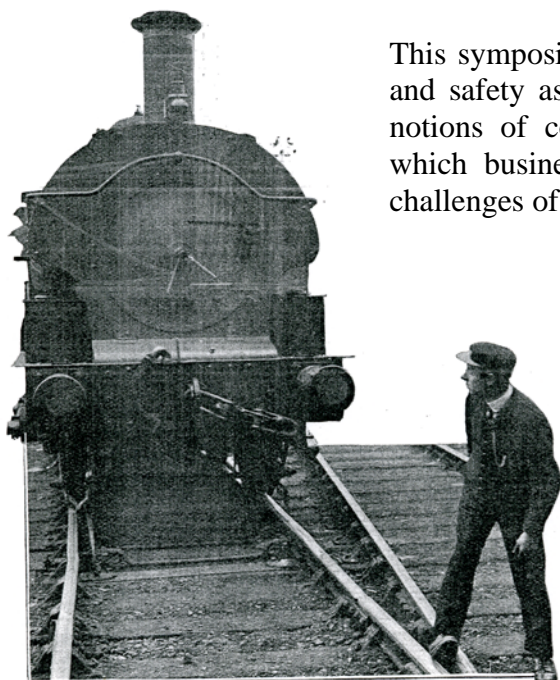


'Sheer dead loss'?

The Business of Health, Safety & Risk

a Centre for International Business History one-day symposium
27 May 2009



An Awkward "Fix."

This symposium will explore the political economy of health and safety as it relates to business history. It will examine notions of corporate social responsibility and the ways in which businesses and large organisations responded to the challenges of health and safety, in the workplace and beyond.

Registration for the symposium is free, though in order to make sure that we can accommodate all delegates, we would be grateful if you could let us know in advance if you are planning to attend – please contact Mike Esbester before 20 May 2009: (m.o.esbester@reading.ac.uk).

Venue: Museum of English Rural Life, Redlands Road, Reading, RG1 5EX. Details from:

www.reading.ac.uk/merl/merl-findus.asp

Programme:

09.30 Registration and coffee

- 10.00 **Mike Esbester** (Reading), Introduction
10.10 **Jo Melling** (Exeter), 'Beyond a shadow of a doubt: radiology, x-rays and the assessment of silicosis risks in the UK, 1900-1950'
11.00 **Geoff Tweedale** (Manchester Met), 'When Science Meets Business: Epidemiology, Asbestos, and the Assessment of Risk'

11.50 Coffee

- 12.10 **Arthur McIvor** (Strathclyde) & **Ronnie Johnston** (Glasgow Caledonian), 'Negligent or enlightened management? Business attitudes towards occupational health and safety in Scotland, c1930-1975'

1.00 Lunch

- 2.00 **David Walters** (Cardiff), 'Workers' voice and the "business" of health and safety: some historical and current perspectives'
2.50 **Mike Esbester** (Reading), "'Sheer dead loss"? Safety education, from business origins to everyday phenomenon'

3.40-4.10 General discussion and close

This symposium has benefited from the generous financial support of the Economic History Society's Initiatives and Conferences Fund.

