

November 20, 1936

LeRoy U. Gardner, M. D., Director,
The Saranac Laboratory,
Saranac Lake, New York.

Dear Dr. Gardner:

At a meeting yesterday attended by certain brake lining manufacturers, Mr. Simpson and I were able to present to a fairly large group of interested corporations the proposal that one of your dusting chambers be engaged for further experimentation with asbestos dust.

The proposal was very well received and it appears that not less than eight, and perhaps ten or more, corporations will participate in financing these further experiments along the lines discussed when we met with Dr. Lanza and Dr. McConnell a few days ago.

Accordingly, you may consider this letter as an authorization to you to commence the contemplated experiments with asbestos dust for the purpose of determining more definitely the causes and effects of asbestosis. It is my understanding that, among other questions which it is anticipated these experiments will answer, are the following:

- (1) What concentration of dust is necessary to produce the fibrosis of the lungs which is designated as asbestosis.
- (2) Whether exposure to asbestos dust will produce asbestosis without the existence of previous infection and whether the X-ray changes found in advanced human asbestosis can be reproduced in animals without infection.
- (3) Whether the fibrosis produced by asbestos is of the progressive type, that is, will the fibrosis increase (once it has started) after exposure to the dust has ceased.

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