190 Sensitization of the Skin to Topical Remedies. V. Pirila and O. Kilpio. Duodecim 70, 802-807 (1954).

The authors report 68 cases of dermatitis aggravated by sensitization to various topical agents used in the treatment of previous dermatoses. The most important sensitizers were antihistamines, mercuric compounds, and diuanthogen. -- Chem. Abstr.

191 Effect of Terpenes and Their Oxidation Products on the Skin. G. Lejhancova and M. Sevcik. Pracovni Lekarstvi 7, 285-289 (1955). Bohemian.

Out of nine distillation fractions of turpentine oil, mainly delta ^{3}-carene and limonene were responsible for dermatitis. Addition of compounds inhibiting the autoxidation of turpentine oil produced a mitigation of the effects on the skin; however, the volatility of the oil was lowered. -- Chem. Abstr.

192 Epoxy Resins. L. B. Bourne. Med. Lavoro 46, 191-193 (1955). Italian.

The recent development of epoxy resins introduces an industrial hazard which may become widespread. Contact with triethylenetetramine used as a polymerizing agent will give rise to an erythema of the face and arms. In one case of a worker exposed to the resin-amine complex an acute erythema resulted followed by the formation of vesicles on one arm with the formation of scars on healing. It is essential that efficient ventilating systems be installed in work areas where fumes are present. -- Chem. Abstr.

193 Waterless Skin Cleansers. W. J. Beach. Safety Maint. & Prod. 110, 50, 51 (Dec. 1955).

The earliest waterless skin cleanser in general use was kerosene, alone or emulsified with ammonia soaps. Subsequently odorless spirits and alkanolamines were used and now there are a variety of materials for the purpose. Requirements include: safety to the hands, effectiveness, complete elimination of undesirable odor, pleasant appearance and after-feel, suitable consistency for dispensing, rapid break when on the hands, and good stability to heat, cold, and shelf life. The most thorough method of determining the safety of a cleanser is to subject it to analysis, including refractive index and ultraviolet and infrared spectroscopy. This procedure, however, is time-consuming and requires an expert. Closed patch testing can only serve to screen out the most dangerous products, but may be unreliable because the effect is greatly exaggerated. Perhaps the quickest and safest way to obtain a safe product is to select one that has an established reputation for safety. An occasional case of allergy is not significant.

CHEMICAL HAZARDS

194 Comparative Toxicity of Boranes. G. J. Levinskas. Am. Ind. Hyg. Assn. Quart. 16, 280-282 (Dec. 1955).

The acute toxicities of dimethylamine-borane, pyridine-borane, and trimethylamine-borane are reported. On a weight basis, their relative toxicities were found to be in that order. However, when expressed in terms of mg. boron per kg., the LD_{50} values form two distinct groups; trimethylamine-borane is several times more toxic than the other two. Recalculation of available toxicity data for other boranes enables them to be classified in the same system.

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