

FILE NAME: Colonial Sugar Refinery (CSR)

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SUBSTANCE OF EXPERT EVIDENCE

ANNE CAMERON BATT,  
30 Colombo Street, Victoria Park,  
Librarian  
will give evidence as follows :

1. I hold the following academic qualifications :
 

Bachelor of Science	University of Tasmania 1965
Diploma of Librarianship	Tasmanian College of Advanced Education 1972.
  
2. My relevant experience is as follows :
 

1972-1974	Tasmanian College of Advanced Education Library - Cataloguer
1975-1976	University of Tasmania Library - Cataloguer
1976-1981	University of Tasmania Library - Biomedical Reference Librarian
1981-1982	West Australian Institute of Technology Library - Reference Librarian
1983-1986	University of Tasmania Library - Biomedical Librarian
1987-date	University of Western Australia Library - Medical Librarian.
  
3. An Australian librarian asked in the period from 1943 to 1955 to advise as to sources of information available on the effects of human exposure to dust containing asbestos and on the means of controlling dust in the processes of crushing and milling ore containing asbestos would have had recourse to the indexes of medical and engineering literature available in the major libraries at the time.

INDEXES

4. The principal medical indexes available then were -
  - (a) Quarterly Cumulative Index Medicus
  - (b) Index-Catalogue of the Library of the  
Surgeon-General's Office, United States Army, 1936
  - (c) Biological Abstracts

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- (d) Bulletin of Hygiene
- (e) Abstract of the Literature of Industrial Hygiene.

5. The principal engineering indexes available then were -
- (a) Industrial Arts Index
  - (b) Engineering Index

#### Medical indexes

6. Quarterly Cumulative Index Medicus  
This is a series available on subscription, issued in parts with a bound volume every six months. It was prepared by the American Medical Association. It indexed articles in medical journals, predominantly those in the English language and with a United States bias. It indexed major medical journals world-wide. The articles were indexed under the name of the author and under appropriate subject headings such as pneumoconiosis.
7. Index-Catalogue of the Library of the Surgeon-General's Office, United States Army, 1936  
This is a publication in book form of the Library's catalogue for the period 1919-1936. It lists both books and journal articles under author and subject headings. It indexes both English and foreign language publications. (The Library eventually became the National Library of Medicine.)
8. Biological Abstracts  
This is a United States serial published by the Union of American Biological Societies and started in 1926. It was issued at regular intervals and bound in annual (later more frequent) volumes. It abstracts and indexes articles in

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the biological and medical field. It has a very broad coverage of literature in different languages world-wide.

9. Bulletin of Hygiene

This was produced by the Bureau of Hygiene and Tropical Diseases, London, and started in 1926. The bulletin was issued monthly. It covered both English and foreign language articles. A substantial extract was provided for each article so that the content of foreign language articles was readily available.

10. Abstract of the Literature of Industrial Hygiene

This was produced as a regular supplement to the Journal of Industrial Hygiene and Toxicology. The Journal was published from 1919 to 1949 by the Harvard University School of Public Health. It changed its name to Archives of Industrial Hygiene and Occupational Medicine from 1950. (It later still became the American Medical Association's Archives of Industrial health.) The Abstract abstracted articles in both English and foreign languages on relevant subjects in other journals.

Engineering Indexes

11. Industrial Arts Index

This was produced in New York by a private publisher, H W Wilson & Co. It was issued monthly with annual bound volumes starting in 1913. It indexed articles in major English language journals dealing with subjects relevant to industry, science and technology. (It later became Applied Science and Technology Index.)

12. Engineering Index

This was produced in New York and started in 1906. It is produced by Engineering Index Inc. It indexes engineering journals in English and foreign languages and covers

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mechanical engineering, mining and metallurgy.

13. In the following appendices are copies of extracts from the indexes in which are marked references to relevant literature :

Appendix 1.	Quarterly Cumulative Index Medicus
2	Index-Catalogue of the Library of the Surgeon-General's Office, United States Army, 1936
3	Biological Abstracts
4	Bulletin of Hygiene
5	Abstract of the Literature of Industrial Hygiene
6	Industrial Arts Index
7	Engineering Index

14. The extracts are by no means comprehensive in that I have not endeavoured to cover all relevant literature in each index. Most of the extracts I have made relate to the decade 1945-1955.
15. I have been provided with what has been described to me as the plaintiffs' bibliography in these actions. By way of example, I have written against the marked entries in Appendices 1 and 2 the numbers the entries have in the plaintiffs' bibliography.

#### OTHER SOURCES

16. Apart from recourse to indexes the librarian would consult encyclopaedias and dictionaries.

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17. The principal medical encyclopaedia in use in Australia in the relevant period was The British Encyclopaedia of Medical Practice. An extract from the second edition volume ten issued in 1950 and reprinted in 1955 is attached as Appendix 8.

Availability of journals

18. In order to determine in what libraries the journals and texts identified in the indexes were held, the librarian would have contacted major libraries or would have consulted publications listing the holdings of subscribing libraries. There was a number of such catalogues in regular use prior to and during the relevant period, such as the Catalogue of Serials in Australian Libraries compiled by E R Pitt published in 1930.
19. Specifically I have been asked to advise on the availability in Australia during the period 1943-1955 of the following :
1. British Medical Journal Volumes prior to 1950
  2. Lancet Volumes prior to 1950 especially Volumes in 1934
  3. American Journal of Cancer Volumes 25 and 26
  4. Journal of American Medical Association
  5. British Journal of Radiology
  6. Danish Medical Bulletin Volume 3 1956
  7. Deutsche Medizinische Wochenschrift Vol 65
  8. Journal of Industrial Hygiene & Toxicology Volume 20 1938
  9. Tubercle
  10. Heating & Ventilating Magazine
  11. Scientific American
  12. Safety Engineering

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13. Heuper W C Occupational Tumours and Allied Diseases 1942
14. Legges Industrial Maladies.

The first 12 items are journals and the last two are text books.

20. I have consulted a publication entitled Scientific Serials in Australian Libraries. This is a union catalogue, to which the libraries listed in it have contributed information. The catalogue is compiled by the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation. It is a looseleaf service. The edition I used was the second edition which had been updated to 1979. Copies of pages from the catalogue containing most of the relevant information comprise Appendix 9.
21. Appendix 10 identifies the libraries in which the relevant journals were held. I have excluded from the list of libraries in Appendix 10 major libraries listed in the catalogue as having relevant series if the library did not exist before 1955. The dates shown in Appendix 10 against some of the libraries indicate the date of establishment of the library. That information has been obtained from the Directory of Special Libraries in Australia 5th Ed 1982 or by telephoning the library itself. A single asterisk indicates that the library had volumes in the series issued prior to 1955. A double asterisk indicates that the library had any specific volumes in the series listed in paragraph 19 above. As yet I have not been able to confirm when each library acquired the relevant volumes.
22. In addition to library holdings journals were available for private subscription.

Members of the British Medical Association in Australia

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received the British Medical Journal as part of their membership.

In 1935 and 1940 there were approximately 5,500 registered doctors listed in the Medical Directory of Australia and by 1948 there were approximately 8,000. In each of those years the majority of those listed indicated membership of the British Medical Association.

### Conclusion

23. Information on asbestosis and the dangers of exposure to dust in industry was available in the scientific literature before 1955. A significant part of this literature was available in Australia in academic, state, hospital and company libraries.