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Study Role of Asbestos As Cause of Ailments

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1968

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What's News

Business and Finance

THE NATION'S VOTERS staged a vigorous protest against heavy spending by state and local governments in ballooning reported yesterday for tax issues totaling \$1.5 billion, voters rejected \$1.5 billion, 57 percent of the dollar total. It was the largest dollar amount of bonds ever defeated on election day. By contrast, in the years 1964-67, 73% of proposed bond issues were approved.

Balance-of-payments problems of the U.S. confront President-Elect Nixon with some of his toughest decisions. Nixon's economic advisers are expected to recommend a series of measures to protect the dollar, including a 10% surcharge on imports from countries with balance-of-payments deficits. The administration also may consider a 10% surcharge on exports to countries with balance-of-payments deficits.

Europeans' reactions to Richard Nixon's election were mixed. Bankers generally welcomed the news on the ground that a more conservative administration in Washington might bring about a more stable U.S. fiscal policy that will contribute to stability in international money markets. On the other hand, European trade officials are concerned that Mr. Nixon might be susceptible to pressure from American business for greater protection against imports.

Unemployment held steady last month, but a slable rise in joblessness among Negroes began attracting official concern. At a seasonally adjusted 3.6% of the work force, the mid-October unemployment rate was unchanged from a month earlier and 0.1 percentage point above the post-Korean war low touched in August. The Labor Department reported. The rate for nonwhite workers, however, rose to 14% from 12% in September.

Owen-Illinois Inc., the largest U.S. producer of glass containers, said it is raising the base price of containers by 4% to 7% effective Jan. 1. The company will also increase the charges it makes for special services.

Penn Central and Kayser-Roth, a major textile concern, said they terminated the planned merger of the two companies because they had been unable to agree upon final detailed terms. Chester H. Roth, Kayser-Roth chairman, said he and his associates were considering any plan to merge Kayser-Roth into another company. Last month, Kayser-Roth and Groza Shoe Manufacturing Co. broke off previously announced plans to merge.

The Big Board is considering altering or abolishing its employee bonus system, based on the exchange's trading volume, exchange sources indicate. They say it's possible the bonus system, which currently can augment a worker's paycheck by 20% annually, might be expanded to reflect recent large increases in stock transactions. It's also conceivable, they add, that the system could be abolished and the bonus

World-Wide

NIXON WON a narrow victory over Humphrey and Wallace in the election. Humphrey carried the vote in New York, but Nixon won the electoral college. Nixon's margin of victory was 302 to 219 electoral votes. Wallace, who carried the vote in Alabama, received 45 electoral votes.

Nixon stopped in Washington for a visit with former President Eisenhower and his family. Nixon is expected to spend the night at the White House. He will then travel to New York City to meet with his cabinet and the Congress.

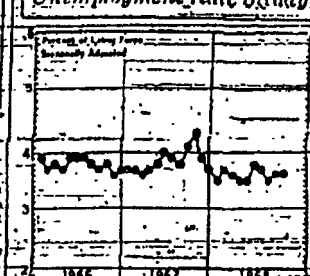
DEMOCRATS RETAINED control of Congress, but the GOP scored small gains. In the Senate, the Republicans made a net gain of at least four seats, with the vote being 51-47. In the House, the Democrats held a 34-1 lead, pending the outcome in Oregon. In some of the major races, Democrat Alan Cranston defeated conservative Republican Max Baucus in California. Republican Harry Hellman upset Oklahoma Sen. Murray, and Republican Richard Schweiker defeated Pennsylvania's Sen. Clark.

REPUBLICANS GAINED five governorships in the election. They won the governorships of New York, New Jersey, New Hampshire, Vermont and West Virginia. The GOP also won the governorships of Alaska and Hawaii.

California voters rejected overwhelmingly Proposition 13 on the state ballot, a proposal that would cap property taxes at 1% of assessed value. The measure was defeated by a margin of 55% to 45%. Opponents feared the proposal would have forced prohibitive rises in income and sales taxes.

