

HEWLEY AND ALMY CHEMICAL COMPANY

INCORPORATED IN MASSACHUSETTS

DAREX

DEWALCO AND GOLD SEAL PRODUCTS

CAMBRIDGE B. MASSACHUSETTS

CABLE ADDRESS
"DEWALCO" BOSTON

February 23, 1938.

Mr. Manfred Bowditch, Director,
Division of Occupational Hygiene,
Department of Labor and Industries,
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts,
23 Joy Street, Boston, Mass.

Dear Manfred:

I am sorry if I sounded as though I suddenly turned into a black sheep with no further interest in asbestosis. That isn't what I meant to convey.

I have no evidence that would impress Lanza. However, despite the fact that I love positive proof as well as the next fellow, I know that it will take a lot more than injection experiments to remove the hunch that I have.

Your answer to the above is -- what is your hunch due to? It is due in a large measure to the following circumstances. (You will note that I do not dignify them with the term of proven facts.)

1. As I understand it, Multibestos ran for years without much trouble. It then switched to Russian and Rhodesian crudes and suffered an enormous amount of trouble.
2. I have been through plants of competitors (for various reasons, I do not want to name them in a letter but will be perfectly glad to discuss them) where conditions have been so bad that vision from one end of the shop to the other was actually impaired by asbestos dust in the air. In some of these, long streamers of asbestos fiber hung from every beam, sprinkler pipe and shaft hanger. Where these plants reported no trouble, I could not help but be impressed by the fact that they had seemed to have a long history back of them of having used only Canadian fiber.

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3. It seemed to me that in many of the cases where I had heard that plants had suffered trouble, they were the ones that had used goodly quantities of foreign fibers.
4. I personally cannot study the disease record of the Walpole plant and not believe that asbestosis is a very serious and sometimes fatal disease. I think it is one that should not be belittled and it is one which should be objectively studied until reliable facts are known and out in the open.

All this is simply so that you may know my own personal feeling. Far be it from me to get embroiled in somebody's else troubles.

Sincerely yours,

Brooklyn New York

BD:EB