempt was being made to suppress or intimidate the medical profession. Legal Counsel was subsequently asked draft such a letter,(copy is attached) and it has been submitted to each Member for approval, before being sent to Dr. Selikoff, by Mr. Reycraft.

4. (continued) There was general agreement that the possibly serious economic repercussions of this bad publicity for asbestos should be brought to the attention of Member Companies top management, and they in turn, should advise the Institute their wishes as to course of action desired, and extent of financial support that might be given.

5. It was agreed that the recently published pamphlet entitled "Method for Determining Asbestos Dust Concentration" should be priced at 50 cents each to members and associate members, regardless of quantity ordered. For non-members, $1.00 each, with first copy free.

6. The proposal introduced in our meeting of June 4th last, to amend the Constitution of the Institute to make provision for Legal representation at all meetings, was brought up for final action. Written notice had been given all members prior to this meeting. The Amendment would be added as a new Paragraph 4, of Article IV, as follows:

"4. At all meetings of the Institute and at all meetings of the Board of Governors, Legal Counsel shall be present."

Mr. Hough moved, and Mr. Brown seconded, a motion to amend the Constitution as proposed. Agreement was unanimous.

7. The Budget for the year 1965 was presented in suggested amount of $7825.00. Mr. Hough suggested that the items of Secretary's Travel and Exhibit Expense be increased to $400.00 each, instead of $250.00 each as originally presented. With this change the total budget for 1965 amounted to $8125.00. Mr. Griffis moved, and Mr. Brown seconded, a motion of approval. Agreement was unanimous, and the budget as adopted is made a part of these minutes.

8. President Peele read a letter from Mr. Reycraft, which had been recived after the budget was prepared, in which he asked for an increase of $1500.00 per year in the legal retainer fee. This would make the new fee $3000.00 per year instead of the $1500.00 currently paid. Mr. Griffis felt that the higher fee meant an excessively high hourly rate for the actual hours spent on Institute matters by Mr. Reycraft, or other personnel with Wickersham, Cadwalader & Taft. Further that the budget for 1965 had been prepared without foreknowledge of any increase in legal fee. Mr. Peele suggested that he and Mr. Hough discuss this matter with Mr. Reycraft at an early date. Mr. Bettes made a motion to that effect, it was seconded by Mr. Rainey, Agreement was unanimous.

9. Mr. W.S. Hough, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, reported that he had canvassed the Member Compaies to ascertain who would represent them on the Board of Governors for the coming year, and was informed that the following will serve:
Mr. J.A. Brown, Jr., - Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.; Mr. J.T. Griffis, - for H.K. Porter Company; - Mr. W.S. Hough, - Johns-Manville Corp.
Mr. T.C. McCluskey, - Tallman-McCluskey Fabrics Co.,; - Mr. S.J. Peele for U. S. Rubber Co.; and Mr. J.L. Rainey for American Asb. Tex. Corp.

10. Mr. Hough, as Chairman of the Nominating Committee, then offered the following slate of officers to serve the Institute in the coming year:

For President: - J.A. Brown,Jr.,of Raybestos-Manhattan,Inc.
For Vice. Pres: - J.L. Rainey of American Asbestos Textile Corp.
For Treasurer: - E. A. Schuman of Johns-Manville Sales Corp.

It was moved by Mr.J.T. Griffis,seconded by Mr. Ted D. McCluskey, that the nominations be closed,and the proposed slate of officers be approved. Agreement was unanimous, and the above named gentlemen are the new officers of the Asbestos Textile Institute.

11. In regard to Committee Chairmen,it was agreed that the men now serving as committee chairmen should continue in ~~eff~~ that capacity for the ensuing year.

12. Mr. Hough brought up the question of asking Garlock,Inc. to join the Institute. Mr. Bettes suggested they be approached a little later inasmuch as their Mr. Houghton was expected to attend the General Meeting on October 9th,and it would be better to let a reasonable period of time elapse.

