

was carried out in order to determine as nearly as possible the exact cause of death. Mortality rates from lung cancer for the general population of the Province of Quebec and its various counties and for the Dominion of Canada, as well as the United States were calculated from statistics collected in the appropriate places. Comparisons of the rates obtained for asbestos workers and for the other population groups were made according to accepted statistical methods ~~which have been explained in some detail.~~

Records were obtained on 6091 persons who fulfilled the criteria of the cohort. It was not possible to trace 133 of these for the whole period, but 5771 of the remaining 5958 were found to be still living in 1955 or later. Of the 187 known dead, cancer of the lung was considered to have been reasonably proved in nine and to be strongly suggested in three.

The members of the cohort were studied with respect to age, length of employment, a weighted average of their exposure, and their smoking habits. Four thousand, six hundred and seventy-three were found to be smokers within the definition of that term as used in this study. Thirty-four per cent of the cohort were more than 45 years of age, and 30% had been employed for longer than 20 years. Thirty per cent had a weighted exposure which placed them in ^{the} category of highest exposure.

The mortality rate for lung cancer, as computed on the basis of nine "proved" deaths among the cohort was 25.3 per 100,000. When the three "suspected" cases were added, the "total" rate for the cohort rose to 33.8.