

April 5, 1955

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

AL-2407

LESTER V. CRALLEY

MR. JOHN D. HARPER

PITTSBURGH

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Re: INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE

In our recent discussion on the general subject of industrial hygiene, it was suggested that this topic be further considered and that the starting point might well be a description of the scope and type of activity of industrial hygiene committees in other plants.

To date, industrial hygiene committees are active in about three-fourths of our plants. These committees, in general, consist of the works manager and personnel manager, ex officio, plus senior representatives from the other interested departments, such as production, engineering, laboratories, metallurgy, medical, safety, etc. Thus, all interested groups are brought into the overall picture of health hazard evaluation and control, the effects on production, personnel relations, etc.

The work of the industrial hygiene committee in a new plant differs from that in an old one in that working conditions are generally good from the start. The main activity of the committee falls into:

1. The maintenance of good working environments;
2. Ferreting out those minor areas which may need further consideration;
3. Periodic checking those areas or operations that present potential health hazards; and
4. Providing information which may be useful in alleged compensation cases.

Thus, the first task of the committee is to obtain a complete picture of all operations which may in themselves, or because of the manner in which materials are handled, present health hazards. These specific operations are then studied to determine whether any further control may be needed. They are also put on a periodic inspection schedule for recheck. The second task is to examine new materials, changes in operations, etc., to prevent the creation of new health hazards. The third task is to furnish factual information which may be helpful in compensation cases. This includes, among other things, a permanent record of all tests made and the setting up of some reasonable means of obtaining levels of exposures of workmen to hazardous materials.

This, in general, covers the broad picture of industrial hygiene. It is a preventive program in that it aims to recognize and/or correct potential conditions before they have a chance to become real health hazards. It is our opinion that an industrial hygiene committee will be most useful in this connection. We ourselves will also be glad to be of whatever help possible.

Lester V. Cralley

LVC/db

cc: Dr. D. A. Irwin
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