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INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE DIGEST

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Industrial Health News



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– Literature and News

News Items

245 Industrial Health Specialists to Meet in Buffalo.

Professional personnel in industrial health work will assemble at the Hotel Statler, Buffalo, N.Y., April 26 through May 4. The meeting comprises the 32nd annual gathering of the AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF INDUSTRIAL PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS; the 9th annual conference of the AMERICAN CONFERENCE OF GOVERNMENTAL INDUSTRIAL HYGIENISTS: the 8th annual meeting of the AMERICAN INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE ASSOCIATION: the 5th annual conference of the AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF INDUSTRIAL NURSES, and the 4th annual meeting of the AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF INDUSTRIAL DENTISTS. The sessions will be replete with new subjects of interest, including, round table discussions for chemists, engineers, physicians and nurses; a symposium on developments in industrial hygiene; a discussion of state codes and industrial hygiene administration; conferences on environmental control and analytical procedures; clinics on fractures and traumatic surgery, including a symposium on back problems; hazards incident to the use of the atomic bomb, etc. (Copies of the preliminary program may be secured from Industrial Hygiene Foundation or from Dr. Edward C. Holmblad, Managing Director of the American Association of Industrial Physicians and Surgeons, 28 East Jackson Blvd., Chicago 4, Ill.)

246 Occupational Disease Clinic Established in Pittsburgh.

The School of Medicine, University of Pittsburgh, announces the establishment of an Occupational Disease Diagnostic Clinic by the Department of Industrial Hygiene at the Falk Clinic, Pittsburgh, at 9:00 A.M. each Saturday. This clinic is for the study of diseases whose etiology is associated with industrial environment. It is open to cases referred by physicians for study and diagnosis only. Reports of findings will be transmitted upon completion of study to the referring physician. Opportunity must be afforded in all cases for a study of the individual job or process by industrial hygiene personnel. Fees only for the laboratory work necessary or hospital expense when deemed advisable will be charged. This clinic will provide facilities for graduate students in industrial medicine who are enrolled in the School of Medicine.

327 Asbestos Dust. Anon. Safety Rev. (U.S. Navy), 4, 13 (Jan., 1947)

The brief article calls attention to the hazard of exposure to asbestos dust and the need of adequate localized ventilation. All working places with possible exposure should be checked for asbestos dust, and where mechanical exhaust ventilation must be supplemented by wearing of personal protective equipment, it should conform to. Bureau of Mines specifications.

328 Air-Operated System Dumps Cyanide with Safety. Anon. Compressed Air Mag., 52, 49 (Feb., 1947)

At the Kerr-Addison Mill in Virginiatown, Ontario, cans of cyanide to be used in the extraction of gold from ores, are handled mechanically by a system that is completely inclosed and controlled from the outside. Except for loading and unloading, the operation is automatic. After a can has been placed on the skip and the chamber has been closed, it is hoisted by an air cylinder. At the limit of its travel it is tripped and its contents are dumped into the hopper of a reagent feeder that discharges into conditioner tanks. Reversal of the piston stroke returns the skip to the starting position; but before the empty is replaced by a full container, the fumes and dust in the enclosure are exhausted to the atmosphere. Thus hand dumping with its attendant skin rashes are avoided. Diagrams are presented.

329 Dust Control Lessons from Fontana Dam. F.N. Chirico. Occ. Hazards, 9, 24-25 (Feb., 1947)

Certain features of the dust control system introduced during the construction of Fontana Dam in North Carolina were not only unique but because of their extreme effectiveness in curtailing hazards have become a pattern for the industry. The most radical of those features was a mechanical water spray mounted on the frames of the electric shovels, continuously and thoroughly wetting the rock. This process reduced dust concentrations to averages of 1.4 to 2.7 M.P.C.F., and was much more efficient than intermittent hand wetting. It was also unnecessary to wet the rock during crushing—a point at which hand wetting has been found undesirable. Elimination of dust fog also increased night visibility. Other dust-reducing features included wet drilling, efficiently designed ventilation systems, total enclosure of indoor screens, with self-closing doors, top and skirt-board coverings at transfer and discharge points, dust-tight manholes, counterweighted hinged covers on chutes, discharge of the dust collector effluent through high stacks, and the installation of water sprays with conveniently located shut-off valves. Specially designed ejector ventilation systems were installed in the cement unloading plant, supplying clean air to the workers and removing the cement dust which was subsequently collected. An average of less than 10 M.P.C.F. was attained at that point, less than five in the concrete mixing plant, and less than four in the quarry and rock crushing plant.

330 Report on an Investigation into Dust and Ventilation Conditions in the Copper Mines and the Broken Hill Mine in Northern Rhodesia with Particular Reference to Silicosis. J. De V. Lambrechts. 42 pp. Lusaka: Govt. Printer. (1945)

The emphasis in this report is upon dust. It is recommended that dust sampling results form a basis for ventilation requirements. Depths