

In group 1 were 28 per cent who reported themselves absolutely free from complaints; in group 2, on the other hand, there were 56 per cent. The frequencies of the most common subjective symptoms are listed in charts 3 and 4. In the former are included symptoms which a priori can be taken as results of the kind of work. Complaints concerning the mucous membranes of the eyes and the respiratory tract—probably caused by gas in group 1 and by dust in group 2—are slightly more frequent in the former, while those concerning the back, sleep and the stomach are approximately on the same level in both groups.

The so-called neurasthenic troubles (chart 4) show a higher frequency in group 1 throughout. The dominating symptom is fatigue, and practically all men who

TABLE 3.—*Age and the Symptom of Fatigue (Divisions Arranged by Degree of Exposure)*

Group	Division	Year of Birth	Men Examined	Men Who Complained of Fatigue		
				Number	Per Cent	
1	Sulfur plant.....	Before 1911	39	24	61	49
		1911 and later	59	24	41	
	Ljungström plant.....	Before 1911	54	25	46	54
		1911 and later	63	38	60	
	I. M. and Rockesholm furnace.....	Before 1911	73	37	51	47
		1911 and later	62	27	44	
	Bergh furnace.....	Before 1911	62	27	44	47
		1911 and later	47	25	53	
Totals for group 1.....		Before 1911	228	113	50	50
		1911 and later	231	114	49	
2	Transport	Before 1911	34	11	32	42
		1911 and later	33	17	51	
	Crushing house and silos.....	Before 1911	102	33	32	31
		1911 and later	76	23	30	
	Steam plant.....	Before 1911	22	5	23	26
		1911 and later	13	4	31	
	Shale quarry.....	Before 1911	58	21	36	29
		1911 and later	46	9	20	
Totals for group 2.....		Before 1911	216	70	32	32
		1911 and later	168	53	32	

have reported other symptoms of importance for this study have also reported fatigue.

Several studies of the etiological factors of fatigue have been published in the literature, but there are few data about the "normal" frequency of the symptom. Frazer¹⁹ (1947) made a detailed study of the frequency of neurosis among British factory workers during the war; of 750 workers without physical illness, 35 per cent mentioned fatigue. If those with a neurotic illness (anxiety, depressive and obsessional states, hysteria and psychosis) are eliminated, the frequency is 22 per cent. These figures are probably too high for peacetime conditions, but they should give an approximate idea of the limits within which the "normal" fatigue frequency is to be found.

Tables 3 and 4 show the frequency of the fatigue symptom within the various divisions with regard to age and length of employment. Group 1, as stated above, is considerably more exposed than group 2. The age (table 3) does not seem to

19. Frazer, R.: Medical Research Council, Industrial Health Research Board Report no. 90, London, His Majesty's Stationery Office, 1947.