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The Association for the Advancement of Industrial Medicine and Surgery

Inc.

Executive Office - 370 Lexington Avenue, N. Y. (Room 904)

PURPOSE: *To disseminate accurate medical knowledge in reference to the diagnosis and treatment of all conditions arising out of and in the course of employment.*

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...e charges, as well as given a bill of ...rticulars so that they may be in a ...tion properly to defend them...res at the hearings.

...ental Hygiene as Applied to ... Industrial-Accident Prevention

OUR present methods of accident prevention* are based on the ...sumed need of awakening em...oyees to a sense of responsibility ...r their own safety. To do this, we ...nd considerable time trying to ...re them into looking out for them...ves. Posters showing the horrible ...sults of accidents are prominently ...played. Speeches are made in ...hich the suffering at home as a re...lt of loss of income is vividly ex...ined, and articles are written tell...g large groups of workers to "do ..." or "do that" to avoid dreadful ...sequences. A number of the in...viduals for whom this propaganda ... prepared pay complaisant atten...n—and then apply the lesson to ...e one else. Our general educa...al campaigns are, no doubt, leav... many things undone.

According to the best authorities, ...least 85 or 90% of all accidents ...e as their proximate causes the ...ntal conditions of workers. This ...mate relegates the remainder of ... accidents to machine or material ...ures, "acts of God," and various

...EDWARD R. GRANNISS, Travelers Insurance ...pany, Hartford, Conn., in *Mental Hygiene*, ... 1935.

more or less indefinite causes. The mental conditions that result in error are lack of knowledge, inattention, confusion, and often an unwarranted sense of superiority typified by the "it-cannot-happen-to-me" attitude. These terms, of course, overlap and are dependent for their existence on a number of things, such as experience, training, worry, fear, fatigue, exhilaration, or some mental subnormality, all of which tend to expose the individual worker to hazard.

Accident investigation and analysis usually stop at the first cause, in as much as most plants are not equipped for further analysis and their executives believe it impracticable to go into psychological causes further than to note that the man was inattentive, disobedient, or, perhaps, careless.

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THE Industrial Hygiene Laboratories of the Chrysler Corporation began operation on January 1, 1936. These laboratories, located at the Dodge Main Plant of the Chrysler Corporation, in Detroit, are devoted to the study of occupational diseases and their sources, together with other agencies and conditions of work leading to industrial health hazards. The Laboratories are under the direction of Dr. Stewart F. Meek, as industrial hygienist, with Dr. Cordon C. Harrold, as chemist; they were planned under the direction of Dr. Carey P. McCord, who remains associated in the capacity of adviser and consultant.

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