PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT
ASA-188

MINUTES OF THE 134th MEETING OF THE DIRECTORS
OF THE QUEBEC ASBESTOS MINING ASSOCIATION
HELD ON OCTOBER 3rd AND 4th, 1974 AT THE CASA BLANCA INN,
SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA

FRIDAY. OCTOBER 4th, 1974

The President, W.W. Oughtred, invited the chairman of the Occupational and Environmental Health Committee, K.V. Lindell, to chair the meeting and report on recent activities of his committee.

In connection with the First International Symposium on Recent Advances in the Assessment of the Health Effects of Environmental Pollution held in Paris, June 24th to the 28th, 1974, and sponsored by WHO and EPA, the chairman repeated that only two hazardous pollutants were mentioned "en passant". The chairman referred to a letter of one of the participants in the Paris Conference, R.H. Peterson, in which the latter discussed the Reserve Mining Case; it is suggested to read if carefully to see how one can manipulate information. Copies of letter had already been distributed.

The chairman also reported that Dr. C. Hammond of Mt. Sinai Hospital had stated in a CBC radio interview that asbestos workers who do not smoke rarely suffer from lung cancer.

The chairman then called on the QAMA Medical Advisor for his comments on the present situation as regards industrial preventive medicine.

The latter reviewed briefly the new policies of the Quebec Department of Social Affairs regarding occupational health. In recent months it was feared that the Department of Social Affairs was thinking of taking over the application of industrial medicine throughout the Province and, as a result, absorb private clinics. Meetings with the Senior Officials of the Department indicated that this was a misunderstanding and that the Department still considered the duty of Industry to continue industrial health services.

Dr. Wright, Chairman of the Scientific Committee of the IOEH, was then invited to review recent developments as regards the asbestos/ health problem.

Dr. Wright first commented on his trip to South Africa, on which he plans to submit a written report in due course. In connection with new developments of interest a question that must be considered is that when one mixes asbestos fibre with other ingredients in a product, is the fibre altered when it is released by users? Has its potential for biological effects been affected? Dr. Webster found that by exposing baboons to such dust, typical asbestosis lesions were produced. Dr. Lepoutre of Eternit does not agree that the fibre has been contaminated; a research project has been approved by his company to pursue the matter. In this connection, Dr. Gibbs also has a project to analyse the change in the dust as the fibre is processed. Dr. Webster has two cases of mesothelioma under treatment by immunological means (North-West Cape). After one year, one case shows no progression, an indication that it might respond to this type of tumor treatment by immunology. An Institute in South Africa is now in charge of all dust problems in all industries. Dr. Gibbs plans to go there and observe their experiments. There is no evidence yet of an increase of mesothelioma cases, as predicted by Dr. Thomson. South African epidemiology is far behind U.S.A. and Canada, especially as regards types of dust, etc.

The report of the IOEH Conference held in Montreal October 29-30, 1973 showed a real need for samples of fibres of equal length, size, etc. The Thermal Insulation Manufacturers' Association (TIMA) has established a research program involving extensive monitoring of industrial hygiene conditions in factories. In this regard, Dr. P. Enterline is mounting a study similar to that conducted by Dr. C. McDonald.

The Scientific Committee has recommended three proposals for funding and QAMA support has been granted accordingly.

a) a project by Dr. G.W. Gibbs entitled "Further studies on the physical parameters on airborne fibres in various industries";
b) a grant (1/3 of cost) to Dr. G.W. Gibbs towards the purchase of an electron-microprobe system for the Canadian Mesothelioma Study;
c) additional funds for completing the research project on "Continued Epidemiological Research relating to the Effects of Asbestos on Man" under the direction of Dr. J.C. McDonald.

Dr. Morgan has prepared a report on his project "Study on the Effects of Dimensions and Shape on the Respirability of Fibrous Materials". The report will be circulated through IOEH mailing. The ECC (Euratom) has committed funds to support the program and the QAMA grant should be reduced accordingly. It is suggested that Dr. Morgan submit another proposal so that the Executive Committee is in a better position to decide.

EPA raised the issue of asbestos-cement pipe sometime ago. With the Reserve Mining Case everything was put in abeyance until the trial is resolved. Meanwhile, the American Water Works Association Research Foundation has prepared a report for A/C Pipe Producers Association which concludes that there is no firm evidence to

indicate that proper use of A/C pipe presents a hazard to health by reason of ingestion of asbestos fibres. Calculations comparing the probable ingestion exposure in occupational groups to that likely to occur as a result of ingestion of potable water from asbestos-cement pipe systems suggest that the probability of risk to health from the use of such systems is small -- approaching zero. Further research has been suggested to elucidate the use of asbestos-cement pipe as regards possible health hazard and it is expected that EPA will commit large funds to such research (fibre inhalation, ingestion, clearance and migration studies). A direct study of human population groups exposed to asbestos-cement pipe distribution system will likely be conducted by Industry in terms of cancer experience, as compared with other distribution systems.

Regarding the setting of a safe level standard, the British had relied heavily on a study by Turner Brothers of a population exposed to asbestos after 1933 - obviously less exposed than people before 1933 - at which time new regulations were established. A report in 1966 by Knox had not shown excess lung cancer, gastro-intestinal cancer nor asbestosis. With a "caveat" the goal was then established at 2 fpcc. The document was later used in setting the USA standard at 5 fpcc until 1976, at which time it drops to 2 fpcc. Dr. Selikoff et als and labour unions felt it was too liberal a standard and that it should be 2 fpcc immediately; the courts did not accept this point of view, except possibly for the date. Dr. Selikoff had misquoted the report of Dr. Lewinsohn in objecting to the 2 fpcc standard as a safe level.

There are presently two proposals before the Scientific Committee:

a) A study by Dr. M. Lippman on the "deposition and clearance of inhaled asbestos fibres" as applied to donkeys and later to man. It is also intended to include assessment of the effect of long-term cigarette smoking. It is possible that NIEH might support it.

b) A proposal by Dr. Boivin of the Regional Centre of Cytology, Hotel-Dieu, Montreal. Dr. Boivin was asked to submit his request according to the format suggested by the Scientific Committee.

At the request of the meeting, Dr. Wright then gave a summary of the Reserve Mining Case, which has been going on for more than a year. Late in August a U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals granted a stay on the injunction issued by Judge Lord in April to halt the discharge of waste material by the Reserve Mining Company into Lake Superior and amphibole fibres into the ambient air of Silver Bay. The Company, meanwhile, is seeking an acceptable on-land disposal site for its waste discharge which has been alleged to contain asbestos-like fibres. A previous three judge panel had stated that it did not believe that an imminent health hazard was created by the discharge of asbestos-type fibres by the company. The trial could go to the Supreme Court.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting then adjourned.

CERTIFIED CORRECT

Secretary

Chairman