

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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PARTICIPATION IN MEDICAL SCHOOL COURSE IN INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE

Dr. Daniel C. Braun, Medical Director of the Foundation, and Dr. D. J. Laue Medical Director, Jones & Laughlin Steel Corporation, are supervising the course in Industrial Medicine and Hygiene for senior students at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. In addition to planning the program of 22 sessions Drs. Braun and Lauer will present some of the lectures; others will be given by guest lecturers who are specialists in the various fields. The University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine was one of the first to include such a program in its curriculum. Dr. T. Lyle Hazlett is Professor of Industrial Hygiene and Chairman of the Department.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Two new members were appointed to the Foundation's Board [illegible] John [illegible], Vice President, Industrial [illegible] Vice President and General [illegible] They will [illegible] and Clinton [illegible]

[illegible] is Gerald [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Air Pollution [illegible] Health Association.

Dr. Daniel C. Braun, Medical Director, will serve on the [illegible] Toxicology of the Industrial Medical Association.

BIMONTHLY COLUMN TO BE REGULARLY REPRINTED

Dr. Schrenk's bimonthly feature on Industrial Hygiene which appears in Industrial and Engineering Chemistry tersely summarizes and critically evaluates information on current industrial hygiene problems. The subject of each column will be announced on this page as reprints become available. Now available on request are the August, 1954 column, which takes up the "increase in health and safety problems as the commercial production and industrial applications of hydrazine increase"; and the October, 1954 column, which is concerned with "toxicity of ozone and oxides of nitrogen; threshold for 167 compounds."

89 Animal Experiments on the Effect of Amorphous Colloidal and Crystalline Silicic Acid. J. R. Ruttner, W. Willy, and A. Baumann. Schweiz. Z. allgem. Pathol. u. Bakteriol. 17, 352-363 (1954). German.

Doses of 5 mg. or more of amorphous colloidal silicic acid were toxic to mice in the peritoneal test. Quartz, in equal doses, was nontoxic; on prolonged administration, however, it stimulated the fibroblasts. The difference in biological activity appears to be due to the structural and physicochemical properties of quartz. The theory is rejected which holds a soluble form of silicic acid responsible for silicosis. -- Chem. Absts.

90 A Case of Silicotic Stone Spitting. E. W. Baader. Arch. Gewerbepathol. Gewerbehyg. 13, 58-72 (1954).

The paper describes in detail a case of the rare disease, broncholithiasis in a stonemason. After 15 years of work with sandstone, at the age of 53 he was found to have silicosis. A number of examiners gave discordant opinions on the degree of silicosis. Temporarily he suffered from bronchiectasis with high temperatures. During this time and intermittently later he coughed out stones which could be identified as silicotic fibrous tissue indurated with hydroxy-apatite and calcium carbonate. The stones ranged in weight from 5 to 150 mg. Their appearance, structure, and composition are described in detail. Two similar cases of broncholithiases, also accurring among stonemasons, were found in the literature. The patient felt better after each episode of coughing and generally improved in health during the two years of observation. Thus the coughing of the silicotic tissue must be considered a kind of self-healing of the lung. No trace of tuberculosis or histoplasmosis could be found.
-- Cond. from Bull. Hyg.

91 Asbestosis. Queries and Minor Notes, J. Am. Med. Assn. 156, 1546 (Dec. 18, 1954).

A 50-year-old man worked at covering pipe with asbestos insulation from 1940 to 1945. The question is the possibility that pulmonary fibrosis evident on roentgenograms in 1952 was due to asbestosis when the films had been normal in 1949. The answer is that the cause of the fibrosis must be sought among other sources than the 1940-45 occupation. Little evidence exists of progression of asbestosis after cessation of exposure to asbestos fibers. Moreover, exposure would have had to be much more severe than in the man's occupation in order to produce asbestosis, and it would have manifested itself in the 1949 roentgenogram.

92 Induction with Surgical Talc and Transplantation of Granulation Tissue in Cheek Pouch of Golden Hamster. G. R. Bernard, D. I. Patt, and R. G. Desai. Arch. Ind. Hyg. & Occ. Med. 10, 390-396 (Nov. 1954).

Granulation of tissue was induced in the cheek pouch of the golden hamster by implantation of surgical talc. Autologous and homologous