13. Mr.Bettes, Chairman of the Twentieth Anniversary Celebration, exhibited an attractive silver tray, approx. size $7\frac{3}{4}$ x $5\frac{3}{4}$" ,engraved "ASBESTOS TEXTILE INSTITUTE "
TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY
1944 - 1964
He stated that one of these trays would be given to each person attending our Twentieth Anniversary Meeting on October 9th. All agreed that the tray was very attractive,and most appropriate for the occasion.

14. Date and location of next meeting. Mr. Peele said that he and Mr. Griffis had been appointed at our last meeting to investigate a southern location for the February meeting. They recommended the Carolina Hotel,in Pinehurst, North Carolina,which had been discussed tentatively at our June meeting.
Mr.J.A. Brown made a motion that we hold the February meeting in Pinehurst,N.C.-seconded by Mr.J.L. Rainey. Agreement was unanimous.

The date of the meeting is February 10-12, 1965, the place is The CAROLINA HOTEL. It was suggested that we might possibly plan to arrive Tuesday evening,February 9th,hold committee meetings on Wednesday,and General Meeting on Thursday,arranging same to give as much time as possible for recreational activities.

15. There being no other business to come before the meeting it was duly adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

H. E. Sunbury

H.E. Sunbury, Exec. Secretary

Alternate copy for ~~Xxxxx~~ Paragraph 4.

Notes of Discussion by the Board of Governors in respect to the publicity release, on October 6, 1964, by Dr. Selikoff and associates concerning asbestos as a possible cause of cancer. This was widely published in newspapers.

President Peele asked what further action, in view of this adverse publicity, should be taken in respect to the position taken at our June meeting in regard to the upcoming Conference: "Biological Effects of Asbestos" to be held Oct. 19-21, 1964 at the Waldorf-Astoria.
Mr. Griffis remarked that it was probable there would be a conflict of opinion by the medical profession, and it was time to consider where we stand, in view of the recent unfavorable publicity.
Mr. Hough thought it most desirable to arrive at some conclusion as to our Institute viewpoint for the benefit of executives of member companies. The question of whether those who have issued the publicity on asbestos as a possible cause of cancer, could be warned of the gravity of their charges and its unfavorable effect on the Industry.
Jay Flocken doubted that a legal warning could be used, as it would give the immpression that an attempt was being made to suppress or intimidate the medical profession. Suggested as an alternative that a qualified medical man within the Industry could rebut the charges.
Mr. Brown thought we should publicize our efforts to protect people from any harmful effects of handling asbestos.
Mr. Flocken agreed that the positive approach to show precautions being taken, was best.
Mr. Peele said that he had talked with Dr. J.H. Wolfsie, Medical Director of United States Rubber Company about the adverse publicity, and that Dr. Wolfsie felt there was very little we could do, immediately. In talking with his office prior to the meeting, Mr. Peele said he learned that one concern who manufactures ironing board covers from asbestos cloth, had reported several cancellations of orders for same by his customers because of the publicity of Oct. 6th, linking asbestos and cancer. He suggested that we might have to coordinate various company doctors thru one central man.
Mr. Bettes suggested that we might have to have a Medical Committee, and Mr. Peele suggested that medical men ~~xxxx~~ from each member company meet prior to the Oct. 19-21st Conference and decide. It was agreed that the Board of Governors wishes that Dr. K.W. Smith of Johns-Manville Corp., undertake to coordinate the medical men from each member company, and see if it is possible to decide upon a common approach. Primarily we expect that doctors from member companies will be at the Conference to listen, and to refute if the opportunity occurs, to whatever extent is consistent with their own experience, this adverse publicity.
Mr. Flocken felt that we should know what our doctors would say, before we authorized them to speak for the Institute.
Mr. Fairey stated that papers to be presented at the coming Conference had been screened about a week ago by the management of the Conference, and presumably unacceptable papers would be omitted.
Mr. Bettes said his company had already received pre-prints of the papers to be given at the Conference.
Mr. Brown asked if we were going to consider the possiblity of asking the cooperation of other segments of the asbestos industry to combat this adverse publicity, as they would be powerful allies, and a combined effort could be much more effective.

