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conditions. Two thirds of the respiratory conditions were diseases of the upper respiratory tract such as the common cold, acute sinusitis, pharyngitis, tonsillitis, laryngitis, and tracheitis. The largest component of this upper respiratory group was the common cold. About 115.3 million colds involving activity restriction or medical attention were estimated to have occurred during the year, a rate of 67.3 colds per 100 persons in the population. The other one-third of the respiratory conditions were conditions such as influenza, bronchitis, pneumonia, and pleurisy. There were 73.0 million conditions in the latter group, representing 19.8% of all acute conditions occurring during the year. The second most common group of acute conditions were injuries, which accounted for 13.4% of all acute conditions, and then the infectious and parasitic diseases which accounted for 12.0% of the total. These two groups of conditions were the only ones in which the rate for males was higher than that for females. Difference in the injuries are especially marked, particularly for open wounds and lacerations which were more than twice as frequent for males as for females.

945 Incinerators. (NFPA No. 82). National Fire Protection Association, 60 Batterymarch St., Boston 10, Mass. 32 pp. (1960). 50 cents.

A newly revised standard on the installation and operation of incinerators has just been issued by the National Fire Protection Association. Designed to provide for the fire-safe installation of this equipment and minimize various hazards, the standard was developed by the NFPA Committee on Chimneys and Heating Equipment under the chairmanship of E. W. Fowler, chief engineer of the National Board of Fire Underwriters. It was adopted at the recent NFPA annual meeting in Montreal. The 1960 edition includes changes on such features as the instruction to be provided for the operation of incinerators, screens or other protection, and a revised definition of combustible material to be protected. Also included is material on rubbish handling covering many details of proper procedure in the ever-present problem of disposing of combustible waste materials.

946 Sprinkler Systems. (NFPA No. 13). National Fire Protection Association, 60 Batterymarch St., Boston 10, Mass. 176 pp. (1960). $1.50.

A new standard for the installation of sprinkler systems has been released by the National Fire Protection Association. Providing detailed guidance on this subject, the 1960 edition of this work incorporates a number of changes from earlier issues. Among them is a complete reorganization and renumbering of the provisions on location and spacing of sprinklers. Last revised in 1958, the standard dates back to 1896. It is almost universally used as the authoritative guide to proper sprinkler installation practices. The revised text was adopted at the 1960 annual meeting of the National Fire Protection Association. It was prepared by a representative committee under the chairmanship of Gordon F. Price of the South-Eastern Underwriters Association, Atlanta, Georgia.

947 Tantalum and Tantalum Alloys. F. F. Schmidt. DMIC Report 133 (OTS PB 151091) Defense Metals Information Center, Battelle Memorial Institute, Columbus 1, Ohio. 328 pp. (July 25, 1960). No price given.

A descriptive literature survey has been made covering physical properties, process metallurgy, binary and ternary alloy systems, chemical properties, and metallurgical properties of tantalum and tantalum alloys. Tantalum has only moderate strength at room temperature; however, the elevated-temperature strength decreases slowly in comparison with that of many other metals. The low ductile-to-brittle behavior, excellent fabricability, high melting point, and high solubility for interstitial and substitutional elements make tantalum an attractive candidate for use in high-temperature high-strength alloys. Refractory metals that exhibit brittle behavior at room temperature, such as molybdenum and tungsten, can be alloyed with tantalum to form tantalum-base alloys with a combination of high-temperature strength and low-temperature ductility not found in many metallic materials designed for ultra-high-temperature service. -- Cond. from author's summary

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