

FILE NAME: General Electric (GE)

DATE: 1932

DOC#: GE101

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: National Safety Council Internal Report



REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL ON HEALTH PROTECTION
IN AIR PRESSURE BLASTING.

The nature of the investigation covered by the report was more or less scientific and carried on under the direction of medical men, Doctors, Winslow and Greensburg, much of which data is of a controversial character.

There has developed since report was presented for adoption by the Administrative Council of the National Safety Council, very strong protest by the foundry industry on the premise that the industry did not have proper representation on committee and much of the field data secured which was the basis of report was not made public to foundry industry and was conducted under conditions not in keeping with good practice for the Blasting Operation as viewed by the industry.

Report was held up by the Administrative Council for (60) days to allow a reviewing committee of foundry interests to present their case which will be done June 15th in New York.

There seems to be much evidence secured by the foundry interests which would indicate that Drs. Winslow and Greensburg are insistent that their report be accepted and published by either the National Safety Council or the Federal Department of Health. In either case, if published in its present form, would no doubt cause the foundry industry to face very heavy expense in defending law suits which would be prompted by the unethical lawyers or Dr. and cause at this particular time a very detrimental effect on business now in very serious condition.

"The New York Sun of May 25, 1932 says, sixteen (16) cases representing suits for \$1,600,000 have been started in Rochester, N.Y. and two (2) in Massachusetts - alleging that men contracted Silicosis through wearing defective apparatus while sand blasting."

This is the type of cases which we might expect all over the country if the report in question were issued or allowed to be released for publication.

The foundry industry, through their committee which is to meet with the Administrative Council of the National Safety Council the 15th, are to present very concrete evidence of the Foundries interest in doing everything possible to protect and safeguard its employees and begin a vigorous educational campaign to accomplish this end. It is their belief that the report should not be published but commence by educational means to bring about a better condition.

Have talked with Mr. G. J. Sanford in Schenectady this morning who has the report and is in full accord with the above suggestion, that report should not be published. In fact he was a prime mover in holding it up in March this year. He is to abstract the report and present it to Mr. Simmons for his use. Incidentally Mr. Sanford is a past president of the N.S.C. and a member of the Administrative Council.

June 1-32

E. H. Ballam
E. H. BALLAM