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Woodard & Dr. Vorwald

[Johns-Manville executive's
letter to Dr. Lanza]

March 15, 1946

Dr. A. J. Lanza
Metropolitan Life Insurance Company
One Madison Avenue
New York 10, New York

NOTED
V. B.

Dear Tony:

On February 25 I wrote to Dr. Verward and sent him our contribution for the current year.

As you know, ever since early last fall, we have been given rather encouraging promises by Sarason as to when the reports of the asbestos and diatomaceous earth studies would be in final form. To date, we have not received them. There is considerable agitation, both in Canada and on the West Coast, and I am continually receiving urgent letters asking when the information can be expected.

I can appreciate the fact that Sarason has a big load to carry, and that they have been hurt by Dr. Gardner's death and by the recent departure of Mr. Bonilich. With all of this, however, our own position is becoming sicker and sicker to a crisis and I am quite disturbed over the possibility that we may get hit with some bad situations before we have the information that we hope these studies will disclose.

Nevertheless, Dr. Verward has given us some promises as to when the studies will be completed, each time a month or six weeks ahead. When he answered my letter of February 25, he says a major effort is being placed on the completion of the work on diatomaceous earth and asbestos and that "both of these reports are in process of preparation." He gives no date, and perhaps he can't do so.

This letter to you should not be interpreted as being critical of Sarason, for I think they have done and are doing a real job, but it is to say that I have about "run out of gas" in answering our own people as to when we may expect the information, and I am just wondering if in your next letter to Dr. Verward, you could try to push this along and perhaps get a more accurate estimate of when we can expect these data.

I am sending you attached a letter that I have written to Dr. Verward. I hope he does not think I am too insistent, for I do not intend to be, but I am getting to feel frightened about the possibilities if we don't get the benefit of this information soon.

Yours sincerely,

J. F. Woodard

Enclosure

cc: Vandiver Brown

June 1, 1948

Dr. A. J. Vornala, Director of Research
The Carance Laboratory
University of Toronto, 100 St. George Street

NOTED
V. B.

Dear Art:

It was good to get your letter of May 25. However, the comment indicating that the monograph on asbestosis is going to be later than we thought is disturbing.

There is a real ferment under way in Quebec on this whole subject of industrial health. Laymen with little knowledge of occupational disease problems are writing articles in magazines and newspapers, organized employees have apparently become exercised over a situation that is anything but clear, and the Government itself has made some statements and taken certain steps that will put the mining industry in general, and ourselves in particular, into real difficulties.

We hope that the information from Carance will be of real help in getting at some matters that are facts and not conjectures.

Please do everything you can to bring this monograph to a conclusion as soon as possible. Because of the many developments taking place in Quebec, I wonder if you will let me know just when you now think the monograph will be available to us.

The matter of studying there at Carance last year was worked in the asbestos industry for some time was reviewed by Mr. Fisher when he was recently in Canada. He asked that the entire plan be outlined and submitted to us here before we get under way, and we should have some information about this very soon.

Sincerely yours,

J. P. Macdard

Kind cc: A. J. Lanza, M. D., Metropolitan
A. R. Fisher
Vandiver Brown