A new peace proposal will be made by South Vietnamese President Thieu in a few days, a semi-official government news agency in Saigon reported. It quoted Premier Huong as saying the plan would remove the impression that Saigon is blocking expanded peace talks. In Paris, North Vietnam and the Vietcong accused the U.S. of breaking secret accords with Hanoi by postponing yesterday's

Unemployment Rate Steady



UNEMPLOYMENT remained unchanged in October at a seasonally-adjusted rate of 3.6% of the labor force, the Labor Department reports. (See story on page 2)

Medical Researchers

Study Role of Asbestos

As Cause of Ailments

More Work Will Be Done on the role of asbestos in lung cancer and other ailments, researchers say. A study of the role of asbestos in lung cancer and other ailments is being conducted by a team of researchers at the National Cancer Institute.

High Rate of Lung Ills, Dust

Adds to Urban Air Pollution

By RONALD KIMBLE
The report of the World Health Organization that the rate of lung cancer is rising in many parts of the world is a warning that the dust from asbestos is a major cause of the disease.

Mr. Cronin, 54 years old, has asbestosis, a lung ailment that seriously impairs his ability to breathe. Five years ago it was discovered that he also had lung cancer, but his doctors say that the tumor was removed successfully.

Long ailments directly associated with exposure to asbestos dust have been limited to those who work with the heat and corrosion-resistant mineral, which is widely used in insulation and other building materials. Nevertheless, some scientists recently have argued that asbestos particles as a possibly dangerous ingredient in urban air pollution.

Asbestos is a mineral that is found in many parts of the world. It is used in a wide variety of products, including asbestos-cement pipes, asbestos-cement roofs, and asbestos-cement tanks.

John-Manville Corp., the largest company in the field, last month announced it was entering a joint asbestos safety effort with the U.S. Public Health Service, the AFL-CIO International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators and Asbestos Workers and Mount Sinai School of Medicine of City University of New York. The main aim is to develop improved methods for reducing the exposure to asbestos dust of the estimated 200,000 workers in the industry.

But the scope of the research project could turn out to be broader. "If asbestos in the air is found to be generally harmful, we will want to protect the public from it," says R. J. Bohlen Jr., a John-Manville vice president. The company adds that one new device being planned is a sprayer that would remove asbestos particles from the air when used out of doors.

Business Bulletin

A Special Background Report

On Trends in Industry

And Finance

COMPANIES FEAR

COMPANIES FEAR that proposed new reporting rules will make them sharply.

The tougher rules would require firms to break out financial results and assets for any product line, operating division or overseas subsidiary that accounts for 10% or more of the company's sales or profits. The Financial Accounting Standards Board's Committee on Reporting Standards is expected to announce the rules soon.

Ryder System Inc., a Miami-based trucking firm, says it would lose \$200,000 a year if it had to comply with the new rules. The firm's assets are spread out over 100 terminals in 10 states.

Critics claim the rules would also provide "highly confidential" sales data to competitors and give unions "arbitrary" and "unfair" information on which to base bargaining demands.

NEW YORK PARENTS

NEW YORK PARENTS are unable to enroll their youngsters in private schools.

Teachers have been out on strike 30 of the 42 school days so far this year. Their second strike in two years. With no sign of a settlement in sight yet, some parents are in a hysterical mood.

Another admissions office says it's getting "70 or 80 calls a day" from parents. Few schools have been able to squeeze in more than two or three more students, but one Brooklyn school added 20. At the better schools, applications for next fall's openings are running 30% above last year's.

Many have turned to public schools for a private school education. Many have turned to public schools for a private school education. Many have turned to public schools for a private school education.

STEEL IMPORTS in 1968 may fall only slightly from this year's inflated level. The steel strike threat helped boost imports this year to an estimated 17 million to 18 million tons, up from 11.5 million tons in 1967.

The 1968-69 price out on hot rolled sheets led by Bethlehem Steel Inc. could help domestic mills win back a sizable chunk of business previously lost to imports that were priced about 20% a ton below American steel.

