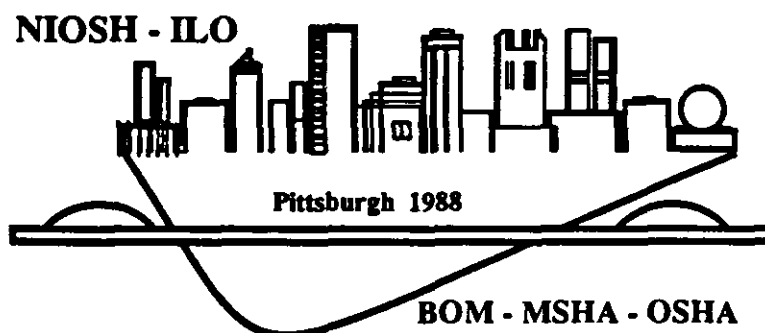


Proceedings of the VIIth International Pneumoconioses Conference
Transactions de la VIIe Conférence Internationale sur les Pneumoconioses
Transacciones de la VIIa Conferencia Internacional sobre las Neumoconiosis

Part
Tome
Parte **I**



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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
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PREFACE

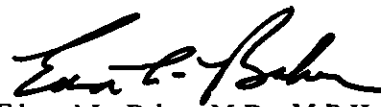
It is truly an honor and privilege to provide this preface to the Proceedings of the Seventh International Pneumoconioses Conference which was conducted in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania during August 23-26, 1988. This symposium, only the seventh such conference since 1930 and the first to be held in the United States, was conducted under the joint sponsorship of the International Labour Office (ILO), the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA), the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), and the Bureau of Mines (BOM).

The Pittsburgh Conference was attended by over 1000 participants from 50 countries. The symposium call for papers was issued in 1987 and invited submission of abstracts focusing on research and scientific expertise on the pneumoconioses and other occupational respiratory disease. The response was truly gratifying and resulted in the acceptance of over 275 papers for presentation in various scientific sessions and workshops and 124 papers for presentation at poster sessions. The Proceedings (Part I) now in your hand contains over half of those presented at the Conference.

It is my pleasure to acknowledge with gratitude the invaluable assistance of the many individuals and organizations which contributed to the planning, conduct and follow-up of this Conference. The International Organizing Committee was extremely helpful in developing the framework of the Conference. Special thanks to the National Organizing Committee who generously gave of their time and talents so that this Conference was truly representative of an event of its preeminent stature. I wish to publicly thank Mr. John Pendergrass, Assistant Secretary of Labor, OSHA and Mr. David Taylor, Deputy Director General, ILO for their inspiring keynote presentations; to Dr. J. Donald Millar, Assistant Surgeon General, Director of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Mr. Lynn Williams, International President, United Steel Workers of America and Dr. Bruce Karrh, Vice President, Safety, Health and Environmental Affairs, E.I. Dupont de Nemours Co., USA for their incisive overview presentations; and to the many staff of NIOSH who worked tirelessly in the conduct of the Conference. All were important partners in this enterprise.

But there could have been no successful venture without the enthusiastic and committed support of two people. Dr. Jack Berberich who when called upon at a critical time served both as Executive Secretary-General of the Conference and Editor-in-Chief of these Proceedings and Mr. Georg Kliesch, ILO.

On behalf of the International and National Organizing Committees, the five sponsoring organizations, these Proceedings (Part I) are presented with the hope that you will find them as rewarding as your participation in the Conference. We look forward to completing Part II within the next 12 months so that you will have a complete chronology of the program.



Edward L. Baker, M.D., M.P.H.
Chairman
VIIth International Pneumoconioses Conference



Georg Kliesch
Vice Chairman
VIIth International Pneumoconioses Conference

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