



FOUNDATION FACTS

Foundation Facts is a monthly news-letter issued to industrial concerns holding membership in Industrial Hygiene Foundation. The Foundation is a combined research and service institution to protect the health of workers in industry.

Vol. 5.

July, 1943

No. 7.

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

IHF-548

H. B. Meller

Dr. H. B. Meller, formerly managing director of Industrial Hygiene Foundation and a world authority on air pollution and smoke prevention, died in a Pittsburgh hospital on Sunday evening, June 27. He was 65 years old. Burial was made at Altoona, Pa., on July 1.

Formerly Dean of the School of Mines at the University of Pittsburgh, Dr. Meller had headed Mellon Institute's air pollution investigation since 1923. He became managing director of Industrial Hygiene Foundation when the organization was formed in 1935 and directed the Foundation until last September when failing health forced him to relinquish active management. He had continued as a Consultant. His direction accounted in a large measure to the upbuilding of the Foundation during its formative years.

Through his work at Mellon Institute for two decades, Dr. Meller became known internationally as a specialist on air pollution. Also, through those efforts, Pittsburgh adopted an anti-smoke ordinance which became a model for other cities throughout the country. He headed Pittsburgh's Bureau of Smoke Regulation from 1920 to 1938.

As an indication of his contribution to air hygiene, and at a time when the field was little known, Dr. Meller published some 30 articles and was senior author of a dozen other articles written with associates. These were exclusive of the scores of papers which he presented before distinguished groups through the years, including such organizations as the New York Academy of Medicine, the Franklin Institute, the American Chemical Society, the American Public Health Association and the National Safety Council.

Born in Altoona, Dr. Meller first went to work for the Pennsylvania Railroad Company as a clerk. In 1900 he became clerk and later secretary of the faculty of the Department of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. After attending the University and the Michigan College of Mines he joined the University of Pittsburgh faculty as an instructor in 1910. He became Dean of the School of Mines in 1914 and held that position until 1923 when he came to Mellon Institute.

004186

- 75 Safety Measures for Use of Chlorinated Naphthalenes and Diphenyls in Industry. L. Greenburg. N.Y. State Dept. of Labor, Ind. Bull., 22, 404-406 (October, 1943). Chlorinated naphthalenes and diphenyls are valuable industrial products, especially in the manufacture of electric condensers, insulation of wire and cable, and similar industries. They are made in this country by about 5 companies and are sold under varying trade names. They are in general highly toxic and must be used with extreme care. Many cases of dermatitis and a number of deaths from liver damage have occurred. Industrial hygienists should make every effort to see that exposures are controlled, insofar as humanly possible. The emphasis should be on a maximum of maintenance and engineering control, rather than on limiting atmospheric concentrations. Toxic exposures may be more readily controlled where the cold or solvent method of impregnating cable than where the hot process is used. All the evidence in the known cases of liver disease point to exposure to vapors or fumes as the cause; there is no clear evidence of systemic poisoning from skin absorption. Among the recommendations are: (1) the cold or solvent method of impregnation should be used; (2) general hygienic measures should be followed; (3) foremen should be apprised of the toxicity of the material and instructed in safe handling practice, and the information should be passed onto the men; (4) preemployment and periodic physical examinations should be given with especial attention to skin and liver conditions; (5) control measures should be checked with the insurance carrier, the State industrial hygiene agency and a competent consultant.
- 76 Some Dangerous Industrial Vapors. Anonymous. Chem. Age, 49, 387-8 (October 16, 1943). From Industrial Accident Prevention Bull., (March-May, 1943). Two cases of poisoning are given, which emphasize the necessity of observing warnings and precautions that have been published. The first happened to workers who were cleaning a degreasing tank, and was due to lack of life belt and breathing apparatus. The second was caused by faulty installation of the flue from the burners in a trichlorethylene degreasing plant. The flue terminated about 10 feet from the floor instead of passing through the roof. None of the cases was fatal, but one man spent 10 days in the hospital. The greater toxicity of coal-tar naphtha as compared with petroleum naphtha is pointed out. A maximum concentration for the solvent variety is suggested, but the author maintains that such figures should be taken with extreme caution. He advises as a safe general rule that "where any organic solvent is used the general ventilation should be supplemented by localized exhaust as near as possible to the point of origin of the vapors." Either type of naphtha may cause dermatitis, and should be kept from contact with the skin. The article concerning ethylene chloride has been abstracted from the original source.
- 77 Creosote Burns. A.D. Jones. J. Ind. Hyg. & Tox., 25, 412-420 (November, 1943). Creosote-burns form an important industrial hazard in the erecting of wooden structures and very often seriously interfere with production. The dipping of sills in creosote solution and the sawing of creosoted lumber should be done by colored or dark-skinned workers. A thick coat of vasoline forms the best preventive. Thorough washing of the face and application of Feille-solution proved a very satisfactory way for treating creosote-burns.
- 78 Examination of Workers in an Asbestos Factory. A. Bohme. Arch.f.Gewerbepath. u.Gewerbehyg., 11, 433-452 (November 10, 1942). This is a record of clinical and radiological observations made in an asbestos factory during the years 1936-1937 and the year 1940. The factory handled raw asbestos and manufactured a variety of asbestos products. It employed up to 500 workers. Of 132 persons examined, 29% showed radiological evidence of asbestosis. Correlating these findings with exposure, it is stated that there were in workers with less than three years of exposure 5% of cases, in those with 3-5 years of

✓ 43

INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE DIGEST

Literature Abstracts

- MEDICAL
- ENGINEERING
- LEGAL --- decisions and trends

Industrial Health News

1.128



Issued Monthly By
INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE FOUNDATION
4400 FIFTH AVENUE
PITTSBURGH, PA.

004185