

- 60 Air Contamination Standards. F.A. Patty.
Standards World 1, 57-62 (Autumn, 1949).

The standardization of permissible air contamination has proved to be a difficult task, for the following reasons: (1) scarcity of data on physiological effects; (2) reluctance of committee members to agree on tentative figures because some States will fix them in their codes; (3) fear that unnecessarily high limits will be set; and (4) the inability of committee members to reconcile their viewpoints. The author urges membership of a committee in harmony on the general purposes and interested and qualified in industrial hygiene and toxicology. He also suggests: (1) replacement of the term "maximum allowable concentration" by "permissible concentration of air contamination," "safe practice standard," "hygienic standard" or some similar term; (2) use of a range of concentrations as standard instead of a definite concentration; (3) attempt to make a rare and reversible condition rather than attempt the improbable goal of complete eradication. Standardization on the basis of physiological effects is difficult because side factors such as nutrition often play a part. In some cases permissible limits may be based on nuisance value and in others on sound engineering practice. Every standard should clearly indicate its basis. Standards based on explosion control are simple and easily established. Standards for outdoor pollution are infinitely harder to fix than indoor standards.

- 61 The Limitation of Exposure to Noxious Gases and Fumes in Industry.
L.T. Fairhall. Ind. Hyg. Newsletter (published by U.S. Public Health Service) 10, 3-5 (January, 1950).

In a general address on exposure to toxic materials and its prevention, Fairhall emphasizes incipient poisoning, in addition to acute and chronic poisoning, as a factor to be considered and one that has not received much attention. In conclusion he points out; (1) that threshold limit values should be used only as guides in an evaluation of the working environment; (2) that appraisal of the working environment, so far as toxic aerial contaminants are concerned, requires especial care; and (3) that present threshold limit values are subject to change and therefore should not be considered as fixed standards.

- 62 The Assay of Acute Vapor Toxicity, and the Grading and Interpretation of Results on 96 Chemical Compounds. C.P. Carpenter, H.F. Smyth, Jr., and W.C. Pozzani. J. Ind. Hyg. & Toxicol. 31, 343-346 (Nov. 1949).

The method used for grading the activity of a chemical on the basis of the response of rats to a four hour vapor exposure in a 14-day observation period is described. A list of 96 compounds that have been assigned to the various grades is given, together with a justification of the use of this method at the range finding level of toxicity study. -- Authors' Summary

- 63 High Concentration--Short Time Exposures and Toxicity.
B.G. King. J. Ind. Hyg. & Toxicol. 31, 365-375 (Nov. 1949).

The field of short exposure to high concentrations of toxic materials has had little study. The author tabulates and plots the data reported in the literature on concentration, time, and effects of carbon tetrachloride