Notes of Discussion -(continued)

Mr. Peele raised question if we should ask company doctors to speak for the Institute, and Mr. Hough and Mr. Rainey felt we should not. Mr. Pettes felt that the doctors could not speak for the asbestos industry, but could speak for the Institute. Mr. Brown said he agreed with Mr. Rainey.
Finally it was agreed that company doctors should be prepared to speak on behalf of the ~~I~~ Asbestos Textile Institute.

Mr. Griffis suggested the possibility that our Air Hygiene & Mfg. Committee might recommend the formation of a Public Relations Committee, and ask the President to appoint one at the General Meeting. It was agreed that in this event, he would refer the request to the Board of Governors.

Mr. Hough suggested that this matter of the adverse publicity on asbestos should be called to the attention of top management for each member company, which might lead to a broad program involving all segments of the asbestos industry, with the objective of combating adverse publicity.
Mr. Peele agreed, and said the serious economic repercussions of this bad publicity should be pointed out to top management, and they, in turn, should express back to A.T.I. their wishes as to course of action desired, and financial support that might be given.

The Board concurred with Mr. Peele's suggestion, and agreed that it should be done. [illegible]

The Board of Governors of A.T.I. requested Attorney Reycraft to prepare a letter to be sent to Dr. Selikoff on behalf of the Institute, and the letter as drafted by Mr. Reycraft,follows:

Dr. Irving J. Selikoff

Dear Dr. Selikoff:

Our client,the Asbestos Textile Institute,has requested us to communicate to you the grave concern which all member companies share over the possibly misleading implications of recent articles carried in many local and national newspapers on your report and news conference concerning mesothelioma.

The linking together of asbestos and mesothelioma in a cause and effect relationship is clearly made in an article which appeared in The New York Times of October 7, 1964. But in addition to describing your comments on possible occupational hazards, that article also ascribes to you and to Dr. Hammond statements and inferences that go beyond the confines of the studies which you actually conducted:

" The worrisome feature,Dr. Hammond and Dr. Selikoff said, is the evidence that asbestos, once taken into the body,stays there. Thus even a single heavy exposurecould conceivably produce a cancer after a latent period of 20 years or more,they said.

" This idea, for which they said there is some experimental as well as epidemiological evidence could expand the risk from simply those occupationally exposed to virtually anyone who might only occasionally encounter asbestos dust."

Again, that article stated: "The specialists who gave the report expressed worry that the danger might not be entirely restricted to a limited occupation group, but that it might be more general and possibly of considerable importance. There is no direct evidence to substantiate this,they said, but some of the available findings hint that this may be the case."

It is common knowledge that developments in the field of cancer and possible causative factors or possible preventative and curative measures are subjects of very great and vital public concern. It must be recognized,however, that only the most careful and dispassionate efforts in presenting the results of limited researchin this field to the public can avoid misinterpretation, oversimplification,and exaggeration. This is particularly true in discussing with members of the press such limited and tentative conclusions as those suggested by your studies.

Unfounded inferences and hints of danger, though sure of receiving wide distribution, contribute nothing to public understanding. Nor do they aid intelligent action by anyone,whether at the individual or group level or in private or public agencies. The health and welfare of workers in the asbestos and related industries,no less than the general public, in part of course rests upon wise,careful,and practical utilization of scientific knowledge. Innocent but unwise treatment of research data in public discussions or leaving it to laymen to appreciate the carefully phrased limitations and qualifications,can cause reactions that are not justified by the state of scientific knowledge.

The efforts by members of this association in their own scientific work and medical programs and in cooperation with studies by such groups as the Public Health Service amply demonstrate the willingness of this part of the asbestos industry to act responsibly and intelligently in matters involving the health and safety of its employees and the general public as well, These companies welcome all responsible efforts along these lines.

The Asbestos Textile Institute urges no restraint upon independent medical inquiry or research - indeed it earnestly desires expansion of existing knowledge in this field. Nor does this Association seek in any way to discourage the right to discuss the results of such efforts. But it does urge caution in the discussion of these activities to avoid providing the basis for possibly damaging and misleading news stories. The right to study and to discuss these subjects is clear, of course. But the gravity of the subject matter and the consequences implicitly involved impose upon any who exercise those rights a very high degree of responsibility for their actions.

Sincerely,

CADWALADER, WICKERSHAM & TAFT