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MINUTES OF THE 107 MEETING OF THE
QUEBEC ASBESTOS MINING ASSOCIATION
HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25th, 1968,
AT THE CHATEAU FRONTENAC, QUEBEC CITY

Present:

Messrs.	W.W. Oughtred	I.C. Campbell	O. Poirier
	K.V. Lindell	Y. Couture	M. Prus
	R.S. Coleman	R. Dodds-Hebron	P.H. Riordon
	J.A. Main	J.O. Eby	E. Weber
	R.J. Merrill	W.H. Foster	Geo. Rocinson
	F.P. Smith	J.R.M. Hutcheson	I. Sabourin
		L. Pluze	Paul-A. Filteau

The President of the Association chaired the meeting. Minutes of of the meetings of July 30th, September 20th and 21st, 1968, were approved as submitted by the Secretary.

The President then called on the Chairmen of the various standing committees.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

The committee held its last meeting on November the 12th in Quebec City, at which Messrs. Woodroffe and Winer from Ottawa, Dr. P.E. Auger and J.P. Bolduc of the Quebec Department of Natural Resources were in attendance. The following is a brief account of some of the work in progress under the direction of sub-committees:

1. Filtration of asbestos-cement-silica mixes - Following visit of representative of subject sub-committee to Ottawa, it was agreed that

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the Mineral Processing Division would carry out a limited preliminary program to define the filtration problem more precisely.

2. Product handling - It was pointed out that the Manchester Line was about to inaugurate a new container ship service. Mention was made of the increasing use and wide acceptance of containers in shipments to London and other British ports. Some minor difficulty, however, has been encountered with containers at the port of Three-Rivers, due to objections from the stevedores.

There seems also to be increasing requests from U.S.A. for unitized loads with coverings or strapping to prevent shifting within the railroad cars. A proposal was made to hold a sub-committee meeting shortly, at which attendance should be enlarged to include members of the Traffic Committee, etc.

3. Fibre Strength Unit - It was stated that the sub-committee had submitted an interim report at the last Technical Committee meeting, but that the report had been left in abeyance pending a consensus of opinion among committee representatives.

Concerning the request for a review of the test procedures and for a second F.S.U. Round Robin by the Uniform Classification and Grading Committee it was deemed advisable to ask the latter whether the results obtained to date are acceptable or whether additional efforts at improvement of interlaboratory reproducibility are warranted. The inter-laboratory variation has been showned to be significant.

4. Magnetic Rating - Since the variations on the first M.R. Round Robin were blamed upon the operators, it was agreed that using the same operator and standard at each laboratory would solved the problem and indicate whether or not the procedure, as written, is satisfactory.

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5. Miscellaneous - In his review of the work presently being done in Ottawa, the Chairman reported that a request had been made to the Mineral Processing Division of the Mines Branch to present a lecture at the next meeting of the Technical Committee (to be held in Ottawa) on the subjects of:

a) Optimizing design of experiments.
b) Zeta potential measurements.

Johns-Manville research center has indicated its willingness to carry out statistical analyses for the Q.A.M.A. at a fee which would cover the costs involved.

UNIFORM CLASSIFICATION AND GRADING COMMITTEE

The report of the Chairman can be summarized as follows:

1. Sherbrooke Laboratory - The Director has been having trouble in keeping personnel since the beginning of the year, but after five changes it appears that he has found a permanent junior technician, as of late October.

A revised price list for Sherbrooke laboratory tests by special request from member-companies has been approved by the Committee.

Test	Number of Tests	Price after Nov. 25, 1968
Air Classification	3	$10.00
Color	2	3.50
Crudy Content	3	15.00
Dyckerhoff	3	5.50
Fineness	3	5.00
Grit & Spicule	3	20.00
Kerosene	2	7.00

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Test	Number of Tests	Price after Nov. 25, 1968
Loose Density	2	
McNett	2	$2.00
O.S.	2	$15.00
Rapid Surface	2	3.00
Rotap	2	1.50
Strength Unit	1	2.50
Wash Test	2	40.00
Wet Volume	2	1.50
		3.00

2. 1969 Budget - The Chairman commented briefly on his proposed budget for 1969 as per copy given to each director: details can be found also in the Budget Estimates of the Association attached to subject minutes.

3. Random O.S. Production Sampling - A refinement of the testing procedures has been agreed upon. From now on the fibre inspector will issue a report to member-companies every 3 months, showing a comparison between O.S. maximum, Highest Test on Carload Shipping, Average Test on Carload Shipping, Highest Random O.S. Production Test (by the Inspector), and the Average Random O.S. Production Test.

4. New Fibre Classification Test - It is proposed to press on Ottawa the need for research in better basic measuring methods or test methods. This has been a long standing problem (ever since 1931).

