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420 No More Mercury.
The nation's hat industry has agreed to eliminate poisonous mercurial compounds from the manufacture of fur felt after December 1, 1941. Thus one of the oldes and most dangerous health hazards to workers will be removed provided the State adopt the model regulations which have been drafted. Participating in the agreement were representatives of the industry: The Hatters' Fur Cutters Association and the Hat Institute, Inc., of New York; officials of the United Hatte Cap and Millinery Workers International Union (A.F. of L.); Health and Labor Commissioners of New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Massachusetts and Connecticut, in which States the nation's felt-hat industry is concentrated. In 193 the Public Health Service made a survey of chronic mercurial poisoning at the request of the Hatters' Fur Cutters Association. This study was supplemented b another last year of the control of mercurial poisoning in the felt-hat industr The Public Health Service studies showed that workers exposed to mercury dust o vapor developed extreme irritability, digestive disturbances, insomnia, loss of appetite, tremor ("shakes"), loss of weight and sore mouth. Adequate substitutes developed by industrial chemists are less expensive than mercury and do not require engineering and medical safeguards for workers. About 60 per cent of the fur-felt industry already has eliminated mercury from manufacturing processes. New York Times, May 25, 1941.

421 Symposium on Industrial Public Health Nursing Services.
A report of the Symposium on Industrial Health Nursing Services, sponsored by the Wisconsin State Board of Health and the Industrial Nurses of Wisconsin has been published in multigraph form, including the papers presented. A few of th papers have been abstracted in this Digest and others will follow.

Legal Developments

422 Blow on Chest Causes Death of Miner Suffering from Silicosis.
While engaged in drilling coal, the deceased employee was struck on the chest by the handle of the drill when it caught in a binder or slate band, causing th drill to kick. The employee was knocked to the ground, and had difficulty getting his breath. The employee at the time of this accident was suffering from silicosis. The condition of the employee became worse. He was sent to doctors and to a sanatorium, and it was found that his lung had collapsed. Some ten months after the accident he died. The Court held that the blow was the cause or one of the causes of the death, and that the facts of the case warranted a compensation award to the widow for the death of the employee. Rudolph vs. Shannopin Coal Co. (Penn.) 18 Atl 2nd 329 (January, 1941). Occup. Hazards, 3, 22 (May, 1941).

423 Indiana Supreme Court Reverses Decision Which Denied Award for Occupational Di ease Caused by Gas Poisoning.
In this case the Industrial Board found the disbility not to be due to an occupational disease. The appelate Court affirmed such decision. On final appeal to the Supreme Court of Indiana the Board's and the Appelate Court's decisions were held to be incorrect. The facts were: The claimant, 33 years old, worked for 2-1/2 years as a tool hardener. The occupation consisted of treating tools, machine parts, etc., by heat in furnaces, at very high temperatures, af which they were treated in baths of chemicals. The claimant worked at 3 furnaces, one of which, a heavy duty electric furnace, was equipped with gas whic burned continuously while the furnace was in operation, for the purpose of producing carbonmonoxide, which was necessary in the hardening process. One furn