

(1) Improved cooperation of the patient, the physician, the employer, and his insurance carrier, and the State Industrial Commission; (2) Temporary transfer of the worker to another job; (3) Careful preemployment examinations. The etiologic diagnosis and the treatment of occupational dermatoses are discussed.

-- Condensed from J. Ind. Hyg. & Tox.

- 924 Etiologic Factors of Woodcutter's Eczema. F. Tenchio. Dermatologica 97, 72 (1948).

The eczema of lumber workers described by Tenchio is usually localized to the waistline, which the workman are in the habit of girding with a scarf or a sash. It is also seen around the necks of persons who transport wood on their shoulders. The fact that the eczema never attacks persons working on young plantations, but only those felling older trees, gave rise to the presumption that a lichen on the old tree trunks, viz., *Parmelia caperata*, might possibly be the cause of the eruption. Experiments made with the lichen itself and with an extract prepared from it proved the correctness of this supposition. But the lichen induces the eczema only when there is severe sweating and exposure to sunlight.

-- J. Ind. Hyg. & Tox.

- 925 The Provocative Test for Assaying the Dermatitis Hazards of Dyes and Finishes Used on Nylon. A.J. Fleming. J. Invest. Dermat. 10, 281 (April 1948).

The results of patch tests carried out by Fleming to determine the skin-irritative or sensitizing properties of nylon yarn, nylon-coated cotton and nylon parachute cloth showed that nylon is apparently free from irritating or sensitizing properties. Tests with fourteen technical dyes and various dyed nylon fabrics have shown that certain dyes are strong sensitizers and should not be applied directly to nylon fabric or to any fabric to be worn in close contact with the skin. The danger of dye dermatitis is greatly enhanced if the dye bleeds readily from the fabric. Experience has shown that certain hosiery finishes have given rise to dermatitis. It is important that all new finishes should be tested to insure their safety. Manufacturers of new synthetic fibers should furnish to the trade detailed procedures for safe dyeing and finishing of the fibers. They should test the safety of new textile materials by approved standardized methods.

-- J. Ind. Hyg. & Tox.

- 926 An Investigation into the Cause of Temporary Sensitization Phenomena (Contact Dermatitis) in Workers at a Quinine Factory. J.F.C. Werz. Nederl. Tijdschr. v. Geneesk 93, 170-175 (Jan. 15, 1949). Dutch.

From a quinine factory employing 188 workers, 22 workers were discovered suffering from dermatitis. Such skin lesions were almost unknown in this factory before the war. Various minor changes had been made in the process of manufacture, but none of these could be incriminated as the cause of the outbreak. Patch tests showed that 16 of the 22 patients were sensitive to some quinine product and repeat tests might have given positive tests in the other six. The appearance of so many new cases was believed due to the employment of a number of new and inexperienced workers. Five months after this outbreak only one new case had appeared.

--Condensed from Bull. Hyg.