

FILE NAME: Abex (ABX)

DATE: 1949 Mar 31

DOC#: ABX064

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Excerpt NYU - Bellevue Talk

NYU - BELLEVUE TALK - March 31, 1949

part of my time trying to help the superintendents and foremen of our sixty plants better understand the fundamentals of our debt to all men in the organization who pull their oar in advancing the company toward its objectives. Also, we must teach all in supervision the findings of medical science as applied to occupational health problems. They must, for example, be taught the proper use of exhaust equipment. Times have changed amazingly. At last we are beginning to get a better sense of proportion as to which things are important and the degree of their importance.

We know that plant people are entitled to the best possible in working conditions. We know whatever that means in expense is a necessary expense. We know that a strong Medical Department with a nurse at each plant is not only something companies owe their people but is a profitable investment in human relations.

The Industrial Nurse is the best contact we have with the man and the man's family. Her interest in the problems of the family will open the door to a feeling of friendship and unlock the frankness which makes possible a contribution to the lives of many families.

What I have said applies generally to industry, depending on its degree to the type of business. We not only know the necessity of good doctors but unfortunate experiences have taught us the importance of having doctors quickly available. As part

NYU - BELLEVUE TALK - March 31, 1949

of our human relations obligation, we have accepted for a long time our responsibility to help support local hospitals. It is only in the last two years that we, in Brake Shoe at least, have accepted our responsibility to help support Medical Schools and Medical Research.

Until recently, Industrial Hygiene has been years behind medicine. That distance has been greatly shortened. We in industry are now effectively taking hold. Progress will be retarded, perhaps actually stop, unless there is a sufficient flow of competently trained doctors and nurses to our ranks. Back of them must be adequate research and with them carefully trained engineers who recognize health hazards and know how to correct them. Today the company which plans to continue in business needs these people just as definitely as it needs engineers and technical men.

Each year there is a greater flow of corporate funds to engineering and technical schools. Such contributions are recognized by more and more companies as sound investments. They help sustain the supply of adequately trained engineers for our ranks. These men are essential to continuous improvement in production and products. Except in terms of the tax law, such contributions are definitely not charity.

Medical education likewise needs corporate support. In my opinion, the importance of Medical Departments to industry