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I/815/59
DDL/PM

21st April, 1960.

Dr. J. McNulty,
Chest Physician,
District Hospital,
KALGOORLIE.

Dear Dr. McNulty,

Midget-Impinger

First of all, this Department, through the Commissioner of Public Health, is endeavouring to establish a more clear cut relationship with the Department of Mines, on matters dealing with health of mining employees. For the time being, it would be most advisable that any recommendations should come through the Commissioner to the Mines Department.

Dealing with the points in your letter, I thoroughly agree with 1 and 2. Dr. Bell, Director of the Division of Industrial Hygiene, Public Health Department of New South Wales, states that they have been using such an instrument for asbestos compounds.

As far as 3 is concerned, it is my opinion that the operator should be employed by the Mines Department. 4 is a good idea and so is 5. As far as 6 is concerned, it would probably be advisable to use a conimeter in conjunction with the Midget-Impinger. As good a method might be quantitative estimations of silica in carefully selected samples from the Midget-Impinger. 7 naturally follows on from previous paragraphs.

I have recently had occasion to visit Mr. Brisbane, General Mining Engineer, suggesting that the mines in the North should be inspected. This followed on a conversation with Dr. Fetwadjieff, who states that miners are now going underground and are using drills. This is the exposure per se which precedes gross manganese poisoning. This being

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