

THE CONNECTION OF PHYSICAL AND
CHEMICAL FEATURES OF ASBESTOS
WITH THEIR PATHOGENIC EFFECT

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One of the important contemporary investigators on the problem of asbestosis, Gilson, the Chairman of the Committee on Asbestos and Cancer of the International Union on the fight against cancer, has calculated (1965) that for the last 60 years the consumption of asbestos increased 1000 times, while the consumption of oil - this is a universally recognized condition of progress - increased only 50 times. Asbestos has extensive application in an ever increasing number of branches of production.

At the same time, along with quartz it is hardly possible to find a mineral dust capable of so serious a pathogenic effect on the organism of workers. In recent years there appeared a basis for considering asbestos dust considerably more harmful in view of its established connection with cancer of the lungs and other organs.

The nature of the aggressive biological effect of asbestos cannot be considered established with finality in spite of the large number of works carried out both here and abroad.

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