omas. This is probably an underestimate of the true incidence of asbestosis among cases of mesothelioma in the United States since very little lung tissue was available for review and only asbestos bodies and not asbestos fibers were looked for. Mesothelioma should be added to the neoplastic risks of exposure to asbestos along with cancer of the lung (53 of 307 deaths) and probably cancer of the stomach (34 of 307 deaths). -- J. Occ. Med. Absts.

PHYSICAL ASPECTS OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Safe Practices for Industrial SCUBA Diving. P. A. Brevsse.
Ind. Med. & Surg. 34, 870-873 (Nov. 1965).

Recognizing that SCUBA (self-contained underwater breathing apparatus) divers are subject to many potential hazards and that they must be physically and mentally fit, be adequately trained in the use of SCUBA and possess the necessary mechanical skills to perform their prescribed functions satisfactorily; and that their safety and well-being depends to a large degree upon equipment being in good working order and upon an air supply essentially free from contamination; the Safety Division, Washington State Department of Labor and Industries, appointed a committee to assist the Code Engineer in the completion of SCUBA Diving Safety Standards. This committee was composed of representatives of both labor and management and other interested groups, a large number of which had considerable experience in SCUBA diving activities and diving medicine. These standards should provide a better awareness of the hazards involved in diving, in addition to minimum requirements for diving safety; recognizing that diving can be safe provided it is practiced by well-trained, equipped and informed individuals. -- Auth. sum.

Decompression Sickness Following Repeated Breath-hold Dives. P. Paulev.
J. Appl. Physiol. 20, 1028-1031 (Sept. 1965).

A report is given on a case of apparent decompression sickness after repetitive breath-hold dives to depths of 50-66 ft. (15-20m.). Three similar cases in Norwegian Navy escape-training-tank instructors are also discussed. A parallel is drawn between the Scandinavian cases and the "pearl diver disease" (taravana), found in the Tuamotu Archipelago in the South Pacific. Symptoms and signs in these conditions are consistent with the diagnosis of decompression sickness. It is emphasized that in such cases immediate recompression is the treatment of choice. Consideration of various depths and patterns of breath-hold diving in terms of nitrogen uptake and elimination permits the relative risk of decompression sickness to be predicted with the help of decompression tables. -- J. Am. Med. Assn. Ref. & Rev.

Altitude and Maximum Performance in Work and Sports Activity. B. Balke, F. J. Nagle, and J. Daniels. J. Am. Med. Assn. 194, 646-649 (Nov. 8, 1965).

Experimental evidence obtained from these investigations has confirmed the hypothetical assumption that, at an altitude of around 2,000 meters (6,560 ft.): (1) physical performances requiring the utilization of maximum aerobic capacity are comparatively worse than under conditions of normal barometric pressure; (2) physical performances requiring almost exclusively maximum anaerobic capacity remain nearly unaltered; (3) training and acclimation can bring back "normal" capacity for maximum aerobic work. Possibly, training at elevations higher than 3,000 meters will be more effective in this respect; (4) within one week after return from this altitude, performances in the longer sprint-type events tend to be slightly better than before, while those in the endurance-type events show considerable improvement; and (5) physiologically, these improvements are apparently based on an augmentation of the heart's capacity to move a maximum volume of blood as well as on an increased amount of oxygen carried by the arterial blood. -- Cond. auth. com.

Prevention of Heat Illness in Football Players. R. J. Murphy and W. F. Ashe.
J. Am. Med. Assn. 194, 651-654 (Nov. 8, 1965).

Football practice in high schools and colleges begins in late summer when the effects of heat are of major concern. To determine when conditions exist on the field which contribute to heat exhaustion and heat stroke, the dry-bulb and wet-bulb temperatures recorded during the first three weeks of practice of the Ohio State University football team were correlated with weight loss encountered. From this, a practical guide was developed with suggestions for preventive measures relative to the two clinical entities. There are 15 references. -- Auth. sum.