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INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE DIGEST

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Literature Abstracts

- MEDICAL
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Industrial Health News



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INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE FOUNDATION

FOUNDATION FACTS

Foundation Facts is a monthly news-letter issued to industrial concerns holding membership in Industrial Hygiene Foundation. The Foundation is a non-profit association of industries for the advancement of healthful working conditions.

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Veterans Panel No. 2 Published

The panel discussion, "Putting the Disabled Veteran Back to Work,II", a feature of the Foundation's Ninth Annual Meeting, has just been published and is now being mailed to Member Companies and Subscribers. This is a continuation of the panel discussion inaugurated at the Foundation's Eighth Annual Meeting in 1943 and which was issued a year ago, separate from the regular Proceedings. These companion publications are hailed by authorities on veteran rehabilitation as two of the most practical and valuable reports yet issued on the subject.

Other Publications in Press

Instead of printing the Proceedings of the 1944 Annual Meeting in one publication, as in the past, the material will be published in several separate reports to make for more efficient circulation. The veterans panel constitutes Part I. The next part will be the panel discussion on "Sickness Indemnification." This will be followed by the Legal Section of the program at the annual meeting and the Medical and Engineering Sections. The insurance and legal reports will be published shortly.

New Book on Industrial Environment

J.M. DallaValle, a member of the Foundation's Engineering Committee, has completed a book, "The Industrial Environment and Its Control," which is to be published this Spring. The book is divided in two parts, (a) The Worker's Environment, (b) Control of the Environment. For further information address the Foundation or Dr. DallaValle at 70 Pine St., New York City.

Reprints Available on Medical Service in Industry

The Council on Industrial Health of the American Medical Association has, at our request, provided the Foundation with a supply of reprints of its recently revised report on "Medical Service in Industry, Industrial Health Examinations." Members interested in equipment and procedures for physical examinations should have this report. Copies may be secured from the Foundation.

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The Council has cancelled its annual Congress on Industrial Health, which was scheduled for February 13-15 in Chicago, in compliance with the recent order of the Office of Defense Transportation respecting national meetings.

Membership Certificates

Membership Certificates for 1945 are now being lettered and Members will receive the certificates as rapidly as they can be completed. Many companies are requesting sufficient copies to post in their various plants or in different sections of a single plant. Members may secure as many certificates as required for their needs.

.....Maintain Manpower!.....

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do not inhibit the development of fibrotic nodules in the tracheobronchial lymph-nodes of mice. The tissue of these nodes, therefore, reacts differently from the lung tissue of rabbits. -- Author's summary.

67 Contribution to the Diagnosis of Pulmonary Silicosis by the Investigation of Silica in the Blood and Sputum. H. Oyanguren and E. Bartholin. Rev. med. de Chile, 71, 464 (May, 1943)
The diagnosis of silicosis has been confirmed by demonstration of silica in the sputum and blood of 40 individuals. Silica which is conveyed to the lungs by inhalation is taken up in greater part by the lymphatics and the remainder is expectorated. Silica interferes with the lymphatic circulation, producing a fibrous proliferation which eventually results in the inclusion of the particles themselves. But before this occurs the silica which is inhaled passes through the blood and may be excreted in the urine. Silica may normally be found in the blood but if the quantity is less than 8 mg. percent as determined by the colorimetric method, it is believed to be of no clinical significance. Quantities from 12 to 20 mg. percent are expressed as 1 plus, from 20 to 50 mg. percent 2 plus, and above 50 mg. percent 3 plus. Positive chemical reactions for silica in the sputum may be obtained in all cases of silicosis. The positive reactions in the blood correspond to the amounts of silica contained in the sputum and positive chemical reactions are found only in those individuals who have been exposed to silica-bearing dust. The specific chemical reaction used is that described by Oberhauser and depends on the reaction obtained with nitromolybdenate of ammonia. This may be used equally on the blood and sputum and is a more certain test than the spectrographic methods. -- Am. Rev. Tuberc.

68 The Asbestos Corn. H.S. Alden and W.M. Howell. Arch. Dermat. and Syph., 49, 312 (May, 1944)
The author describes corns or warts peculiar to asbestos workers, first noticed by Derwitz in 1930. They have no relation to asbestos of the lungs. One characteristic is that they appear and feel as if a foreign body were present, none is ever found. It is probable, however, that one is present in the very early stages.

69 Asbestosis and Pulmonary Carcinoma. H.W. Wedler. Deut. med. Wochschr., 69, 575-576 (Aug. 6, 1943) German.
The author has collected the published autopsy records on asbestosis from various countries and finds that there have been 14 instances of malignant disease of the lungs and pleura in 92 post-mortem examinations (16 percent). This is in excess of the proportion of lung carcinomata in autopsies generally (2-6 percent). Carcinoma as a complication of asbestosis occurred most frequently in males between 35 and 41 and was generally in the part of the lung most affected with asbestosis. Development of the lesion was slow but corresponded with the length and intensity of the exposure (12-42 years). There was often a long interval between the cessation of exposure and the development of the cancer, which, in the author's view, must now be regarded as an occupational cancer. -- Bull. Hyg.

Skin Diseases and Burns

70 A New Protective Cream. J.G. Downing, L.M. Ohmart and M.J. Stoklosa. Arch. Dermat. and Syph., 49, 436 (June, 1944)
In industries where workers are exposed, to dermatologic irritants, and where it is impracticable to wear gloves, protective creams help to minimize cutaneous irritations. Many protective creams are on the market under trade names, and should