

latency of the symptoms may be explained by slowly developing cerebral hemorrhages or localized softening, but without destruction of the ganglion cells. The highly toxic action of methyl bromide is stressed, and complete enclosure of processes is urged. -- Condensed from Bull. Hyg.

- 882 Serum Chloremia and Chloruria in Silicosis and Silico-Tuberculosis.
R. Vaselli and F. Flocchi. *Med. d. Lavoro* 39, 282-288 (Sept. Oct. 1948)
Italian.

By means of the Charpentier-Volhard method the serum-chloremia and chloruria have been studied in 27 patients suffering from various stages of silicosis, and the results have been compared with the values obtained in tuberculous and silico-tuberculous patients. In the stage of diffused reticular fibrosis hypochloremia and hypochloruria was noted; in the nodular and confluent stages there was gradual increase of serum-chloremia and chloruria. On the other hand in silicosis complicated with active tuberculosis the same behaviour was observed as in chronic phthisis with feverish evolution. "The conclusion therefore is that the silicotic process is able to produce a certain perturbation in the chlorine rate of the blood and urine; but hitherto it has been impossible to determine the reasons for this."

-- Authors' Summary in English

- 883 Acute Pneumonitis in a Beryllium Worker. G.R. Royston.
Brit. Med. J. 1, 1030-1032 (June 11, 1949).

A case presented clinically, as a bronchiolitis occurring in a man handling fluorescent powders containing beryllium, is described. The x-ray changes were miliary in character and completely cleared in eight weeks without residual fibrosis. The patient made a complete recovery. The literature is reviewed.

- 884 Ayerza's Disease, Silicosis and Pulmonary Bilharziasis.
Sir H. Tidy. *Brit. Med. J.* 1, 977-978 (June 4, 1949).

Ayerza's disease, known in Brazil since 1913, is predominantly sclerosis of the pulmonary artery and its branches, with chronic changes in the lungs. Pulmonary bilharziasis, consisting of obliterative endarteritis of the small branches of the pulmonary artery resulting from the action of ova which reach the site as emboli, has been studied in Egypt since 1928. Cyanosis and other features are common to both diseases. A study of Ayerza's disease shows that bilharziasis is unlikely to be its principal cause, although it may be contributory. It rather seems to be the result of silicosis occurring at high altitudes.

- 885 Chronic Disease as an Industrial Hygiene Program.
C.D. Selby. *Am. J. Pub. Health* 39, 598-601 (May, 1949).

This paper reports briefly on the use of vital statistics in industrial health administration and practice. In programs in which the main object is protection of employee health, vital statistics are of the greatest use. They should include death rates and non-occupational disability