DISPOSABLE HANDCUFFS are tested by Cleveland, Ohio. The cuffs, made of nylon tape and locked by a steel spring, have to be cut off a suspect's wrist. Priced about 35 cents a pair, they're too expensive for everyday use, says a police lieutenant, but might be hired for mass arrests of demonstrators. "You could carry a half dozen pairs in your hat," he says.

President Johnson wired congratulations to Nixon and told him the responsibilities of leadership are too important to be "encumbered by narrow partisanship." Johnson also sent a letter to Humphrey praising his "brave" campaign. In a choked voice, Humphrey told supporters in Minneapolis, "I've done my best. I've fought valiantly. I've won my own campaign. I'm successful because the other two parties ended up sounding like we were sounding."

The narrowness of Nixon's victory finally may result in an overhaul of the Electoral College system of choosing a President. Until late yesterday morning, the situation verged on a deadlock that could have sent the election to the House, where chaos might have resulted while Congressmen sought to choose a President. The change with the most support calls for replacing the Electoral College with direct popular election of a President.

DEMOCRATS RETAINED control of Congress, but the GOP scored small gains. In the Senate, the Republicans made a net gain of at least four seats, with the race between Sen. Morse (D., Ore.) and Republican Robert Packwood still in doubt. But the Democrats hold a 58-41 lead, pending the outcome in Oregon. In some of the major races, Democrat Alan Cranston defeated conservative Republican Max Rafferty in California, Republican Harry Bellmon upset Oklahoma Sen. Monroney, and Republican Richard Schweiker unseated Pennsylvania's Sen. Clark.

In the House, the GOP scored a net gain of four seats, leaving Democrats in firm control with 243 Representatives to 192 for the Republicans. The GOP gain was sharply below expectations. House leaders of both parties were re-elected without difficulty. New York named the first Negro woman ever elected to Congress, Mrs. Shirley Chisholm, 43, a Democrat. The state reelected Adam Clayton Powell Jr.

The Democratic Congress and Nixon's close victory may lend the new President to appoint Democrats and independents to his Cabinet in a bid for unity.

REPUBLICANS GAINED five governorships, giving them control of 31 states. Democrats took two governorships from the GOP in Rhode Island, where Frank DeLuca upset Gov. Chase, and in Montana, where Forrest B. Anderson defeated Gov. Babcock. But Republicans captured seven from the Democrats. In Illinois, Richard Ogilvie defeated Gov. Shapiro, and control also switched to the GOP in Delaware, Indiana, Iowa, New Hampshire, Vermont and West Virginia. GOP Gov. Winthrop Rockefeller was reelected in Arkansas. The Republicans' 31 governorships represented their biggest total in 38 years.

But the GOP will probably lose one of that total when the Democratic-controlled state legislature in Maryland chooses a successor to the President-elect Agnew.

California voters rejected overwhelmingly Proposition 5 on the state ballot, a proposal that had caused apprehension among finance officials by threatening to reduce property tax to a maximum of 1% of appraised property valuation. It was defeated by a margin of 57%.

Opponents feared the proposal would have forced prohibitive rises in income and sales taxes.

A new peace proposal will be made by South Vietnamese President Thieu in a few days, a semi-official government news agency in Saigon reported. It quoted Premier Huong as saying the plan would remove the impression that Saigon is blocking expanded peace talks. In Paris, North Vietnam and the Vietcong accused the U.S. of breaking secret accords with Hanoi by postponing yesterday's scheduled session of talks and making reconnaissance flights over the North.

Enemy gunners attacked a U.S. merchant ship on a river 15 miles south of Saigon, but the U.S. reported no damage or casualties. Earlier, four American helicopters were shot down west and northwest of the capital. In Washington, the State Department denied that President Johnson announced the bombing halt with definite knowledge that Saigon wouldn't take

Medical Researchers Study Role of Asbestos As Cause of Ailments

Men Who Work With It Have High Rate of Lung Ills. Dust Adds to Urban Air Pollution

By RONALD KESSLER
Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Matthew Gross walks up stairs backwards because he must sit and rest after each step. He can barely talk, and in recent years his weight has dropped to 120 pounds from a robust 190 pounds.

