FILE NAME: Asbestos Information Association (AIA)

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MINUTES OF THE EIGHTH MEETING OF
HEALTH AND SAFETY COUNCIL/
ASBESTOS CEMENT PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION
November 19, 1970

A meeting of the members of the Health and Safety Council of the Asbestos Cement Products Association was held pursuant to notice at the Biltmore Hotel in New York, New York, on November 19, 1970 at 2 P.M. The following persons were present:

J. A. Main	Health and Safety Council/ACPA
S. E. Monoky	Certain-teed Products Corp.
H. R. Mesler, Jr.	GAF Corporation
J. V. Magee	Johns-Manville Sales Corp.
C. L. Sheckler	Johns-Manville Sales Corp.
A. H. Fay	National Gypsum Company
K. F. Netter	Supradur Corporation of New York
K. Schwarz	Supradur Corporation of New York
L. A. Tobey	United States Gypsum Company
B. Walls	Burns, Van Kirk, Jube & Kafer

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. James A. Main.

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on May 19, 1970 were approved as distributed to the members of the Council.

Mr. Walls presented the financial statement for the period March 1, 1970 through November 18, 1970. A copy of this report is attached to these minutes and made a part hereof. The financial statement was approved as submitted.

Mr. Main reported that 10,000 copies of the Recommended Practices brochure had been printed. One thousand copies were sent to each member company, and 2,000 copies were sent to the Secretary for distribution upon request. Mr. Main observed that

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greater emphasis is continuing to be made in public media on the problems of lung health and exposure to massive doses of asbestos. He noted that the U.S. Senate had passed the Job Safety Bill and that continued proposals are being made to amend various municipal codes in this area. The public remains aroused on all subjects touching upon environment, and Mr. Main exhibited to the Council recent newspaper clippings attesting this public interest. Copies of these newspaper clippings are attached to these minutes.

The Chairman reminded the Council that at the time of its formation, there were two goals to which the Council undertook to direct its activities. The first goal was to advise the public that asbestos cement products, in place and under normal use, present no known health risk to the user or to the general public. This goal has been fulfilled in part by the publication of the Recommended Practices brochure. The second goal of the Council is to promote health and safety in those plants manufacturing asbestos cement products and in the environment around such plants, including stack emissions and pollution. Mr. Main noted that since the creation of this Council, Atlantic Asphalt & Asbestos had withdrawn from the manufacture of asbestos cement products and that Philip Carey and Cement Asbestos Products Company had resigned from the Council. Mr. Main distributed copies of the Insulation Hygiene Progress Report (Vol. 2, No. 2, Summer 1970) and "Partnership for Prevention - the Insulation Industry Hygiene Research Program" by Dr. Irving J. Selikoff, reprinted from Vol. 38, No. 3, Industrial Medicine and Surgery. These publications indicate how rapidly public concern is growing in the areas to which this Council is dedicated.

RECOMMENDED PRACTICES BROCHURE

Mr. Main asked the representative of each company attending the meeting to report on the distribution and use by his company of the brochure published by this Council on Recommended Practices for Fabricating, Handling and Applying Asbestos Cement Products in the Building and Construction Industries. The members reported as follows:

GAF: At this time the Building Products Division will not distribute the brochure. The Industrial Products Division

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executives are now considering the brochure and their decision on distribution is awaited.

Certain-teed: The brochure is now awaiting approval of the Executive Vice President of Certain-teed. In Mr. Monoky's preliminary opinion, the brochure would probably not be distributed among employees in the factory, but might be distributed in the field.

Johns-Manville: The brochure has been distributed to all J-M plants manufacturing asbestos cement products, to all key production personnel, to salesmen, and to applicators and distributors engaged in the fabrication of asbestos cement products. In Mr. Magee's opinion, the brochure has been well received. Mr. Magee also noted that J-M has imprinted cautionary labels which are being inserted on each interleafing sheet of asbestos cement sheets manufactured by J-M. A copy of this label is reproduced and attached to these minutes.

Mr. Sheckler remarked that J-M includes copies of the brochure whenever it files material safety data sheets. J-M also encloses copies of the brochure when writing general bulletins to customers. Copies of the brochure are sent to other safety organizations and to governmental departments such as the Department of Labor and Health, Education and Welfare whenever inquiries are received about asbestos. A copy of the brochure has been sent to the magazine "Asbestos" and may conceivably be published by that magazine. No other magazines in the building field have as yet received the brochure. The consensus of the members was that the brochure should not be sent to magazines at this time.

U.S. Gypsum: Mr. Tobey reported that the brochure is being considered by those executives of U.S.G. responsible for safety practices. Mr. Tobey doubted that precautionary labels would be used on shingles. He stated that although asbestos is used in wall board joint compounds, the fiber amount so used is below the acceptable threshold limit.

Supradur: A copy of a letter prepared by Supradur describing the availability of the Recommended Practices brochure and sent to its customers was distributed to the members and is

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attached to these minutes. Mr. Schwarz reported that he has had no requests as yet for copies of the brochure. Mr. Schwarz also stated that no distribution of the brochure has been made to production personnel of Supradur.

[Philip Carey - Cement Asbestos Products Company]: The Secretary, Mr. Walls, was asked to ascertain from these companies what steps if any, they were taking in the distribution of the brochure.

