

News and Comment

1951 MEETING OF AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF INDUSTRIAL DENTISTS

The American Association of Industrial Dentists, a component member of the Industrial Health Conference, will hold its 1951 annual meeting April 24, 25 and 26 in Atlantic City, N. J. The theme of this year's program will be the various expressions of dental care programs as they relate to an industrial population.

Book Reviews

Guide to the Diagnosis of Occupational Diseases. Industrial Health Division, Department National Health and Welfare, Ottawa, and Division of Industrial and Controller of Stationery, Ottawa, 1949.

This reference manual presents in outline form descriptions of those industrial materials which are commonly recognized as occupational hazards. For each substance, there is a brief presentation of the properties, uses and occurrence, the mode of entering into the body and the physiologic action and toxicity. The signs and symptoms are also described and the recommended maximum allowable concentrations are given.

Lengthy lists of occupations and their potential hazards are included in separate chapters. The entire work is brief and may appeal to those who are concerned merely with a casual knowledge of the toxicity of a certain compound or compounds. It does not, however, furnish sufficient information concerning laboratory identification of toxic materials nor does it include an adequate discussion of industrial hygiene measures.

Great stress is placed on recommended maximum allowable concentrations, but the fallacies inherent in many of these are not adequately presented. No mention is made of the more recent insecticides, such as TEPP-chlordan (1,2,4,5,6,7,8,8-octa-chloro-2,3,3a,4,7,7a-hexahydro-4,7-methanoindene), parathion (O,O-diethyl O-para-nitrophenylthiophosphate), etc., or of the newer rodenticides.

The bibliography of selected articles is brief, and only two of the articles were published later than 1945. Although this may well serve as a good reference volume, the obvious attempt to limit the size appears to have been a handicap in the discussions of some of the more well known occupational hazards. As its title indicates, this volume will have its greatest use in serving merely as a guide.

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Industrial Toxicology. By Lawrence T. Fairhall. Pp. 483. Price \$6. Williams & Wilkins Company, Mount Royal and Guilford Aves., Baltimore 2, 1949.

This book, principally directed toward the needs of the industrial hygienist, is an appraisal and interpretation of the literature regarding the characteristics, the uses, the toxicity and the analysis of most of the materials encountered in industry as well as of some of the newer and obscure materials rarely encountered. These materials have been divided into two classes, inorganic substances and carbon compounds, with alphabetical listing under each. Some of the more commonly encountered and well recognized toxic materials have received summary treatment as compared with substances of obscure toxicity or of currently great importance. Selected references are included. The brevity and conciseness of the information presented will be appreciated by persons who wish to be oriented quickly. We should like to have had a little more insight regarding conditions and experiences in today's industrial plants, and more information which we could discuss man to man with managers, maintenance engineers, ventilation men, safety engineers and foremen. The book, however, is useful, and it can be recommended not only to industrial hygienists but to any one interested in industrial toxicology and its many ramifications. It fills a void that has existed for many years, and it will be appreciated by those who have had to dig this information laboriously out of the mass of existing literature. Pains-taking care has been exercised in proofreading. The table of contents occupies 3½ pages, and a comprehensive subject index, 12 pages.

F. A. PATTY.