gardening by an eminent Spanish colleague. In his time the reviewer, rather surprisingly, has been stung or bitten by almost all the insects listed but admittedly has not had his toes tickled by that unpleasant little foot flea, *Tunga penetrans*.

This is a large and important publication which should be widely purchased. It will be particularly valuable for those who may have to answer questions which cover a wide range, such as doctors who work in university departments and industrial health services which embrace diverse processes and geography.

I shall keep my copy near the telephone.

R. C. BROWNE

International Standards for Drinking Water, 3rd Edition. (Pp. 67; 90p) Geneva: World Health Organization. 1971.

The first edition of this publication produced in 1958 as an aid to the improvement of water quality and treatment set out suggested standards which have now been widely adopted. In 1963 the second edition drew attention to the increasing knowledge of the nature and effect of various contaminants, and to improved techniques for identifying them. A degree of uniformity in national methods of analysis, and the expression of their results, has already been achieved. Further progress is sought in order that results may become more readily comparable on an international basis. This much shorter edition omits detailed mention of information now generally accepted and freely available in other publications. Its purpose is to assist countries wishing to establish their own national standards or to revise existing standards; and it is hoped that it will stimulate further investigations of the problems of providing safe and potable water supplies to all communities, and also to monitor these so as to maintain the public health and reduce disease.

Bacteriological, virological, radiological, and physical and chemical examinations are considered and recommendations made. There is special mention of toxic chemical substances and pesticides. Mention is made of the beneficial effect of suitable concentrations of fluorides and also of the potential hazards of metallic contaminants, nitrates, and polynuclear hydrocarbons.

Recommendations are made for sampling for the above examinations, and specimen forms for reporting results are included in an Annex. The publication is aimed particularly at assisting operators of water supply systems and those concerned with the treatment of water supplies. There is clearly, however, an implication for those concerned with the discharge of industrial wastes.

Research workers are referred to the Report of the WHO Expert Committee on Health Criteria for Water Supplies, and in the present volume there is an extensive list of references.

R. A. N. HITCHENS

Notices

AMA Congress on Occupational Health

The 32nd annual AMA Congress on Occupational Health will be held at The Drake Hotel in Chicago 11-12 September 1972.

International Course in Epidemiological Methods

The Institute of Occupational Health, Helsinki, and the Industrial Medical Association of Finland will arrange a course in epidemiological methods with special reference to occupational health problems. The course is open to research workers from all countries.

The course will take place at the Theoretical Institutes of the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Helsinki, Haartmaninkatu 3, from 21 August to 1 September 1972.

For more details, please write to Dr Sven Hernberg, M.D., Director, Department of Epidemiology and Biometry, Institute of Occupational Health, Haartmaninkatu 1, 00290 Helsinki 29, Finland.

Fourth Summer School on Alcoholism

The fourth annual Summer School on Alcoholism will be held at the Brighton College of Education, Falmer, Sussex from 9 to 16 September 1972.

Application forms may be obtained from: The Secretary, Summer School on Alcoholism, The Maudsley Hospital, Denmark Hill, London, SE5 8AZ. Tel. No. 01-703 6333.