

Industrial Hygiene Digest

INDUSTRIAL HEALTH NEWS

LITERATURE ABSTRACTS

MEDICAL

ENGINEERING

CHEMICAL

TOXICOLOGICAL

LEGAL - - - decisions and trends

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INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE FOUNDATION

FOUNDATION FACTS

Foundation Facts is a monthly news-letter issued to industrial concerns holding membership in Industrial Hygiene Foundation. The Foundation is a nonprofit association of industries for the advancement of healthful working conditions.

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STAFF INCREASED

David Truan has been appointed to the Foundation's staff as biostatistician. He was formerly associated with the University of Pittsburgh School of Public Health in that capacity. Mr. Truan received his B.A. degree in 1947 and his M.S. degree in 1951, both from the University of Pittsburgh.

COOK TO DELIVER CUMMINGS MEMORIAL LECTURE

Warren A. Cook, Director, Division of Industrial Hygiene and Engineering Research, Zurich-American Insurance Companies, Chicago, and a member of the Foundation's Chemical-Toxicological Committee, has been selected to receive the Donald E. Cummings Memorial Award for 1953 during the Industrial Health Conference in Los Angeles, California. The presentation will take place on April 23 at the annual banquet of the American Industrial Hygiene Association, sponsor of the award. The award is made in recognition of "outstanding contributions to the knowledge and practice of the profession of industrial hygiene." Recipients of the award in the past five years have been Dr. W. P. Yant, Dr. Alice Hamilton, Dr. Philip Drinker, Prof. Theodore F. Hatch, and Dr. Leonard Greenburg.

SCHRENK APPOINTED TO COMMITTEES

Dr. H. H. Schrenk, Research Director of the Foundation, has accepted membership on three new committees. He will serve as the AIHA representative on the ASA Committee Z2, as a member of the American Chemical Society's Air Pollution Committee, and as a member of the Committee on Noise of the Acoustical Society of America.

COMMITTEE CHANGES

Dr. Anna M. Baetjer, The Johns Hopkins University, has been appointed Chairman of the Chemical-Toxicological Committee. Dr. H. F. Smyth, Jr., who has been such an able chairman for the past seven years, resigned because of the pressure of other work, but will remain as a member of the Committee.

TRANSACTIONS AVAILABLE

Transactions of the Foundation's 17th Annual Meeting are completed and are being mailed to members this week. Bulletins on the Conferences will be available later.

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treated animals diffuse delicate connective tissue, consisting of loosely knit fibers and thin-walled blood vessels, surrounded the silicotic nodules. In the controls, a cellular fringe with fibroblasts suggested that active fibrosis was still progressing. The authors were unable to detect any reduction of collagen in established silicotic nodules in the treated animals, although further fibroblastic proliferation was apparently retarded. This suggests that cortisone will not have any lasting benefit on the collagen in human silicosis, although it might arrest progression of the lesions while it was being administered.

-- Cond. from J. Am. Med. Assn.

3 Pulmonary Tuberculosis in the Rhondda Fach: an Interim Report of a Survey of a Mining Community. J. G. Cox and T. F. Jarman. Brit. Med. J. 2, 843-853 (Oct. 18, 1952).

A field experiment was designed to study, in a mining community with a high prevalence of pneumoconiosis, the effect of reducing tuberculosis infectivity upon the rate of appearance of progressive massive fibrosis in miners already affected by simple pneumoconiosis. The present report is concerned with the findings of the first roentgenological survey of the adult population. Figures are given for the prevalence of tuberculosis by age and sex. The extent of tuberculosis is apparently typical of such areas in the country. About 30% of the miners and ex-miners had some roentgenological signs of pneumoconiosis; 15% had progressive massive fibrosis. All but two patients with infectious tuberculosis were given hospital treatment. The number of infectious cases has been reduced by about 60%, and the patients are all being closely supervised by a health visitor. Future surveys will show what effects this reduction will have on the tuberculin positivity and on the rate of appearance of new cases of tuberculosis and massive fibrosis.

-- Cond. from Authors' Summary

34 A Clinical and Pathological Study of a Case of Pulmonary Asbestosis. H. Bastenier, H. Denolin, A. Decoster, and R. Denolin-Reubens. Arch. belges med. sociale, hyg., med. travail et med. legale 10, 61-70 (Feb. 1952) French.

A diagnosis of asbestosis must depend upon a history of occupational exposure to asbestos dust, associated with effects on the respiratory organs. A case is reported in which a woman had worked for 25 years weaving asbestos in a factory with heavy dust exposure. The symptoms described are typical. The authors compared this case with those of uncomplicated silicosis; in the latter residual air is frequently increased, expiration is prolonged, and the maximum respiratory capacity is reduced, but hyperpnea is less, rapid breathing is not so intense, and anoxemia is never so important during effort, as in asbestosis. These differences are stressed as important when necessity may arise in determining the occupational origin of a case with obscure diagnosis.

-- Cond. from Bull. Hyg.