Mr. Gross, 54 years old, has asbestosis, a lung ailment that seriously impairs his ability to breathe. Five years ago it was discovered that he also had lung cancer, but his doctors say that the tumor was removed successfully.

Doctors attribute Mr. Gross' breathing difficulties and his development of lung cancer primarily to the large amount of asbestos dust he inhaled between 1941 and 1954, when he was a maintenance man at an asbestos factory near his home in Paterson N.J. Even though he has had no contact with the material since he left that job, the effects of breathing the asbestos dust are expected to stay with him for life.

Lung ailments directly associated with exposure to asbestos thus far have been limited to those who work with the heat and corrosion-resistant mineral, which is widely used in insulation and auto brake linings. Nevertheless, some scientists recently have singled out asbestos particles as a possibly dangerous ingredient in urban air pollution. Asbestos particles get into the air through the disintegration of asbestos products or when the material is sprayed on girders or beams of buildings during construction. According to one current theory, asbestos dust in human lungs acts as a sort of blotter, absorbing and holding whatever harmful substances exist in cigarette smoke or urban air.

Protective Measures. Asbestos, in turn, and Government agencies say they recognize asbestos dust as a potential health hazard. For many years, most asbestos-processing plants have employed various dust-control measures and required their production workers to wear protective face masks, industry sources say.

Johns-Manville Corp., the largest company in the field, last month announced it was entering a joint asbestos safety effort with the U.S. Public Health Service, the AFL-CIO International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators and Asbestos Workers and Mount Sinai School of Medicine of City University of New York. The main aim is to develop improved methods for reducing the exposure to asbestos dust of the estimated 200,000 workers in the industry.

But the scope of the research project could turn out to be broader. "If asbestos in the air is found to be generally harmful, we will want to protect the public from it, too," says E. J. Bolton Jr., a Johns-Manville vice president. The company adds that one new device being planned is a sprayer that won't unleash an asbestos particle anywhere when used out of doors or construction jobs.

Researchers agree that more study is needed into the health effects of asbestos dust. Right now, for instance, most scientists believe that present levels of asbestos dust in urban air aren't harmful, but they quickly add they aren't sure. Also, despite the blotter theory, scientists aren't sure how asbestos particles work to injure human lungs.

Research in Cape Town. However, the suspicion that asbestos dust isn't as dangerous to city dwellers was strengthened by recent research findings. Autopsies performed in several hospitals in New York, Montreal, and Cape Town, South Africa, revealed asbestos particles in the lungs of be-

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Some private schools offer special classes for a few public school children—mostly high school students worried about making low scores on college entrance exams. "Our walls aren't made of rubber, but we're doing what we can," says one headmaster. A few private schools offer practice teaching positions to college seniors who normally would intern in public school classrooms.

STEEL IMPORTS in 1960 may fall only slightly from this year's inflated level.

The steel strike threat helped boost imports this year to an estimated 17 million to 18 million tons, up from 11.5 million tons in 1957. But many users, pleased with the low prices and good quality of foreign steel, or committed to long-term contracts, don't plan to cut back on imports in 1960. One big company bought 10% of its steel overseas this year, up from 3% last year. A wave of steel that bought more than a year ago steel this year that last year plans to boost its imports to 10% in 1960.

U.S. mills will urge the new Congress to also limit import quotas on foreign steel unless overseas mills deliver on their promises to make voluntary restraints on exports. The U.S. Meanwhile, U.S. mills are trying to win back sales with improved warehousing services for customers, quicker deliveries.

The 35-a-ton price cut on hot rolled sheets led by Bethlehem Steel this week could help domestic mills win back a sizable chunk of tonnage previously lost to imports that were priced about \$50 a ton below American steel.