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

A meeting of the Committee was held on November the 12th. There was also a meeting on November the 15th with the safety director, Mr. W. Montgomery, to discuss general safety problems in the industry.

There seems to be more and more arbitration cases merely on technical points and interpretation of the labour agreements.

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1. Labour Negotiations - The Union has not submitted its demands for the next contractythese are expected shortly after December the 1st. At one of the companies, sollicitation is being conducted by a rival union and a vote to determine actual representation will be taken in December before Officers of the Department of Labour.

2. Minimum Wage Act - The meeting was informed that the Minister of Labour intended to propose an amendment to the Minimum Wage Act granting a minimum of 2 weeks annual vacation to all workers covered by the Act after one year of continuous service. Vacation pay to be equivalent to 4% of wages earned during previous period of one year or less.

3. Pneumoconiosis Claims - Counsel was asked to explain the mechanics of processing a pneumoconiosis claim. Counsel was glad to have the opportunity of discussing at length the procedure involved. He stated that after completing and filing form S.S. 12, the case is reviewed by the pneumoconiosis board in Montreal. In most cases, awards are made without any personal appearance of claimants or hearing of parties concerned. In the opinion of Counsel, time may have come to call for a show-down in a typical case where the company concerned and its doctor wish to object very strongly. Such an appeal would be made to the Workmen's Compensation Board in Quebec, to which recourse must be had. It was also emphasized that pressure should be brought on the Government to obtain better employer representation on the Workmen's Compensation Board. It was also stressed that there could possibly be greater collaborating between the Asbestos clinic and the Thetford Mines clinic.

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4. Mine Rescue Station Expenses for 1969 -

Resolved that the allocation of costs of the Thetford Mines Rescue Station during 1969 be calculated on the following basis:

Thetford Mines Rescue Station:

a) Building and Equipment (Capital cost, rent, maintenance, etc.)

QMMAPA (Solbec & Cupra)	180 men	35%
QAMA	331 men	65%
	511 men	100%

b) Superintendent's Salary:

QMMAPA (South Shore)	501 men	60%
QAMA	331 men	40%
	832 men	100%

c) Superintendent's Travel Expenses -

To Gaspé, Solbec, Cupra, New Calumet and Oka:

QMMAPA	100%
QAMA	nil

General Superintendent (Mine Rescue Training Plan)

Salary and Travel Expenses:

QMMAPA	4646 men	93%
QAMA	331 men	7%
	4977 men	100%

ADOPTED.

The preparation of a resolution proposing the transfer of the mine rescue building and equipment of Thetford Mines to the Department of Natural Resources was left with Mr. I.C. Campbell and Counsel for approval of the Directors at the next meeting.

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

The Chairman reported that at a meeting of his committee held on November 14th, consideration had been given to employing the Arctic Line for the carriage of asbestos to Continent for the year 1969. This has been brought about by the unsatisfactory service from the Canadian Continental conference during 1968. It was anticipated that this could be arranged at no increase in cost over 1968 rates. He requested approval in principle to negotiate such an arrangement. Provided the approval of Lake Asbestos, it was agreed that such negotiations could be undertaken.

LEGISLATION AND TAXATION COMMITTEE

In the absence of the Chairman, the General Manager reported on the recent changes in Federal Income Tax Legislation, indicating that with reference to the Carter Report, the Minister of Finance had stated that a draft bill would in due course be placed before the House, the Provincial Ministers and the public for study and discussion.

The Chairman of the Committee has expressed the view that the Committee should undertake to investigate local tax matters (municipal assessments, school taxes, etc.); in this connection, it was suggested that the Chairman invite representation from each company and that meetings of the committee be held at regular intervals.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

There have been questions raised from time to time as to whether the Q.A.M.A. was getting full value for the amount of money it has been

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spending on its P.R. Program. At the last meeting of the Committee held on November 14th, the Chairman submitted an alternative arrangement in an attempt to lower the cost. Briefly the proposal recommends that Mr. Gossip be hired by the Association as a full time employee, reporting to the General Manager, thus devoting 100% of his time to O.A.M.A. affairs. The immediate advantage is an estimated saving of approximately $15,000. to $20,000. a year. The recommendation of the committee was left with the Directors till next meeting for review and decision.

The P.R. Committee of the Mining Association of Canada is finally functionning and preparing in collaboration with other mining associations a somewhat broadened program to further the public image of the industry.

INSTITUTE OF OCCUPATIONAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

Some of the recent activities of the Institute were summarized by the Chairman as follows:

a) A mesothelioma Registry Conference was held in U.S.A. late September under the chairmanship of Drs. Selikoff and Kotin, with representation from U.S.A., Canada, South Africa and Japan, to discuss the organization and purpose of a national registry of mesothelioma.

b) A mesothelioma Registry Conference was held in Montreal on November 15th, 16th, 1968, under the Chairmanship of Dr. Rolland Guy to discuss the Canadian situation. In Canada, the main problem is to get the cases notified.

c) A study of Asbestos Insulation Workers in Ontario has been undertaken by Drs. Cowle and Sutherland of Toronto.

