

MEMORANDUM

RE: PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

To: Mr. A. R. Fisher, President
Johns-Manville Corporation

From: Dr. Daniel C. Braun, Medical Director
Industrial Hygiene Foundation

Date: August 19, 1954

Chicago and North Western Railway

Of possible interest to this company might be the fact that we are presently engaged in doing a system-wide survey of environmental conditions for a very large railroad (Pennsylvania Railroad). We have from time to time been able to assist other railroads with problems relating to dusts, fumes, dermatitis from coolant inhibitors and physical examination programs. We have had correspondence with Mr. G. F. Stephens and Dr. A. Nygood.

E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Company (former member)

It is doubtful if the Foundation can be of much help to a company like du Pont because they operate a very complete toxicological laboratory (Haskell Laboratory), and have a well-functioning medical department. However there may be occasions when they would find membership useful because of some specialized study or because of general information which we may have. Our publications, at least, would be valuable, and we have had several requests from du Pont for publications. Although it is perhaps a negative approach, it might be suggested that a company like du Pont would join the Foundation simply as a matter of supporting the general welfare of industrial health.

General Foods Corporation

In April 1953, they were seriously considering changes in their medical department and made an inquiry of the Foundation. This company may be expected to benefit from membership in ways similar to General Mills, Inc., for whom we have done toxicology studies on resins used in carton liners, acute studies on salt substitutes, and answered numerous inquiries regarding medical practices.

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Secretary's Report

The activities of your Secretary during recent months have been directed to the attention of the following services of interest to the membership.

Handbook of Asbestos Textiles. The publicity that has been provided by "The Handbook of Asbestos Textiles" and the interest that has been aroused through its issuance represents one of the notable accomplishments of the Institute to date. Reports received from the member companies would indicate that the circulation among established and prospective consumers of asbestos textiles was extensive and complete. Circulation from the office of your Secretary has perhaps not been as voluminous as that promoted by the member companies but, we feel, that the distribution has, in most cases, reached engineers and technical personnel with a genuine interest in our materials.

Attached to this report is a report submitted to the Sales Promotion Committee which sets forth a breakdown of the distribution from this office. It will be observed from this that the Handbook has been found of interest virtually around the world and, based upon the company affiliations and interests of those requesting the publication, many branches of industry have expressed an interest in the materials.

A few excerpts from the correspondence received as a result of the Handbook distribution may prove of interest.

- (1) A. O. Smith, Milwaukee, Wis., "Would you kindly let me have a list of the member companies of the Asbestos Textile Institute. We would also appreciate it if you could give us the name of any suppliers in this area who could provide us with experimental quantities of yarn made from African Crocidolite."
- (2) Fuller Company, Catasauqua, Pa. "We are presently experimenting with the use of properly woven asbestos fabric in the F-H Airslide (pneumatic conveyor) which we manufacture.....Handbook of Asbestos Textiles should prove helpful in pursuing our development of an asbestos fabric of proper permeability".
- (3) Arnold Moses, Training Division, Boston Naval Shipyard, Boston, Mass. "I am a trade theory instructor in pipecovering and insulation at the apprentice school of the Boston Naval Shipyard.....I would appreciate your cooperation in obtaining handbooks on asbestos insulation (including the better method of application) if they are obtainable. I have on hand, through a loan, the handbook of Asbestos Textiles which is published by your institute and which has been very helpful to me in the mineral asbestos phase."
- (4) D. M. Larrabee, U. S. Dept. Interior, Washington, D. C., "Your pamphlet on asbestos textiles was received in this office some time ago. It is an interesting and instructive handbook and will be a valuable addition to our files. Thank you for your cooperation in sending us a copy."

- (5) New York City Transit Authority, Brooklyn, N. Y., "We have received one complimentary copy of your "Handbook of Asbestos Textiles". We find this informative and believe it will enable us to standardize on Asbestos Tape, Cloth and Tubing."
- (6) Pennsylvania Railroad, Altoona, Pa., "We are very much interested in securing a copy of the Handbook of Asbestos Textiles, published recently by the Asbestos Textile Institute, for use in our laboratory. Advice as to how we may procure a copy will be very much appreciated.... Your article on Asbestos Textiles which appeared in Materials & Methods Magazine for January, 1954, has been widely read in our laboratory and has excited a great deal of favorable comment.

(Second letter)

Thank you very much for your courtesy in furnishing us with a copy of "The Handbook of Asbestos Textiles". There is no doubt that it will be of considerable value in our work."

- (7) Glas-Col Apparatus Co., Inc. Terra Haute, Ind., "I have read the Handbook of Asbestos Textiles published by Asbestos Textile Institute and have noticed that there is an asbestos fabric which has fine (WIRE) woven into it to increase its strength. I am particularly interested in obtaining a strong fabric which will withstand a high temperature. I am wondering if asbestos fabric re-inforced with fine nichrome wire is available. And, if so, what temperature such fabrics will withstand."

The comments here set forth serve to indicate the interest in asbestos textiles among prospective consumers who, to date, have had little or no pertinent information upon which to draw. This interest will unquestionably grow and the ultimate proportions of this educational and publicity endeavor may well exceed our highest expectations.

understanding.

Specification Revisions. During recent months an effort has been made to promote action in connection with the several Federal Specifications which have been under consideration by the Institute for the past year. A report covering these activities has been presented to the Technical and Sales Promotion Committee and will be attached as a part of the minutes of this meeting. In these endeavors we have been favorably impressed with the interest exhibited by the representatives of the several agencies in the work of the Institute and in our efforts regarding the specification revisions. The chief difficulty has been to find those individuals who have, not only an interest in the work, but authority to do something about our proposals. Experience has shown that correspondence and long distance negotiations are useless and for this

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resorted to the more time consuming but certainly more effective procedure of meeting with the parties in question. Our efforts with the Bureau of Ships in a meeting at which Mr. C. E. Frederick and the Secretary met with Mr. J. H. Chilcote of the Bureau, were very successful and engagements with two other agencies, while perhaps not as conclusive, were equally encouraging.

It is still necessary to make the proper contacts at the Wright-Patterson Air Base for negotiations relative to specification IIL-C-4117 and correspondence is now in effect with this agency, however, there has not been any progress, to date. The same status exists in connection with IIL-II-11199A under the authority of the Quartermaster, Philadelphia.

In the conclusions of our report covering this specification work, remarks are directed toward the continuation of the Institute's efforts in these regards and some direction from this meeting would be helpful.

Fellowship Project Committee. A meeting of the Fellowship Project Committee was held in Philadelphia on February 26 and the report covering this meeting will be presented by the chairman of that group.

Visual Aid Displays. Three Visual Aid Displays have been transferred during recent months. One of the displays has been shipped to England, in care of Small & Parkes, Ltd.; a second, to the University of Washington from the University of Arizona, and a third, to the Philadelphia Textile Institute. In addition, instructions have been given McGill University to ship the display, which has been on exhibition at that location, to Mr. A.W.G. Gibb, Asbestos Corporation for exhibition in Thetford Lines and perhaps at an industrial fair to be held in Toronto later this year.

We have endeavored to conduct the activities of the Secretary's office in a manner acceptable to the membership of the Institute and with a view toward advancing the aims and interests of the asbestos textile industry as it is represented by our membership. We trust that our efforts have been in full accord with the principles and objectives of the Institute as envisioned by the membership.

Myril C. Shaw,
Secretary