# News and Comment

## APPOINTMENTS

Dr. Seward E. Miller has been appointed chief of the Division of Industrial Hygiene, Public Health Service, to succeed Dr. James G. Townsend. Dr. Miller was formerly regional director of Region V of the Federal Security Agency and will be succeeded in that post by Dr. Arthur B. Price, former regional medical director of Region IV. The headquarters of Region V is in Chicago.

# Book Reviews

**Modern Air Conditioning, Heating and Ventilating.** By W. H. Carrier, R. E. Cherne and Walter A. Grant. Pp. 574, with 288 illustrations (special chart at rear). Price, $10. Pitman Publishing Corporation, 2-6 West 45th St., New York 19, 1950.

The second edition of this excellent text will be useful to industrial hygiene engineers and physicians interested in modern air conditioning principles and design.

Several sections of the book have been improved over the previous edition, principally by incorporation of new tables of basic factors on panel heating, new techniques in air cleaning and purification and by analysis of central conditioning systems. The book includes the new Carrier psychrometric chart and some new data on comfort.

The general format of the book is excellent. The book can be used as a text or as a reference guide. Of special interest to industrial hygienists is the chapter on air-cleaning devices. While it is primarily devoted to cleaning of light loads for air-conditioning work, the information presented should be of value for many situations encountered in field work.

The book contains up-to-date data and information, and may be used for design and application of industrial and home air-conditioning and heating.

LESLIE SILVERMAN.

**The Social Consequences of Pneumoconiosis Among Coalminers in South Wales.** By P. Hugh-Jones and C. M. Fletcher, Medical Research Council, London, Memo. no. 25. Price 1s. 9d. His Majesty's Stationery Office, Kingsway, London, W.C. 2, 1951.

Part I of the report reviews the social consequences of pneumoconiosis in South Wales. In Great Britain coal miners with pneumoconiosis were first given compensation in 1928. With modifications in the compensation schemes, increasing numbers of miners were certified in succeeding years. In South Wales, between January 1931 and July 1948, over 19,000 cases were certified under the Workmen's Compensation Act, of whom some 16,000 survive.

In the hope that they would be protected from further deterioration, all the men certified during this period were suspended from further work in the mining industry. They had to seek other work in competition with other men, and in this competition they were handicapped by their disability, by their age and by the fact that they lived in the remoter mining valleys, away from centers of light industry. Few of them found work in the prewar years. During the war, when labor was short, half of them got work, and the remainder were mostly the older and more seriously disabled. Toward the end of the war, and in the subsequent years, large numbers of less disabled men were certified. There are now about 5,000 pneumoconiotic men unemployed in the mining valleys, and of these three quarters are fit for medium or light industrial work.

In jobs that do not demand strenuous exertion these men appear to give satisfactory service. Their sickness and absenteeism rates were no higher than those for comparable normal men in