

- 889 Are Annual Physical Examinations in the Automobile Industry Desirable?
W.A. Dawson. *Ind. Med.* 18, 265 (July, 1949)

It is practically impossible for the medical departments of large plants to give the employees annual physical examinations. The author suggests as a compromise between the ideal and the exigencies of industrial competition, examination of the following groups: (1) those employees having the more hazardous occupations, with attention to results of a particular hazard; (2) chronic absentees; (3) the aged; and (4) those requiring special examinations.

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- 890 Basis of Approval of Medical Services in Industry.
C.R. Hess. *Ind. Med.* 18, 295-297 (July, 1949).

The American College of Surgeons maintains the following minimum standards for approval of industrial medical services: (1) there shall be an organized medical department with competent personnel; (2) the medical staff and consultants shall be restricted to qualified physicians; (3) medical records shall be adequately maintained and filed in the medical department; (4) approved hospitals shall be used for hospitalization of ill or injured; and (5) matters pertaining to general health of employees and plant sanitation shall be under the supervision of the medical department. These clauses represent only the framework, and the author goes to some more detail in explanation. Non-industrial services should be restricted to the point where such services do not trespass on the field of the private physician. Such service, conducted by the overwhelming majority of medical departments has been found to be entirely ethical in scope. Eye survey services have crept into some industries, unfortunately in most instances not operated by qualified ophthalmologists. Some approvals have been withheld on account of that feature alone. The fifth point involving periodic plant inspections by the physician, is important. The method used by the College in surveying and rating medical services is explained.

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- 891 Cutaneous Granuloma from Accidental Contamination with Beryllium Phosphore.
A.D. Nichol and Rafael Dominguez. *J.A.M.A.* 140, 855-860 (July 9, 1949).

(1) Chronic persistent granulomatous inflammation of the skin with ulceration may follow accidental lacerations by the present type of fluorescent light bulbs (glass coated with zinc beryllium silicate). (2) The histologic appearance of these skin granulomas is similar to that found in the lung in fatal cases of pulmonary granulomatosis occurring in beryllium workers. (3) Prevention of the cutaneous lesions can be accomplished only by wide excision preceding initial closure. The lungs are not affected by beryllium infection of the skin; the lung damage comes from inhaling the metallic element.

-- Authors' Conclusions

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- 892 Blood Changes in Operatives Engaged in the Preparation of Nylon.
C. Ceresa. *Med. d. Lavoro.* 39, 162 (1948) Italian.

The author examined 27 nylon operatives who had been some years in the industry. Their hemoglobin figures ranged from 68 to 90%, nine of