

At this second meeting (1963) there was serious discussion of the future organization of the group. Several possibilities existed. It was decided to form a Canadian organization to meet once a year for informal discussions on topics of mutual interest, but that it should be formalized to the extent of having a definite title and a recognized chairman and secretary to provide some central core. The title "Canadian Committee on Acoustics" was adopted. Tom Northwood was elected chairman and Tony Embleton secretary.

The pattern was set and meetings have been held annually since in various locations including Bell-Northern Research Laboratories, University of Toronto, McGill University (once in conjunction with Université de Montréal), and the University of Western Ontario. During this time several other members have served as chairman and secretary, and deserve our thanks for cherishing the CCA through its early years - Herb Ribner and Dave Anderson, Bob Tanner and Joe Piercy, and currently John Foreman and Bob Donato.

And so we come to the present. This is the first issue of this newsletter, a new venture, though it may claim as ancestry the efforts of many people over a period of ten years to provide a forum for Canadian acousticians. It is our intention to circulate an issue of several pages each calendar quarter. These will contain editorials, articles on acoustical or related topics, lists of publications and book reviews, and also news of general acoustical interest such as government regulations, by-laws and court cases.

This newsletter is a means of communication among acousticians. What it becomes in the future (even whether or not it survives more than a few issues) is going to be determined by the support it receives from all of us. If as a reader, you want a Newsletter that has the breadth to be useful and interesting, then it is incumbent upon you to supply relevant material whenever you find something worth contributing. This should be sent preferably to your nearest regional contributing editor, whose name is listed on p. ii. Material can be submitted in either English or French. Having voted unanimously to have a newsletter it is now up to all of us to make it a viable reality.

#### Industrial Noise Legislation in Canada, 1972

William H. Langford, Canada Department of Labour

All over the world, rapidly advancing production techniques in modern industrial processes are generating known, as well as hidden, dangers in the work-place. In recent years improved preventive measures have been taken everywhere to secure safety in the face of such developments.

Industrial noise--one of the old, continuing plagues--has frequently been alleviated or even eliminated by technological change for reasons other than hazard prevention. For example, the replacement of rivetting by welding (which in turn generates its own particular hazards) reduced noise emission in such industries as boilermaking and shipbuilding.

Where prevention of occupational injury or disease is of prime consideration, the creation of new methods of fabrication or other processes is often the result of attempts to remove hazards at the source, which is the first line of remedial attack. If prevention of dangerous emissions at the source is not feasible or practicable for economic or other reasons, offending processes and equipment may be isolated or contained within strictly limited areas displaying bold hazard warnings, and effective personal protection gear issued to and used by all those persons who could be affected.

Intensified studies in accoustics have led to the introduction of new materials and methods of applying them in industrial establishments and in production equipment and personal protective devices.

In addition to sophisticated monitoring techniques being evolved and practiced by governmental health departments, manufacturers of industrial construction and agricultural equipment are active in the safety field. Among others, the Canadian Standards Association and the American Conference of Governmental Hygienists are involved in developing standards and threshold limit values. Numerous groups concerned with industrial hygiene are bearing down on problems related to the attenuation of sound levels. The International Labour Office has continuing programmes involving technical and legislative developments concerning the prevention of employment injury.

Hearing loss from industrial noise is generally recognized in Canada and is usually compensable relative to the degree of impairment.

Protective legislative provisions that have existed in some Canadian provinces for a number of years have been progressively introduced in most jurisdictions. Recently, comprehensive regulations have been issued concerning noise control and hearing conservation in federal works, undertakings and businesses. The main federal provisions are recounted here briefly to indicate the scope of such legislation.

Where reasonably practicable, employers must not permit employees to work where the sound level is 90 dB(A) or more. Otherwise, permissible noise exposure is scaled from 8 hours per work day at 90 dB(A) to zero hours at 115 dB(A) or more. Exposure to 90 dB(A) or more may be permitted where hearing protection reduces the level to less than 90 dB(A) or where a test establishes no hearing impairment for employees exposed to 90 to 95 dB(A), and regular tests are made. Exposure to impact sound with peak sound pressures over 140 dB is prohibited without protection. Warning signs are mandatory at entrances to work sites where there are dangerous sound levels.

