MINUTES OF THE 103 MEETING OF THE
QUEBEC ASBESTOS MINING ASSOCIATION
HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1967,
AT THE CHATEAU CHAMPLAIN, MONTREAL, QUE.

Present:

Messrs.	M.J. Messel	F. Bolduc	D. Poirier
	R.S. Coleman	I.C. Campbell	L. Piuze
	K.V. Lindell	M.P. Carson	M. Prus
	R.J. Merrill	R. Dodds-Hebron	P.H. Riordon
	P.A. Meyer	J.O. Eby	G. Robinson
	W.W. Oughtred	W.H. Foster	I. Sabourin
	F.P. Smith	J.R.M. Hutcheson	P.A. Filteau

Mr. Michael J. Messel presided the meeting. Following a regular motion, minutes of the meeting held on August the 9th and 10th were adopted as submitted.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

The last meeting of the Committee was held in Ottawa on October the 12th. The Chairman stated that he wished to report more specifically on the work of the Unitized Loading subcommittee. At the last meeting of this subcommittee, it was mentioned that the wrapped units, recommended as a stop gap measure had been tried by several companies and found not completely satisfactory.

It was also resolved that important bag damage was caused by the stevedores' hooks in Canadian ports, and it was recommended that:

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a) a visit be made to the port of Quebec during loading

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was retired on July 1 and has not yet been replaced. In the 1968 Budget there is allowance for equipment and two girl employees for testing of the Ottawa procedure for measuring fibre length and diameter.

U.C. & G.

1968 BUDGET

Sherbrooke Lab.	Actual 1966	Budget 1967	Budget 1968
Lab. Equipment	$6,492	$3,010	$3,000
Furniture	1,742	800	800
Lab. Supplies	1,357	2,195	2,880
Service	528	1,986	1,990
Stationery	1,579	1,330	1,330
Books & Periodicals	-	100	260
Travel & Other	678	2,230	2,230
Salaries	45,656	52,875	52,550
Total:	$58,032	$64,526	$65,040

Fibre Inspector			
Salary	$7,590	$7,740 (8425)	$9,060
Welfare	459	560	650
Travel & Car Insurance	1,604	2,090	2,050
Understudy	-	500	500
Miscellaneous	56	100	100
Total:	$9,709	$10,990	$12,360

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3. Production Q.S. Testing by the Fibre Inspector. - An agreed procedure for the program has been developed. The inspector will start on December 1st, 1967 and will make 60 plant visits in 1968. Results will be reported by Sherbrooke Lab. as "Random Production Q.S. Tests".

4. Quebec Department of Natural Resources. - This department has requested an agreement with Q.A.M.A. to send approximately 20 fibre samples a year to the Sherbrooke Lab. for S.U. evaluation.

The Directors suggested that the agreement:

a) Be limited to ores coming from the Province of Quebec and processed in Quebec.
b) Cover no more than 20 samples per year.
c) Do not refer to Q.A.M.A. nor hold the Association responsible for test results.
d) Insure that no Q.A.M.A. fibres are submitted for testing.
e) Call for the payment of normal fees.

It was also pointed out that the Point Value System has not as yet been officially adopted as an optional fibre classification, but merely as a standardized procedure.

5. McNett and Colour Classifications. - Since little interest is indicated, the committee recommends that the idea be shelved for now.

6. Fibre Additives. - The matter of testing fibres containing additives was tabled, but no direction given; it will be reviewed at the next meeting.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The last meeting of the Industrial Relations Committee was held September 13th. Since that date the Chairman and the General Manager met with the Quebec Metal Mining Association to listen to the Mining Inspector's interpretation of Section 266 of the Mining Act. A memorandum has been received from the Mining Inspector and will be forwarded to all the members of the Committee. It should be pointed out that at the last Industrial Relations Committee meeting, it was agreed that the companies would not pay the Union representative for his time spent with the Mine Inspector during official visit of operations.

A joint meeting of the Q.M.M.A. and Q.A.M.A. was held with the Quebec Workmen's Compensation Commission to discuss the new ruling of 10% partial disability granted to restricted employees as a preventive measure against pneumoconiosis. Details of ruling will be forwarded to each company.

A discussion of the mining fund with the Metal Mining Association will be held November 28th. The mining fund consultant will make a report.

The Chairman brought to the attention of all, Bill C-171, Federal Government, on air and water pollution, and Bill 79 by the Quebec Workmen's Compensation Commission.

The services of Hall and Henshaw have been discontinued since the death of Ed. Berridge. The Committee recommends that if a suitable man is found, that these services be continued.

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TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

1. The Association's request to the railroads to establish 120,000 lb. minimum rates to Official Territory, with a reduction in the rate of 10 cents has been turned down by the railroads, whose counter offer for a reduction of only 1 cent in the rate is completely unacceptable to members. It therefore appears that this proposal cannot be promulgated at this time.

