

Africa, small barefooted Bantu children were forced by overseers, armed with whips, to trample down fluffy amosite asbestos as it came cascading over their heads, into bags. These children developed asbestosis with cor-pulmonale (right sided heart failure) before the age of twelve. None of them lived long enough to develop either lung cancer or mesothelioma.

Cigarette Effect Is Reinforced

Drs. Selikoff and Hammond, surveying people with bronchogenic carcinoma stated that people who smoke cigarettes are 90 times more likely to die of lung cancer than men who neither work with asbestos nor smoke, and that a definite co-carcinogenic effect exists between asbestos exposure and cigarette smoking.

Asbestos fibres which are highly absorbent as well as virtually indestructible, may retain the substance known as benzo(a)pyrene from cigarette smoke, for long periods of time in lung tissue, thus tending to produce lung cancer by synergistic effect. One out of every five asbestos insulation workers who die in the New York-New Jersey area, die of lung cancer.

The asbestos insulation workers are not the only group that risk lung cancer. They share their exposure with more than 3½ million

New construction. The huge sheets of fabric are used in the effort to keep sprayed asbestos particles from spreading. It is never completely successful.

