

Turner & Newall Limited
Board Meeting - 25th April 1968

Asbestos and Health - Progress Report
Quarter ended 31st March 1968

1. Statutory Regulations

Mr. J. M. Atkinson and Dr. S. Holmes of T.B.A. attended at the Ministry of Labour on 4th April to discuss the industry's comments (expressed in the Asbestosis Research Council's letter of 7th July 1967) on the preliminary draft Regulations. Useful progress was made. The Ministry is accepting several of the most important submissions of the A.R.C.

2. Literature

The Asbestos Information Committee pamphlet 'Asbestos - Safety and Control' and the confidential leaflet for asbestos industry Sales Representatives 'Putting the Case for Asbestos' have been published and circulated to all companies in the Group.

Publication is awaited daily of a report 'Hygiene Standards for Chrysotile Asbestos Dust' prepared by a Sub-Committee of the British Occupational Hygiene Society, and based largely on data accumulated over the years in T.B.A.'s Rochdale Factory. This is to be used as a guide by the Ministry of Labour in connection with the new Regulations.

3. Speakers Panel

The A.I.C. is building up a panel of speakers on asbestos who will be given proper training and briefing on health matters. A presentation was successfully given to an audience of Yorkshire plant engineers in Leeds by an A.I.C. panel on 13th March.

4. Press Relations and Advertising

The Central Office of Information film on asbestos is expected to be distributed in May.

Dr. A.F.L. Deason was appointed by the A.I.C. as a retained medical journalist on an experimental basis for three months with effect from 1st March 1968, at a fee of £250 for the quarter plus a lineage of 30/-d. per hundred words published.

An unfortunate American report published here on the pollution of the air by asbestos from cars' braking was countered in several provincial newspapers by a letter from the Secretary of the A.I.C.

More press publicity can be expected on asbestos and health during and after a Conference on the subject which is being held in Dresden in the week of 22nd April.