2. The Chairman reported on the current situation on the St. Lawrence river and, in particular, the dispute between the International Longshoremen's Association and the Shipping Federation of Canada which has arisen as a result of the tabling of the Picard report on work practices in loading cargo at these ports. The effect of this dispute has already been felt in the announcement by one of the Conferences to the effect that all shipments loading at such ports will be subject to a 25% surcharge on the freight rate. The Chairman advised that representations were being made through the Canadian Shippers' Council to bring about a settlement.

3. Ocean Freight Contracts currently in effect for asbestos are due to expire on April 1st, 1968. In the meantime requests for increases in these rates have been received from two Conferences -

   (a) The Canada - United Kingdom Freight Conference which is demanding a $3.00 per ton increase for shipments in individual bags or unit loads of less than two tons and an increase of $1.50 per ton on unit loads of two tons or more.

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(b) The Canada - Continental Conference who are requesting a 6% increase effective the same date, which would amount to somewhat more than $1.00 per ton.

4. There has been no change in the London Dock situation, where workers still refuse to handle asbestos except in dust-proof containers. In the meantime shipments through Avonmouth in jute laminated bags continue to be accepted.

LEGISLATION AND TAXATION COMMITTEE

1. Belanger Commission Brief. - Representatives of the Association, together with a delegation from the Quebec Metal Mining Association met with the Hon. Paul Dozois, Minister of Finance, on October 23rd, to review the joint submission of the two Associations concerning the implications of the Belanger Commission Report.

It was reported that Mr. Dozois was generally sympathetic to the viewpoint expressed by the delegation and, in particular, indicated interest in the large amount of tax being paid by Quebec Mining companies on diesel oil. Arising out of this interest, a questionnaire has been prepared and circulated to all members in order to determine exactly the amount of such tax being paid by the Mining companies with a view to exploring the situation further.

2. Carter Commission. - This Association, together with the Quebec Metal Mining Association, also presented a brief to the

Provincial Government on the subject of the ramifications of the Carter Commission recommendations on the mining industry in the Province of Quebec.

The delegation met on September 27th with the special committee formed by the Provincial Government to study the Carter Commission Report and its possible effects on the provincial economy. Again, the delegation was well received and the impression was gained that the Province was looking at the Carter Report with a great deal of scepticism. There has been a spate of briefs from the Mining Industry to Mr. Sharp on this subject and in our own industry, Asbestos Corporation Limited has also filed a brief with the Minister of Finance.

3. Kennedy Round Tariff Negotiations - Gatt. - Certain items of mining equipment will now be susceptible of higher rates of duty. This comes about by the abandonment of the 'class or kind' provision in the General Machinery Tariffs and the substitution of a flat rate of duty, regardless of the 'made in Canada' status. The implications of this change are being brought to the attention of the Federal Government through our own Customs consultant and we have also enlisted the support of the Mining Association of Canada to make representations to Ottawa in this regard.

4. Quebec Pension Plan. - Effective January 1st, 1968, maximum pensionable earnings subject to contributions to the Quebec Pension Plan have been increased from $5,000. to $5,100. and, accordingly, the maximum employer/employee contributions from $79.20 to $81.00

5. Quebec Provincial Sales Tax. - Quebec Sales Tax auditors are attempting to extend the base for the taxation of power consumed in the Mining industry. Generally speaking, the Sales Tax applies to amounts paid for electricity; however, it is not payable when used "by manufacturers as direct agents of transformation of a product or for the operation of machinery used directly in transforming or manufacturing a product".

The Department officials are suggesting that electricity used for power shovels, conveyors, etc. are not included in this exemption.

6. Taxation Statistics. - Members have received a questionnaire setting forth the amounts paid by members for taxes, fringe benefits and donations, as well as other basic economic data for the Industry in Quebec, in order that such information can be available for purposes of representations to appropriate authorities on the amount of contributions made to the provincial economy by the Mining Industry.

As agreed at the Murray Bay meeting, the questionnaires should be filed with the Association auditors, Riddell, Stead, Graham and Hutchison in Montreal and the consolidation of these figures, when available, will be supplied to members. Companies are quite free to leave certain questions unanswered if they so feel advisable.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The new centennial booklet prepared by "Editas" is off the press. The Chairman pointed out that the selection of certain photos reproduced in the booklet were not satisfactory. It was agreed that

he will try to have these photos replaced by more up-to-date ones at a minimum expense to the Association.

At the Murray Bay meeting a letter from the CIM President, Mr. E.D. Brown concerning the promotion of a "Mining Week" through out Canada was tabled. The General Manager has since inquired as to the contribution expected from our Association and was advised that no definite proposal could be submitted until the services of a P.R. Consultant had been retained. At the last Mines Ministers Conference held in Regina from September 17th to 19th, the matter was discussed and the remark was made that such a P.R. project might come in conflict with the general P.R. program of the Mining Association of Canada.

