

- 1052 Other Lung Diseases Due to Dust. A.T. Doig.
Postgraduate Med. J. 25, 639-649 (Dec. 1949).

A review is given of the effects on the lungs of various dusts, mainly mixed dusts. These often contain a proportion of silica and it is questioned whether their effect can be attributed to it. Among these dusts are those derived from carborundum, aluminum, graphite, iron, tin, manganese oxide, and beryllium. The mode of action of vegetable dusts is obscure, although a variety of pneumoconioses have been attributed to them.

-- Condensed from Bull. Hyg.

- 1053 Asbestosis. H. Wyers. Postgraduate Med. J.
25, 631-638 (Dec. 1949).

Asbestos and talc are the only two silicates which have been shown to produce pneumoconiosis. Gardner, in 1938, suggested, on the basis of animal experiments that the effect produced by asbestos was mechanical, since it was produced only by long fibers. A later authority made the observation that workers exposed to very short-fiber asbestos were not affected by it. Asbestosis was officially recognized as an industrial disease in 1930. The condition is thought to be due to blocking of the finer bronchioles by long fibers which seem to irritate the bronchial wall and cause fibrosis. Tuberculosis and carcinoma of the lungs may follow, as complications. Recognition of the disease, and precautions which have been taken have lessened its severity and incidence.

-- Condensed from Bull. Hyg.

- 1054 A Review of Dust-Allaying Practices at Working Faces in Some Bituminous Coal and Lignite Mines. J.J. Forbes, R.K. Franklin and S.T. Reese.
U.S. Bur. Mines Inf. Circ. 7566 29pp (May 1950).

Data on dust-allaying practices were compiled from the reports of Federal inspectors on 1,637 bituminous coal and lignite mines in 23 states, employing nearly 300,000 men. Most of the information is presented in tabular form. It is shown that approximately one-third of the mines employing 25 or more men provide no protection, or inadequate protection, against dust from the working face. In a still greater number of mines, the dust produced during loading and transportation is not being allayed effectively. Rock-dusting will reduce the dust explosion hazard in such mines, but dust allaying will reduce the explosion and pneumoconiosis hazard and provide better visibility. Generally dust allaying was practiced to a greater extent in mechanical-loading mines than in hand-loading mines with fewer workmen. Mines employing less than 25 men were not included in the study, but probably dust allaying is not practiced in many of them.

-- Condensed from Authors' Summary and Conclusions

- 1055 Shuttle-Car Tire and Roadbed Study. R.H. Nicholas, J.S. Whittaker, D.D. Dornenburg, J.P. Harmon and W. Bank. Bur. Mines Rept. of Invest. 4624, 22pp. (December 1949).

The investigation revealed that "hard rock lug" tires had a kneading action that mixed calcium chloride more rapidly and effectively with the floor material, thus tending to diminish one potential source of dust. Shuttle cars equipped with "smooth tread" tires steered harder, tended to remain in depressed tire tracks, or remained bogged in "chuck holes,"