

THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC HEALTH:

The Tuberculosis Branch is interested in industrial diseases that produce changes in the lungs. These conditions are the pneumoconioses, of which the commonest is silicosis.

Asbestos is mined at Wittenoom Gorge, and it is not known whether the supervision of the health of the men would come under the Laboratory, although this is presumably the case. Commonwealth

In the metropolitan area this asbestos is used in the manufacture of fibrolite for building purposes. At the present, the workers in this industry are not subjected to any medical examination, although it is intended to give them early X-ray examination when the clinic is opened at Cathedral Hall.

Your attention is drawn to the report of 27th January, 1948, from the Director of the Government Chemical Laboratories on some specimens of asbestos powder crushed by the Midland Mining Co. Wheatshed, Bassendean.

L. B.
Lipley Menzell.
Director, Tuberculosis Branch.

LH/PS
3rd February, 1948.

Dr Kingsbury.

It was intended that Asst Comm' should organise an ad hoc Section of Industrial Hygiene. Pending Dr. King's approval & your undertaking you can dates fully with you please discuss this matter with Dr. King. *de B/c*