

Visited Thermoid Company August 28, 1958. Met Mr. Mitchell who conducted me on a tour while Mr. Lumsden took dust samples. The men who take dust samples for Mr. Mitchell took simultaneous samples while Mr. Lumsden was working so as to double check the counts and procedures.

Description of Medical Program: Dr. Seay visits the plant a certain number of hours each week examining new employees and he has started examining the older employees and hopes to give everybody an examination within the next year or two. Apparently the men are scheduled either by length of service or alphabetically—so far they have examined down to letter J.

Mr. Mitchell said there had been no new Asbestosis cases since 1948, but according to our files there are at least four (4) new cases up to between 1954 and 1948.

The nurse was interested in eye testing machines and wished my opinion. They use only the Snellen eye chart. It was recommended that a small Jaeger could be obtained.

Mr. Mitchell stated that his insurance carrier at one time thought of doing a noise survey but apparently did not think that the decibel level was high enough and it had not been done. I offered to do this if he so desired.

I mentioned to him the experimental work done by Dr. Arthur Vorwald several years ago concerning the harmfulness of the longer fibers of asbestos. Mr. Mitchell was aware that Johns-Manville Co. was counting both the long and short fibers and he intended to speak with them to see what their results were. It was recommended to him that he also develop some information about the long fibers (those greater than 10 micron). He discussed several new ventilation projects to Mr. Lumsden and it is thought that this would further reduce their dust counts.

He has recently installed a floor cleaning project. The floors are sanded down and give the impression of much greater cleanliness. He is doing this for the psychological effect. He plans to put into operation some new "opening" machines which will be completely enclosed and he also intends to recirculate air from his Wheelabrator. It's interesting to know that he had a dermatitis problem from fiberglass which was not cleared up until proper engineering controls were applied.

He also stated that all the engineering controls were justified to management on a dollars and cents basis.



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