DISPOSABLE HANDCUFFS are tested by Cleveland police. The cuffs, made of nylon straps and locked by a steel spring, have to be cut off a suspect's wrists. Priced about 50 cents a pair, they're too expensive for everyday use, says a police lieutenant, but might be ideal for mass arrests of demonstrators. "You could carry a half dozen pairs in your hat," he says.

GUILTY OR NOT. Bantam Books plans to publish a paperback biography of James Earl Ray three days after his trial ends. Two different covers will be printed in advance, then when the verdict comes in the inappropriate one will be scrapped.

ANOTHER REASON for husbands to be leery of the milkman: Dairies in California, Texas and Pennsylvania have started selling lotions and skin creams made from a milk base. Route men pick up the orders, deliver the cosmetics and tack their cost onto the milk bill.

EXHAUSTED EMPLOYEES showed up for work at many firms yesterday. Companies didn't seem to be hampered by excessive absenteeism, but after viewing Tuesday night's late, late election shows, many workers were tardy and weren't working at full speed. At Dr Pepper Co. in Dallas, employees were "will-eyed from watching TV, but they're

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A Free Hand for a. Of course, a f from the Paris tal dent takes office. Mr. Nixon—at leas term—probably w

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dent Johnson announced the bombing halt with
definite knowledge that Saigon wouldn't take
part in expanded talks in Paris.
Czechoslovak students in Bratislava ripped
down Soviet flags and burned them in the
streets on the eve of the 50th anniversary of
Russia's Bolshevik revolution. Police in the
Slovak capital watched without taking any ac-
tion. No Soviet troops were in sight. In Prague,
a 35-block area around the national theater was
sealed off to prevent anti-Soviet demonstra-
tions during a Russian ballet performance.
A rail union struck the Louisville & Nash-
ville Railroad in a dispute over the sale of train
cars, closing down the 13-state road. In re-
sponse to the walkout by the Brotherhood of
Railroad Trainmen, President Johnson named
a three-member board to investigate the L&N con-
flict and submit a report to the Justice Dept.
A Vatican City publication condemned the
former Jacqueline Kennedy as a "public sin-
ner" for marrying the divorced Aristotle Ona-
sis in violation of Roman Catholic law. The
weekly L'Osservatore Della Domenica said she
has practically renounced her Roman Catholic
faith and is in a state of spiritual degrada-
tion. The article, by an Italian theologian,
also termed Onassis a public sinner.
Died: Charles Münch, 77, musical director
and conductor of the Paris Symphony Orches-
tra and former conductor of the Boston Sym-
phony. He was found dead at his customary
netherly in his hotel room in Richmond, Va.,
where he was on tour.

urban air
Protective Measures
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tween 25% and 50% of persons who died of
many causes. Dr. J. G. Thomson, professor of
pathology at Cape Town University, who con-
ducted the South African studies, reported that
the amount of the dust found in the lungs of as-
bestos workers wasn't much higher than that
discovered in the lungs of the deceased urbanites
who had never worked with the material. Thus, he
concluded, small amounts of the par-
ticles might well be damaging.
It is well established that prolonged expo-
sure to asbestos dust is harmful to asbestos
workers. Asbestos, the discolor from which
Mr. Grose suffers, has been discovered only
among asbestos workers or construction hands
who frequently work with the material. Dr.
Irving J. Selikoff, of Mount Sinai Hospital in
New York, says that "nearly all" the men he
has examined who have been production work-
ers in asbestos plants for 25 years or more
show "some degree" of asbestosis.
In addition, both asbestos production men
and insulation handlers show a very high rate
of mesothelioma, a rare type of cancer asso-
ciated with asbestos dust. An estimated one in
10 asbestos workers dies of mesothelioma,
compared with one in 10,000 of general popu-
lation, studies show.
The most chilling statistic is that asbestos
workers who are cigarette smokers have been
found to die of all types of lung cancer at a
rate 42 times that of nonsmokers in the general
population. By comparison, smokers who
aren't asbestos workers die of lung cancer at a
rate 12 times that of nonsmokers. The extra-
ordinary statistic is reported in a recent issue
of the British Medical Journal.

