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NOTES AND NEWS

SILICOSIS

Racketeer lawyers and doctors have added to industrial hazards the liability of unwarranted financial losses, as though it were not bad enough to have the possibility of workmen contracting silicosis in spite of every possible warning and precaution.

Silicosis and all other lung troubles classified under the more general term "pneumoconiosis" have, no doubt, always afflicted those who were at all active in factories, in streets, or on farms. Science and science methods have disclosed these lung troubles. An accumulation of data and case histories has made more evident the causes and results. With increasing facilities and the acquisition of authentic scientifically exact observations there has been on the part of plant managers a growing sense of responsibility and the need for protective devices for their employees. As a reward for these humanitarian disclosures and efforts, the racketeering lawyers and doctors have seen the chance for making easy money.

It behooves every ceramic manufacturer to prepare a defense against silicosis damage suits. The plant must be as free from fine air floating dust as is possible and the men must be warned and provided with dust masks. But these precautions are not sufficient. The plant managers must be prepared to show medical and X-ray records.

As further evidence¹ of the seriousness with which the scientists have studied the matter of silicosis the following one hundred and thirty-five references are given from a report by H. K. Pancoast and E. P. Pendergrass.² Concerning these references the authors make the following statement:

The references we have been obliged to consult were very numerous. The literature during the past few years has been replete with articles dealing with the various phases of dust inhalation. We are obliged to restrict our list of references to those articles which present particular points of interest to the roentgenologist. We have been obliged to omit many of the references included in our previous presentations.

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¹ See Editorial on "The Silicosis Racket," *Bull. Amer. Ceram. Soc.*, 12 [5], 127-34 (1933).

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CERAMIC SCHOOL NOTES

NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF CERAMICS AT ALFRED UNIVERSITY

Dedication Exercises for the New Ceramic Building, at Alfred, New York, June 12, 1933

Introductory Remarks by Dean Major E. Holmes

I should like to call attention to the background of these dedication ceremonies which our friends have made possible for us to arrange for today.

The New York State College of Ceramics, recently elevated to that status from the status of a school, is the only institution in New York devoted to higher education in ceramics. For the current year its enrollment is 247.

this figure representing a 40% increase over that of the preceding year. There is a staff of twelve instructors, each a specialist in his line of work. The College is organized on the basis of three departments, that of General Technology and Engineering, Glass Technology, and Ceramic Art. The courses of study embrace all fields of the ceramic industries in their three essential aspects of technology, engineering, and art. The school now consists of three buildings including the new one to be dedicated today, and affords 40,000 square feet of floor space devoted to lecture rooms and laboratories. New, up-to-date equipment worth \$40,000 has been installed in this new building during the past year and \$15,000 worth will be installed in the coming year.

This large expansion program of the past year has more

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The Editors

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