

- 407 Legal Liability to Volunteers in Testing New Drugs. W. F. Bowker.
Can. Med. Assn. J. 88, 745-751 (Apr. 6, 1963).

Scientists test new drugs by giving them to volunteers. In spite of every precaution, the drug may harm the volunteer. Under Canadian law, can he recover damages against any of the persons connected with the test? He cannot succeed against the scientist if the latter had made complete disclosure of the risks and had then obtained the volunteer's free consent. Where the subject of a test is a child or one of unsound mind, the guardian's consent probably does not protect the scientist from a possible claim by the subject. Where a married woman is a volunteer, her husband's consent is unnecessary. The volunteer cannot succeed against his family physician who referred him to the scientist unless the physician took an active part in an experiment that was conducted negligently or without a proper consent. The volunteer cannot succeed against the maker unless he has negligently prepared the drug or given misleading information.

-- Author's abst.

- 408 Senate Attacks Hard Synthetic Detergents.

Attacks on hard synthetic detergents have spread to the Senate. S. 1183, sponsored by Senator Maurine Neuberger (D.-Oregon) and 2 other Senators, would forbid the importation or manufacture after June 30, 1965, of any synthetic detergent which did not meet standards of decomposibility set by the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare. This bill is patterned after legislation introduced earlier by Rep. Henry Reuss (D.-Wisconsin) to reduce stream pollution caused by hard detergents. Senator Neuberger calls the bills "a sound and feasible approach to the detergent problem."

-- Chem. Eng. News

- 409 Glass Door Regulations.

Builders selling houses to buyers who finance with FHA-guaranteed mortgages will soon be required to comply with new glass door regulations. The new rulings will deal with minimum thicknesses, markings, wired glass, tempered glass, and laminated glass. Picture windows, as well as glass doors, will be affected by the new regulations. -- Natl. Safety News

BOOKS, PAMPHLETS AND NOTICES

- 410 The Pneumoconioses. A. J. Lanza, Editor. 154 pp. (Jan. 18, 1963).
AVAILABLE FROM: Grune & Stratton, Inc., 381 Park Ave., New York 16, N.Y. PRICE: \$7.50

The Pneumoconioses, edited by A. J. Lanza, is an interesting review of the subject by authors who have had extensive personal experience in the fields of its diagnosis, treatment, disability evaluation, prevention, pathology, and compensation. The editor states in the preface that our knowledge has increased in the 22 years which has elapsed since the publication of his previous text "Silicosis and Asbestosis" but that it is still far from complete. Most sections of the new book are self-contained and present a wealth of interesting background information. The sections on Pathology will be especially interesting to those not already familiar with the research being conducted by Dr. Paul Gross, of Industrial Hygiene Foundation. The sections on Asbestosis and Diatomaceous Earth Pneumoconiosis by Dr. Kenneth W. Smith, a Trustee of Industrial Hygiene Foundation, are also worthy of special mention. This book will be widely read and discussed by all those interested in the subject of pneumoconiosis. The chapter on Medicolegal Aspects of the Pneumoconioses by T. C. Waters, General Counsel to Industrial Hygiene Foundation, provides an up-to-date critique of compensation legislation.

-- R. T. P. deT.

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