A list of Canadian industrial noise legislation is given below. Further information may be obtained from the report Safety and Health-Canada, Industrial Noise, Report C/S/H/2, Legislative Research Branch, Canada Dept. of Labour, January, 1973. Copies of this report are available on request from Legislative Research Branch, Canada Dept. of Labour, 340 Laurier Ave. West, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A OJ2.

Canadian Industrial Noise Legislation

Alberta

Workmen's Compensation Act (R.S.A. 1970, c. 397, am.)

General Safety Regulations (Alta. Reg. 370/72, sec. 104.18)  
- Effective January 1, 1973

Lumber Regulations (Alta. Reg. 385/71, sec. 90.26)  
- Effective December 31, 1971

Public Health Act (R.S.A. 1970, c. 294)

Regulations Respecting the Protection of Workers from the Effects of Noise (Alta. Reg. 30/71, am., Div. 29, secs. 1, 2 and 3)  
- Effective January 28, 1971

British Columbia

Workmen's Compensation Act (S.B.C. 1968, c. 59, am.)

Accident Prevention Regulations (B.C. Reg. 64/72, secs. 12.28 and 14.26)  
- Effective May 1, 1972

Mines Regulation Act (S.B.C. 1967, c. 25, am., Rule 94, secs. 1, 2 and 3)  
- Effective March 23, 1967

Manitoba

Employment Safety Act (R.S.M. 1970, c. E-90)

Employment Safety Regulations (Man. Reg. 44/69, secs. 6.34 and 6.40)  
- Effective March 13, 1969

New Brunswick

Industrial Safety Act (S.N.B. 1964, c. 5, am.)

Industrial Safety Regulations (N.B. Reg. 71-21, secs. 8.2.1  
and 8.2.1.1.)  
- Effective February 24, 1971

Newfoundland

Workmen's Compensation Act (S.N. 1962, c. 32, am.)

Accident Prevention Regulations (Nfld. Reg. 95/69, secs. 7.11  
and 8.18)  
- Effective December 18, 1969

Nova Scotia

Construction Safety Act (R.S.N.S. 1967, c. 52)

Construction Safety Regulations (sec. 205)  
- Effective February 12, 1968

Industrial Safety Act (R.S.N.S. 1967, c. 141)

Industrial Safety Regulations (sec. 123 and 177)  
- Effective February 11, 1969

Ontario

Industrial Safety Act (S.O. 1971, c. 43)

General Regulations (O. Reg. 259/72, sec. 111)  
- Effective June 17, 1972

Prince Edward Island

Workmen's Compensation Act (R.S.P.E.I., 1951, c. 178, am.)

Industrial Safety Regulations (secs. 5.8 and 5.9)  
- Effective May 18, 1968

Quebec

Public Health Act (R.S.Q. 1964, c. 161, am.)

Industrial Hygiene Division - Noise Study - Chart

Quebec (Cont'd)

Mining Act (S.Q. 1965, c. 34, am.)

Regulations for the Safety and Protection of Workmen in Mines  
and Quarries (O.C. 4389, sec. 22)  
- Effective December 31, 1971

Industrial and Commercial Establishments Act (R.S.Q. 1964, c. 150)

Regulation Concerning Industrial and Commercial Establishments  
(O.C. 3787-72, secs. 5.3, 12.5, 14.2 and Appendix 3)  
- Effective January 1, 1973

Saskatchewan

Occupational Health Act (S.S. 1972, c. 86)

Accident Prevention Regulations (Sask. Reg. 282/69, sec. 26)  
- Effective January 1, 1970

Forest "Accident Prevention" Regulations (Sask. Reg. 310/70,  
sec. 214)  
- Effective January 1, 1971

Mines Regulation Act (R.S.S. 1965, c. 373, am.)

Regulations Governing the Operation of Mines (Sask. Reg.  
87/71, sec. 53)  
- Effective March 18, 1971

Federal

Part IV of the Canada Labour Code (Safety of Employees ) (R.S.C. 1970,  
c. L-1)

Canada Noise Control Regulations (SOR/71-584)  
- Effective November 2, 1971

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