were identifiable as one of the three forms of asbestos mineral cited above. In particular, none was chrysotile, since this mineral, due to its hollow structure, has a unique and readily identifiable diffraction pattern.[3] Considering the wide range of chemical composition found in the other fibrous minerals, it was concluded that positive identification of these fibers required a certain minimum knowledge of their chemical composition (possibly by electron microprobe measurements), and further electron diffraction information to allow construction of probable unit cells. The results of this work can thus be stated as:

1. The fibers were crystalline (i.e., probably mineral).
2. The fibers were long chain silicates.
3. The fibers examined here were not crysotile asbestos.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The abstract of a paper by Gross, deTreville, and Haller, "Pulmonary Ferruginous Bodies in City Dwellers, A Study of Their Central Fiber," which appeared in the AMA Archives of Environmental Health 19: 186-188, August, 1969, and which effectively summarizes the significance of Mr. Haller's observations, follows:

> "Chrysotile, which comprises more than 90% of the asbestos used in this country, has a characteristic electron diffraction pattern because of its unique, hollow, tubular, crystalline structure, as seen under the electron microscope.
>
> "On the basis of the electron diffraction pattern, chrysotile was decisively excluded as a constituent of the cores of all 28 ferruginous bodies isolated from lungs of urban dwellers not occupationally exposed to asbestos.
>
> "This exclusion is considered highly significant because if the ferruginous bodies in the above city dwellers had been caused by the inhalation of asbestos dusts, then some of the cores should logically be composed of chrysotile."

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