

3. BCG organisms recovered from tissue exhibiting progressive disease have not been altered by growth in silicotic tissue, for they show no enhancement of virulence when subinoculated subcutaneously in large doses (10 mg.) into healthy guinea pigs. 4. Vaccination with BCG organisms does not prevent or retard the development of tuberculosilicosis produced by an infection with the attenuated R_1 strain of the human type tubercle bacillus in the presence of inhaled quartz dust.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE ON DUSTS. J. J. FORBES, SARA J. DAVENPORT and GENEVIEVE G. MORGIS, Bulletin 478, United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Mines. Paper, pages 333, price 65 cents. Published by Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C., 1950.

This book is a revision of Bureau of Mines Bulletin 400 of 1937. The present review opens with a nine page summary, followed by three pages of conclusions. The summary is of the conventional sort, perhaps a bit long, but a faithful condensation of the very full text. The conclusions decry present trends toward setting up working standards, on the ground that definite facts are too few to allow formulation of worth while standards.

Certain features of this book are unique—the authors go through the world's literature on dust diseases, and regarding the United States, they discuss them industry by industry. This portion is exceptionally good and, perhaps because it is unorthodox, it is unusually interesting.

Then follow about 50 pages of conventional review of silicosis, a section on dust determination, engineering control, medical control.

The last part, on economic and legal aspects, is conventional and a good digest of the literature.

Tucked in at the end, just before a huge bibliography, are a few pages on cost of compensation for silicosis and determination of working capacity.

PHILIP DRINKER, Boston.

BERYLLIOSIS: BRIEF DISCUSSION AND PRESENTATION OF A CASE WITH PULMONARY, DIGITAL AND AXILLARY NODE INVOLVEMENT. R. A. NACHTWEY, M. B. DOCKERTY and C. H. HODGSON, Minnesota Med. **33**:904 (Sept.) 1950.

Nachtwey and his associates summarize the present status of knowledge on berylliosis and describe the case of a man, aged 35, who was in the electrical business and stated that since 1936 he had spent much time in making fluorescent lamps, having blown the glass and coated the tubes. For many years he had had a nonproductive cough, which had increased in severity during the few months before admission. During the late fall of 1948 he had begun to notice dyspnea on exertion and fatigue. These symptoms had become progressively worse. He also had bilateral thoracic pain of pleuritic nature and pain in the lower dorsal region. For several months before coming to the Mayo Clinic he had noticed slight edema of the ankles, and for the previous two months, tachycardia and palpitation on exertion. During the two weeks before admission there had been wheezing during inspiration. His weight had decreased. Diuretics had been administered at home without appreciable effect on the edema.

Examination revealed among other factors persistent fine rales over the lower two thirds of both lung fields. At the base of the nail on the left fourth finger there was a healed scar which he said was the result of a lesion which would occasionally swell, drain some material and then heal over. He thought this lesion had followed a cut by a piece of fluorescent glass. An abnormally enlarged lymph node was found in the left axillary space. This node was removed in April 1949. Microscopic examination of the node revealed that it was a granuloma and spectrographic analysis disclosed beryllium.

The patient was advised to remove himself from all contact with beryllium powder or fumes, to undertake a rather strict rest program and to avoid overexertion. He was last heard from in August 1950, at which time his condition was the same.

FRESHLY FRACTURED SURFACE THEORY OF SILICOSIS. B. M. WRIGHT, Nature **166**:538 (Sept. 30) 1950.

Wright critically examines the theory that only freshly fractured silica dust is biologically active. This concept was first postulated in 1945 by Heffernan and later restated by Briscoe, Policard and Weyl. A systematic attack is made on all the hypotheses on which this theory is based, on the ground that all available information indicates that fresh surfaces reach equilibrium