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d) Dr. Geo. W. Wright presently visiting asbestos research centers in South Africa, France, West Germany and Italy. No doubt he will submit a report on his return.

e) A paper on ferruginous bodies given by a French doctor at a recent Conference of the U.S. Industrial Hygiene Foundation and Mellon Institute in Pittsburg would indicate that no ferruginous bodies in that limited study he has just made would have any rapprochement with chrysotile fibre. The author shows that ferruginous bodies are formed from an excess iron in the blood without the assistance of any foreign (fibril) agent.

Brief comments were also made on those already known articles which recently appeared in the Wall Street Journal and the New Yorker.

f) Surcharge for medical research - It is suggested a proper mode to cope, equitably for all, with the increasing charges motivated by the HEALTH PROBLEMS could well be to build up a sufficient fund via an overall increase in prices. The Chairman proposed that a meeting seemed in order in this connection, a meeting of the Directors of the Association (date suggested December 19th) where the whole situation could be discussed, said meeting to take place in the absence of Counsel to which objection was taken (v.g. by Director representing Canadian Johns-Manville Co., Limited) it being reminded that the policy of the Association was not to meet in the absence of Counsel (which line of policy was confirmed).

In view of the concern expressed about the C.J.M. proposal to print a warning on every bag of asbestos, the meeting was advised that this proposal had not been made effective as yet by said company. However, it feels very vulnerable on the U.S. market.

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The Institute of Occupational and Environmental Health recommends that the giving of asbestos fibre specimens and asbestos for modelling and moulding (v.g. lessons in sculpture) in school classes be discontinued. This matter is to be reviewed at the next meeting.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

In a written report the Chairman reviewed the various projects under study by his committee. Copies of this report, which outlines key points and status of the several projects, were distributed to members in attendance.

Proposed air pollution legislation - The Committee has studied the working document concerning legislation proposed by the Quebec Department of Health. The Committee considers this document to be of extreme importance to the Asbestos Industry and made several comments which are to be incorporated in a letter to be prepared by the Chairman of the Committee and the General Manager. At the recommendation of the Committee, the industry should clearly indicate in the letter its wish to have the opportunity to participate directly in the preparation of the final legislation on air pollution by the Quebec Government.

NEW BUSINESS

1969 Budget

The Treasurer tabled the proposed budget of the Association and the Institute for 1969. Explanations of the estimates under the various headings were given, following which approval was sollicited from the Directors.

ACCEPTED.

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Counsel's accounts were submitted by the Treasurer for the approval of the Directors. These accounts were approved for payment as follows:

a) Account with Q.A.M.A. for the years 1966-67 - $50,000.00

b) Account with I.O.E.H. for the period from January 1st, 1967 to October 1st, 1968 - $48,500.00

It was suggested that future statements by Counsel be submitted at the end of each year.

Outside requests

a) A request by Hydro-Quebec for authorization to use research information on asbestos in concrete, as contained in the papers of Gillis and Collins, was granted by the Directors.

b) A request for financial assistance towards the Centre for East Asian Studies at McGill University was turned down, as being beyond the scope of the normal activities of the Association.

c) The Directors decided that the Association had done its share in the erection of Laval Geological Garden and, to a further request from Laval for financial assistance, it could not at this time give favorable consideration. It was pointed out that several member-companies had been individually solicited by Laval in recent months.

FUTURE SPECIAL MEETINGS

A revised schedule of reservations for future special meetings of the Association was submitted by the General Manager and given general approval, as follows:

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YEAR	SEASON	DATE	LOCATION
1969	Spring	April 17-20	Bellevue Biltmore, Clearwater, Fla.
1969	Fall	Oct. 7-10	Seigniory Club, Quebec
1970	Winter	March 19-22	Caribbean Beach Club, Antigua
1970	Fall	Oct. 7-10	Santa Barbara Biltmore, Cal.
1971	Winter	March 18-21	Pierre Marques, Acapulco, Mexico
1971	Fall	Oct. 10-14	The Broadmoor, Colorado Springs
1972	Winter	March 16-19	Boca Raton Hotel, Florida
1972	Fall	Oct. -----	Seigniory Club, Quebec

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Mr. F.P. Smith was elected Chairman of a Nominating Committee and will be assisted by two (2) other directors of his own choosing. This committee to propose a slate of officers and committee chairmen for 1969 at the annual meeting of the Association in January 1969.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The 1969 annual meeting of the Association will be held at 10.00 a.m. on January 28th, 1969 at the Mont Royal Hotel, Montreal.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was terminated.

Paul A. Filteau,
General Manager
&
Secretary.