meter of air may represent dust counts from 1 million to 100 million particles per cubic foot of air (lightfield microscope technic) according to the size distribution of the airborne dust sample. Information of this type for a specified application is best obtained by simultaneous sampling for both counting and weighing and noting carefully at the time all factors that might affect the reproducibility of the count-weight ratio.

Smoke Abatement

Successful abatement of atmospheric pollution caused by smoke requires the combined efforts of the combustion engineer, industrial executive, public health officer, city planning commission and the community at large. Electrification of industry and railroads, increases in the use of domestic oil and gas furnaces, and segregation of industrial districts is gradually providing effective aid in the solution of this problem. In the large cities where nuisance from smoke, fly-ash and cinders is more serious, limited areas obtain some relief by the use of district heating.

Time, temperature and turbulence are fundamental requirements for smokeless combustion. Increase of any one of these factors will reduce

TABLE 2. DUST CONCENTRATION RANGES

LOCATION	GRAINS PER 1000 CU FT*	MILLIGRAMS PER CUBIC METER
Rural and suburban districts	0.02–0.2	0.05– 0.5
Metropolitan district	0.04–0.4	0.1– 1.0
Industrial districts	0.1 –2.0	0.2 – 5.0
Ordinary factories or workrooms	0.2 –4.0	0.5 –10
Excessively dusty factories or mines	4–400	10–1000
Minimum explosive concentrations	4000–200,000	10,000–500,000

*1 grain per 1000 cu ft = 2.3 milligrams per cubic meter.
1 oz per cubic foot = 1 gram per liter = 1000 grams per cubic meter.

the quantity of smoke discharged, although excessive turbulence in furnances may increase the output of ash and cinders. Special care must be taken in hand firing the bituminous coals. (See Chapters 16, 17 and 18 for further discussion on fuel burning technic).

Legislative measures at the present time are largely concerned with reduction of the visible smoke discharged from chimneys of boiler plants. Practically all ordinances limit the number of minutes in any one hour that smoke of a specified density may be discharged, as measured by comparison with a Ringelmann Chart (Chapter 11, Instruments and Measurements). Ordinances generally do not make specific provision for control of the corrosive and irritant gases, such as oxides of sulphur and nitrogen discharged with the gases of combustion. Where high sulfur coals are burned, sulfur gases present a serious hazard to property, health and vegetation.

In foggy weather the accumulation of these gases in the lower strata of the atmosphere may be such as to cause irritation of the eyes, nose and respiratory passages, and possibly even more dangerous consequences. The Meuse Valley (Belgium) fog disaster (1930) has become a classic example in the history of gaseous air pollution. It is believed that sulfur dioxide and other toxic gases released in a rare combination of atmospheric

calm and dense fog were responsible for about 60 human deaths, injuries to several hundred persons, and also the death of many domestic and wild animals.

Absorption of Solar Radiation

The absorption of solar ultraviolet light by smoke and soot, is recognized as a health problem in many industrial cities. Measurements of solar radiation in Baltimore [6] by actinic methods demonstrated that ultraviolet light intensity in the country was 50 per cent greater than in the city. In New York City [7] a loss as great as 50 per cent in visible light was found by photo-electric cell.

ODOR NUISANCE

A problem companionate with smoke abatement is the control of odor nuisance in the neighborhood of industrial plants discharging noxious or offensive air contaminants. Community planning and zoning will avoid much of the difficulty in the future, but meanwhile many industrial cities must resort to corrective measures by requiring the installation of air cleaning devices, the alteration of manufacturing processes, or by legal termination of the offensive operation in residential or commercial districts.

The control of outdoor odor nuisance is especially troublesome because of the extremely minute quantities of contaminant that are capable of offending through a wide area. New industrial chemicals with strange or unfamiliar odors tend to receive much more attention from the neighborhood than the customary odors generated by well known processes and raw materials. Methods of odor control currently in use include charcoal adsorption, scrubbing towers and air washers, chlorination, condensation, masking, passage of the odorous air through combustion chambers, and best of all, substitution of less offensive materials whenever possible [8, 9, 10, 11].

The control of air quality within buildings ventilated for human occupancy is discussed in Chapter 12. Tobacco smoke odors, cooking odors and body odors are air contaminants of the nuisance type which now command a decisive position in the standards of air quality for indoor comfort. However, the engineer will find, at times, that odors originating *outside* buildings in industrial or business districts may determine the kind and capacity of equipment he must provide for a high quality air supply installation.

INDUSTRIAL AIR CONTAMINANTS

Many industrial processes are sources of contaminants. Their control is an important function of the ventilating or air conditioning engineer, because the atmosphere within buildings is the medium whereby such finely divided matter is dispersed and transported from the source to remote locations where it may cause property damage, nuisance, fire, explosion, disease and even death.

Tables 3, 4 and 5 give the maximum allowable concentrations for industrial air contaminants as currently accepted in most sections of the country. They apply to *exposures of 8 hours per day*, and refer to the quantities of contaminant permissible in the *workers' breathing zone.* Some of these figures may be altered as the result of continuous research, and some may differ from those in force in a few cities or states. The