

News and Comment

CHILDREN'S ACCIDENT HANDBOOK

A new procedure in accident prevention has been initiated by the Children's Hospital of Boston. In this issue (p. 225) is described a small handbook issued by the hospital to aid not only in attempting to prevent some of the many accidents to which children are subject in the home but also in supplying to parents and others who have the care of children brief instructions as to what to do and what not to do if such accidents occur.

The booklet (25 cents a copy) is attractively designed; it is quite brief and should be of great service to parents, maids, nurses, baby sitters and even to grandparents in preventing and in taking care of home accidents. This booklet has proved extremely popular. The first edition has been exhausted and literally thousands of copies are being ordered by organizations and firms for their customers and employees and by physicians for the parents of their patients.

The ease of references, the reliability of the instructions and their very briefness will undoubtedly create a wide demand for this little booklet.

The Children's Hospital is to be congratulated on this forward step in preventive medicine for children.

APPOINTMENT

Dr. C. Richard Walmer, medical director of the Industrial Hygiene Foundation since 1946, has been appointed managing director to succeed the late John F. McMahon. The industrial Hygiene Foundation is a nonprofit research organization of more than 350 companies and industrial associations for advancing industrial health, improving working conditions and bettering human relations. These affiliated members of the Industrial Hygiene Foundation, are entitled to the advisory and research services of other specialists in health problems, plus the technical facilities of Mellon Institute, where the headquarters of the Foundation are located.

DR. STERNER SUCCEEDS DR. SAWYER

On Jan. 1, 1951 Dr. James H. Sterner succeeded Dr. William A. Sawyer as medical director of Eastman Kodak Company. Dr. Sawyer will continue with the company as medical consultant.

COUNCIL ON INDUSTRIAL HEALTH OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

News Letter, Feb. 1, 1951

It is now firmly established that accidents are a principal cause of mortality in the working and production decades. It is equally apparent that health, safety and accident prevention work are inseparably integrated disciplines which must demonstrate the very epitome of teamwork if a further significant reduction of accident rates is to be effected.

The American Medical Association, by its platform for improved health and safety, has committed itself to a plan of cooperating with agencies whose objectives are the improvement of the health of the nation and the reduction of accidents that occur in industry, on the farm, at home and on the highway.

The Council on Industrial Health has in recent months attempted to set up a relationship with the National Safety Council which will ultimately define how physicians can contribute more effectively. The importance of accidents as a leading cause of death during the working years was accepted as the concept which should inspire joint action. It was thought that the good results already obtained could be further improved by:

1. Better coordination between the biological and engineering sciences.
 2. Improvement in the character of liaison between the parent organizations.
 3. More effective local organization between the safety groups and professional societies.
- Strong emphasis should be placed on demonstrations of safe practices for school children and full exploration of all means for adult education.