National Gypsum: Mr. Fay reported that each account of NG using asbestos cement in industrial application (cooling towers, greenhouse manufacturers, etc.) has been contacted personally by members of the NG sales force. These customers have received copies of the brochure. No brochures have been sent to the general public nor to dealers or applicators because it is NG's position that the brochure is not applicable to them.

It was noted that various research organizations have inquired about health hazards of asbestos cement products and have been sent copies of the brochure. It was the opinion of the members that the matter of distribution and use of the brochure should be re-examined at the next meeting of the Council.

RESPIRATORS

The members discussed their experience with respirators currently being marketed. Mr. Sheckler reported favorable experience with the following respirators:

Mine Safety Appliance Dustfoe No. 77
Mine Safety Appliance Dustfoe No. 66
Wilson Monomask
American Optical R3000 Series
American Optical R9100T (Beehive Type)

It was noted that the Beehive Type respirator does not have a replaceable filter and is regarded as being an expensive disposable respirator.

Mr. Sheckler stated that new disposable filters for respirators are coming, or will shortly come, on the market. Some of these can be purchased for $1.50 each. Disposables

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are being produced by American Optical and will soon be produced by the Welsh Company. Mr. Sheckler volunteered to bring samples of the various respirators to the next meeting. He also noted that J-M is conducting a program at McGill University to study the efficacy of respirators to filter asbestos fiber. It was his hope that a further report could be made at the next meeting of the Council.

LABELING ASBESTOS CEMENT PRODUCTS

The members discussed experiences to date on the labeling of asbestos cement products. The following reports were received. GAF does not presently use a cautionary label on rigid siding or corrugated asbestos cement sheets. J-M does label thermal insulation products containing asbestos, thermal insulation cements containing asbestos, and asbestos fibers. It is expected that cautionary labels will be used on asbestos cement flat sheets in the near future. J-M does not label its shingles or siding or corrugated asbestos cement sheet or asbestos cement pipe. It is the policy of J-M to label only those products that may pose health and safety hazards.

ASBESTOS INFORMATION COMMITTEE/NORTH AMERICA

Mr. Fay reviewed with the Council the Asbestos Information Committee/North America. By way of preface, he stated that the Health and Safety Council had been formed with five objectives in mind: the first was medical research. It was decided that such research could best be handled by QAMA. The second objective was public relations. At the time of the formation of the Council it was felt that it was not appropriate for the Council to undertake such a program. The third objective was the exchange of information among asbestos cement manufacturers. The Council has attempted to keep manufacturers up to date with the most recent information in the area of health and safety. The fourth objective was the study and resolution of internal plant problems. The Council has encouraged mutual aid among its members in the identification and resolution of such problems. The fifth objective was the improvement of the relationship between asbestos cement producers and asbestos cement users. Part of this objective has been achieved through the publication of the Recommended Practices brochure.

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Mr. Fay stated that the public relations objective has developed in importance because of increased publicity about asbestos hazards which has been generated by consumer protection advocates, politicians and some scientists. Mr. Fay stressed two points: first, the true facts about asbestos are often ignored. Second, there is a great lack of understanding of these facts among the public. Because of these facts, industry members felt that a public relations program should be explored.

To that end, a meeting of ten manufacturing companies was sponsored by Certain-teed Products Corporation to launch Asbestos Information Committee/North America. For several years there has existed an Asbestos Information Committee in the United Kingdom. This Committee has tried to utilize public relations programs in response to misstatements of fact about asbestos and asbestos products. It was felt that a North American committee could be founded on lines similar to the Committee of the United Kingdom. A prospectus has been prepared for the AIC/NA and it was discussed in November at a meeting of ten companies manufacturing asbestos products. Some of those companies attending that meeting were Certain-teed, Flintkote, Johns-Manville, Philip Carey, Raybestos-Manhattan, GAF, Woodward Iron and National Gypsum. A copy of the prospectus discussed at that meeting is attached to these minutes.

The program for the AIC/NA would be a broad one encompassing many products utilizing asbestos such as brake linings, textiles, flooring, siding, roofing, etc. The program of the Committee will be funded by J-M for the year 1971 in the amount of $150,000. It is anticipated that funding for succeeding years will be shared in a mutually agreed manner by all member companies. The Committee has retained the public relations firm of Hill and Knowlton, which has prepared the public relations program for the AIC/UK.

Mr. Fay reported that the AIC/NA has been effectively launched. In his opinion, the activities of the Committee will probably be expanded and may be supported by other companies in the field. He noted that J-M will continue to maintain its own public relations program in addition to the program sponsored by the AIC/NA.

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HEALTH & SAFETY COUNCIL/ACPA

Financial Statement

March 1, 1970 - November 18, 1970

Balance as of March 1, 1970		$ 771.17
INCOME		
Reimbursement for February 17 meeting	$ 172.26	
Reimbursement for May 19 meeting	168.72	
Dues	3,840.00	4,180.98
		$4,952.15
EXPENSES		
Disbursements for May 19 meeting	$ 339.22	
Dues	100.00	
Administration	1,666.61	
Legal Services plus disbursements	1,126.64	3,232.47
Balance as of November 18, 1970		$1,719.68

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