The Chairman also mentioned that Mr. J.P. Letourneau of the Provincial Chamber of Commerce would attend lunch after meeting and explain briefly the radio T.V. spots publicity program of the Chamber aimed at a better understanding and appreciation of the social economic system in which we live. The expenses involved in the project amount to $19,500.00 per year, $12,000.00 of which is directly devoted to the preparetion of the text, and the balance to the reprinting and distribution of texts in French and English. The Provincial Chamber of Commerce sollicits the financial participation of the mining industry through its two Associations Q.M.M.A. and Q.A.M.A. It is understood that certain texts will deal with the mining industry and natural resources in general. The Directors suggested that the P.R. Committee study the proposal and submit their recommendations at the next meeting.

Two requests have been received in connection with the disposal of the rock sculpture of the Asbestos Plaza at Expo'67, one from the Grambay Zoo and the other from Laval University. In the latter

case, plans for a geology court adjacent to the Science Building are being prepared by architects wherein the asbestos rock sculpture would be the central attraction of the court. The general consensus was that the rock sculpture should be given to Laval, provided that they pay for the cost of transportation which is estimated to $1,000.00

INSTITUTE OF OCCUPATIONAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Second Antigua Conference is approaching November 20-23. Forty-two guests have accepted the invitation of the Q.A.M.A. Committee and will be expected to participate in the discussions around a very precise agenda during three days. The main headings of the agenda are:

1) Characterization and control of environmental exposure.
2) Interaction between asbestos and biological systems.
   a) Microtoxicology of asbestos.
   b) Fibrogenesis.
   c) Carcinogenesis.
3) Disease related to asbestos in man - Epidemiological studies.

It is hoped that this meeting will provide the necessary elements for a definite research program in which the government and possibly asbestos manufacturers could be asked participate financially.

DUST ABATEMENT COMMITTEE

The Chairman reported that a Wet Collection System is in operation at the Jeffrey Mine and that preliminary test results look quite encouraging. It is hoped that sometime in December a visit can be

organized for the other member-companies.

Various methods of suppressing dust are being studied at Asbestos Corporation and improvements to the bag collecting system are being tested at Lake Asbestos.

AD HOC COMMITTEE - Method of Reporting Average Number of Employees -

The Chairman of the Committee submitted the following text to the Directors for their acceptance. This wording was agreed at the second of two meetings of the Committee held on October 31st 1967, and reads:

> "The average number of employees as shown on the annual return to the Quebec Workmen's Compensation Commission, plus all employees of contractors engaged by the company in work related directly to operations and without limiting the generality of the foregoing, contract work such as shaft sinking, development, stripping, rock haulage, bagging and shipping are to be included".

One company was not quite in accord and would like to hold in abeyance for further study the wording proposed.

NEW BUSINESS

Salary Increases - A motion confirming salary increases of $50.00 per month to Miss Toupin and $45.00 per month to Miss Côté effective September 1st was proposed and adopted.

Contribution to CIM Education Committee - Following a discussion of the merits of the CIM Education Program, it was proposed that a contribution of $250.00 be granted for 1967. Adopted.

1968 Budget - The Treasurer tabled the budget of the Association for 1968 which was accepted with a few minor revisions such as the including of the Montreal Office expenses with the budget of the Institute of Occupational and Environmental Health. The budget of the Institute of Occupational and Environmental Health, however, will remain opened in case of possible revision as a result of the "Antigua Conference". The overall budget in the amount of $531,810.00 to be reviewed at the next meeting.

Canadian Asbestos Mission to Russia - Counsel reported that he had observed collossal developments in the Asbestos Industry of U.S.S.R. -Russian asbestos production acknowledged as highest in the world. In the health field, assurances were given by Dr. Kogan and others involved in the medical problems associated with asbestos that health experience in Swerdlowsk, Asbiest, etc., was good. As to cancer incidence, it would be higher than in the balance of the population according to Kogan but opinion to the contrary was expressed by the medical staff in charge at Asbiest, a staff highly rated in reputation. Therefore a closer study is warranted. Articles to this effect translated from the Russian and further report of Counsel will be sent to everyone. Counsel added that contact with the Russian asbestos industry and medical specialists are good and should be continued.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be the annual meeting and the date selected is January the 15th, 1968, at the Château Frontenac in Quebec City. A Nominating Committee to submit a slate of Officers and Committee Chairmen for the ensuying year was appointed as follows:

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Mr. Michael J. Messel
Mr. Karl V. Lindell
Mr. P.A. Meyer

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was formally adjourned.

Paul A. Filteau,
General Manager
&
Secretary