

- 766 The Use of the Audiogram in Industry. W. G. Talmage.
Proc. Am. Acad. Occ. Med. 8, 99-110 (1956).

A discussion of the audiometer and its use in industry is presented. The results of seven years of pre-employment and annual routine audiograms on all employees of an explosives plant showed that a large percentage of men seeking employment had already developed impaired hearing. Some notes on a practical method of doing and recording audiograms, and a brief discussion of acoustic trauma is offered, with suggested formulas to help in the determination of the amount of hearing loss due to noise as only one of several contributing factors in deafness. All pre-employment examinations should include audiometer testing. Repeated tests for noise sensitivity should be carried out on all employees exposed to potentially dangerous noise levels. All noisy locations and other possible causes of occupational deafness should be discovered and eliminated.

-- Cond. from author's summary and conclusions

- 767 Audiometers and Their Use. R. E. Allison. Noise Control 3, 40-43, 90 (Mar. 1957).

Since pure-tone tests show the presence of ear damage due to noise more readily than speech tests, most of the discussion deals with audiometers for pure-tone testing purposes. They are classified as screening, group, automatic, and diagnostic audiometers, and, the principles and practical applications of each type are discussed. Speech audiometers are also considered briefly.

- 768 Evaluation of Hearing Impairment Due to Industrial Noise. G. V. Schulthess.
Arch. Otolaryngol. 65, 512-520 (May 1957).

This paper deals with a method developed by Ruedi to test individual susceptibility to noise injury. Through stimulation with a calibrated white noise, the authors investigated the perstimulatory and poststimulatory influence of this exposure on the perception of pure tones of 1000 and 4000 cps. A modified Bekesy audiometer was used for this purpose. Test subjects that were found to be sensitive to noise influence in this manner definitely required a longer recovery time after exposure to factory noise than did resistant persons. After the administration of vitamin A, both the individual and the average recovery time seemed definitely shortened. Investigations with shift workers confirmed the findings.

-- Author's summary

- 769 Possibilities and Requirements for the Management of Industrial Deafness. H. G. Kobrak and E. Domeier. Arch. Otolaryngol. 65, 509-511 (May 1957).

The advantages of facilities for a rapid audiometric test are stressed. The automatic testing device described permits testing of large numbers of workers without skilled personnel. The tone source is a tape recorder. The tone is synchronized with a certain paper blank, so that the arrangement of the squares on the paper harmonizes with the test tones. Speech tests are possible. Mass intelligence tests can also be done by the machine.

-- Cond. from authors' summary

- 770 A Mobile Laboratory for Group Hearing Tests. J. R. Cox, R. W. Benson, and A. F. Niemoller. Noise Control 3, 44-48, 92 (Mar. 1957).

The mobile laboratory has proved to be a useful facility for making hearing measurements in the field. It is relatively easy to move about and has proved itself seaworthy on the hangar deck of two aircraft carriers. The design of the laboratory itself has, on the whole, proved satisfactory, but some improvements in noise isolation are suggested. The group audiometer has proved satisfactory for making comparison between groups of men and between before and after exposure tests taken on the same group of men. Certain shortcomings, however, are discussed. In spite of them, the audiometer has performed well the task set for it. It is simple, fast, and not particularly costly. The audiograms obtained appear to be reliable.

-- Cond. from author's conclusions