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which we have good reason to believe are hazardous."

Grace's insurance carrier, Maryland Casualty Co. in Portland, Ore., had told Grace two years earlier that its "inability" to curb the asbestos contamination despite repeated warnings "through the years might be alleged at least to have constituted willful and wanton conduct . . . "

The insurer also urged Grace lawyers to prevent the entry of the "confidential" state inspection reports into evidence in a workers' compensation case. The insurance company cautioned Grace to "keep them out of the hands of the Industrial Accident Board and through it, the general public."

1967

Libby's rough-hewn roots

The Kootenai River, after flowing south from Canada, turns west on its way to the Columbia. There at the bend, settlers, miners, trappers and railroaders built the town in 1892, on the Great Northern Railroad right of way.

Libby is proud of its rough-hewn roots. On the grounds of the town's Heritage Museum are an old loggers' cookhouse and a miner's cabin, meticulously decorated by the Libby Women's Club.

Today, like many Western towns, Libby is being forced to shift its economy from those extractive industries, and the town is trying hard to capture its share of new, supposedly healthier, sources of income. Kootenai Falls was featured in the film "The River Wild," and the Chamber of Commerce is unabashedly and successfully wooing tourists looking for outdoor adventure.