

Turner & Newall Limited

Board Meeting - 25th January, 1968

Asbestos and Health - Progress Report

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6.5.68

Press Relations and Advertising

The "Times" Survey of Asbestos and the "Asbestos and Health" advertisements for architectural, building, municipal and educational journals have duly appeared. In view of the limited number of customers for the industry in the shipbuilding field the A.I.C. have decided to rely on personal contact rather than advertising to communicate with shipbuilders and ships' designers. On the other hand an advertising campaign stressing the positive merits of asbestos, particularly for fire protection, is being considered. A TV treatment on these lines has been produced for consideration by the B.I.C., and the Central Office of Information propose to produce a short film, for overseas consumption, with A.I.C. guidance. In addition Hill & Knowlton International have been asked to produce ideas for an A.I.C. film on the merits of asbestos. Further misleading articles in medical, technical and local journals have been challenged by appropriate letters to the editors.

Literature

The general pamphlet - "Asbestos-Safety and Control" has been exhaustively studied by A.I.C. members and is now being printed. It will be used primarily as background information for the industry's own staff, and will be accompanied by a document entitled "Putting the Case for Asbestos". No T. & N. companies have yet published pamphlets tailored to their own requirements on the health problem. The British Friction Materials Council are to publish a document dealing with the problems of the motor industry; this will cover the requirements of Ferodo Ltd. and R-B Ltd.

The Docks

The A.R.C. has sent its comments on the preliminary draft of the Docks Regulations to H.M. Factory Inspectorate. It has requested that (a) the new regulations should make it clear that they refer to asbestos in loose fibrous form and are not intended to refer to asbestos products in general and (b) asbestos should not be included in the list of Dangerous Goods. The A.R.C. is at present considering a draft Code of Practice which would be implemented in the Docks pending new regulations. Decasualisation and the labour problems stemming from its introduction seem temporarily to have diverted attention from asbestos.