U.S. mills will urge the new Congress to
stop all import quotas on foreign steel unless
overseas mills deliver on their promises to
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U.S. Meanwhile, U.S. mills are trying to win
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here," said a spokesman. A Hill & Knowlton
public relations man in New York noted, "peo-
ple here look plenty bloodshot." And at many
firms election post-mortems occupied much of
the workday.
"I've never seen our office this deserted at
9:30 in the morning, even most of the secre-
taries are late, and that's very unusual," said
a spokesman for a large Chicago company. In
Houston, many American General Insurance
Co. employees struggled in after. Nixon had
won, even so, "there probably won't be much
work done here today because people are no
longer talking," said one officer. Many New
Yorkers left work early Wednesday to mingle
with the crowds at Nixon's Waldorf-Astoria
headquarters.
In at least one New York office hardly
any work was accomplished. "Things are
absolutely wild here," chirped a telephone
operator at the law office of Nixon,
Mudge, Rose, Guthrie, Alexander & Mitch-
ell. "No one is doing anything but wailing."
BRIEFER: Xerox tries a new sales pitch in
education publications with ads showing teach-
ers how to use its office copiers to automatically
grade true-false and multiple choice tests.
The Ohio salmon craze catapults Michigan
into the world caviar market; a cannery plans
to sell 400,000 pounds of roho eggs next year in
the U.S., Japan, Germany and England.
American Tobacco touts its new reusable cigar
case as "the most unique package since the
box."

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Mr. Nixon
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That will be
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A Free Hand
Of course,
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quarter earnings about \$15.4 million devaluation.

to the \$32 million period by Unilever make the 1967 third to about \$47.7 mil-

combined earnings are an estimated \$139 million. Increased taxation on profit, the com-

sales rose slightly about \$1.38 billion. Nine-month sales little from the 1967 as don't reflect de-

third-quarter earnings with \$32 million for the nine months, the same as were

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A Concern

Pakco Cos. said it recall the outstand-its Corp., a concern area of undevel-ated as the city of County, Fla.

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\$2.0 million from \$0.2 million.

Mr. Potter said the orders backlog is a record \$32 million.

Earlier yesterday, Potter introduced a data recorder permitting the user to enter data directly on magnetic recording tape from a keyboard device without first preparing punched tabulating cards. Potter said it already has an order for 1,000 units from International Computers & Tabulators Ltd., of London.

Medical Researchers Study Role of Asbestos As Cause of Ailments

Continued From First Page

ly high rate of cancer deaths among asbestos workers who smoke has given rise to the theory that the dust acts to retain the cancer-causing ingredients believed by some scientists to be in cigaret smoke.

Researchers in the field hold out hope that the problem can be tackled successfully. They see no insurmountable obstacles to devising mechanical devices that can eliminate or sharply reduce the amount of dust generated by equipment that processes and applies asbestos. This would reduce future incidence of ailments linked to asbestos dust.

"I think we can lick this one," says E. Cuyler Hammond, a vice president of the American Cancer Society.

Minerals Separation Drops Bid

LONDON—Minerals Separation Ltd. said it wouldn't proceed with its offer for Rawlplug Co., Kingston-upon-Thames toolmaker.

The decision came after Burmah Oil Co., a week ago made a bid valued at the equivalent of \$55 million for Rawlplug common shares. This bid was over \$8 million more than the rival offer from Minerals Separation for Rawlplug shares.

Burmah's offer, which Rawlplug directors have recommended acceptance of, is for 18 Burmah \$2.40-par common shares for every five \$2.40-par shares of Rawlplug. Burmah said it would later offer to acquire Rawlplug's preference shares.

Rawlplug is to be merged into the industrial products division of the big International oil company, which already offers a number of products for the building and civil engineering industry.

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