

number of countries in some of which such observations were made only recently for the first time.

(3) Information on the number and variety of exposed workers and on the occurrence and incidence of asbestosis and of asbestos cancers among them is most fragmentary in all countries, especially in the United States and Canada, one being the principal consumer of asbestos and the other the chief producer of this mineral. It is for this reason regrettable that the original plan of having a recent epidemiologic survey on these aspects of asbestos production in Canadian mines and mills to be undertaken under the aegis of the National Cancer Institute of Canada was not adhered to and that this study was carried out as an industry-dominated venture which yielded highly controversial negative results.^{90,94-99,98,91}

(4) The principal worker groups exposed to respiratory contact with asbestos are employed in the asbestos mining and milling industries, in the production and commercial use of asbestos cement and plaster and their numerous secondary products, in the production and application of asbestos for insulating purposes, and in the processing of asbestos and its manufacture into textiles.

(5) Because in many countries and states the workmen's compensation laws are defective, the protection of asbestos workers against occupational health hazards related to respiratory and cutaneous contact with asbestos is inadequate.

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