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THE ALTON RAILROAD COMPANY

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
340 WEST HARRISON STREET
CHICAGO

ARMSTRONG CHINN,
CHIEF ENGINEER

J. R. HOAGLAND,
VALUATION ENGINEER

RECEIVED
MAY 27 1937
W. F. RECH,
BRIDGE AND BUILDING ENGINEER
W. F. GREEN,
REAL ESTATE AND TAX AGENT

May 27th, 1937

Messrs. J. P. Morris,
C. H. Longman,
D. B. Moss,
C. L. Emerson,
T. P. Ball,
R. A. Mason,

Gentlemen:

At the meeting of the Committee
on May 24th the following were present.

T. P. Ball, Master Mechanic, N. Y. C.
L. H. Cota, Asst. to Mechanical Supt., A.T. & S.F.
C. L. Emerson, Master Mechanic, C.M. St. P. & P.
J. W. Freels, Local Attorney, I. C.
C. H. Longman, Asst. to V. P. & Gen. Mgr. C. & N. W.
D. B. Moss, Chief Medical Officer, C. B. & Q.
A. Chinn, Chief Engineer, Alton

The sub-committee appointed at
the previous meeting to prepare a bulletin covering rules
and instructions to be followed for the prevention of
Anthraco-Silicosis (Miner's Asthma) presented their bulletin
which was checked and accepted by the committee as a
whole. A copy of the bulletin is attached. It was recommended
that, as in the past, the General Managers' Association
send a copy of this bulletin to all railroads in
Illinois.

The bulletin on Anthraco-Silicosis which is being sent out with this letter is the
fourth to be issued. These bulletins cover the four major
hazards on the railroads, namely, Silicosis, Asbestosis,
Lead Poisoning and Anthraco-Silicosis, and will be all
that will be issued for the present. There are other hazards,
such as Arsenic Poisoning, Carbon-Monoxide Poisoning, Skin
Diseases, etc., but these are minor hazards compared to the
first four. Later, if it is found desirable, bulletins will
be issued on these lesser hazards.

It was suggested that a review
be made of all bulletins issued so far to determine if any
revisions are in order. For instance, it has been stated

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that the fitted contact pads previously recommended for respirators might not be desirable as there is a possibility of air leaking through them. Mr. Lawrence's sub-committee will handle revisions suggested in these bulletins and any committee member having recommendations should send them to Mr. Pearson.

It was suggested that possibly it would be well to more fully explain to the railroads the purpose of the four bulletins that have been issued concerning industrial diseases. It was thought that some of the railroads are of the opinion that full compliance with the suggestions contained in the bulletins will relieve them of liability with respect to these diseases. This is not so. Complying with the bulletins will reduce the probability of employees contracting the diseases, but will not reduce the railroads' liability to those employees who may contract the diseases in spite of all that may be done by the railroads to prevent it. The committee should give this question some thought and be prepared to say what further explanation, if any is necessary.

The next meeting of the committee is scheduled for 10:00 A.M. Monday, June 28th in Room 312-C of the General Managers' Association.

Yours truly,



Chairman, Railroad Engineering
& Shop Committee

CC: HEV
SHS
JWF
CMH