conioses at the beginning of the book with short comments on recent advances in experimental work on dusts, radio-active monitoring, radiological classification, emphysema and bronchitis, lung function, immunological aspects, and malignant disease. Subsequent separate papers deal with pneumoconiosis in the various individual Australian states showing the extent of the problem, local factors involved, and different approaches. The clinical topic of 'Asthmatic Reactions to Occupational Inhalants' is presented in a challenging manner deliberately to provoke some critical re-appraisal of the recent literature on the subject which should be of interest to the physician, epidemiologist, and industrial medical officer. Another paper entitled 'Rarer Forms of Pneumoconiosis' discusses hard metal pneumoconiosis and describes a clinical case with a confirmatory lung biopsy which was also chemically analysed. Organic dust diseases in farmers, bird fanciers, and mushroom growers are also included with bagassosis in this paper and illustrated by case histories to show the importance of a good occupational and environmental history.

The dangers of asbestos dust are well described by Dr. McNulty in his article on 'Asbestos Mining in Witteboom, W.A.'. Interesting points emerge, such as unusual bilateral pleural effusions, the failure to find pleural plaques in workers and townspeople which differs from experience elsewhere, and the association of silica with asbestos. Writing with a degree of hindsight and honesty, he highlights in his conclusions the complex difficulties that can arise in practical industrial medicine.

This book reflects a successful conference. It is a well-written record of good informative papers which should be of interest to workers in this country who are concerned with the problems of the pneumoconioses.

C. GOLD

Industrial Organizations and Health, Volume I. Selected Readings. Edited by Frank Baker, Peter J. M. McEwan and Alan Sheldon. (Pp. xvi + 699; 90s.) London: Tavistock Publications. 1969.

This is a book of reprinted articles which aims to provide selected background reading for the study of industrial organizations and health. It is edited by a team of three, a psychologist, a sociologist and a psychiatrist, who are, or have been, on the staff of the Harvard Medical School.

Separate sections of the book are entitled 'The Industrial Organization and the Employee', 'Health Behaviour and Industrial Work', 'Human Problems of the Industrial Work Organization', 'Employee Orientations to Work', and finally, 'Planning and Changing the Organizational Environment'. Some of the articles are beginning to look a little elderly and none of the classical British work on sickness absence is quoted. The book is written from the viewpoint of social psychology by Americans in American English, and it is much more relevant to the Transatlantic scene and reader than to the British. A large number of words end in 'ization' (what Sir Alan Herbert once called 'beautiful-ize words') and considerable attention is given to questions of 'status'. Some of the chapter headings contain a gleam of unconscious humour, for example, 'Occupational Mental Health: Review of an Emerging

Art'. This is not a phrase the reviewer would care to use in the company of his psychiatric colleagues. This book, however, is indirectly interesting, in so far as it conveys an impression of a rather tense, complicated climate of thought, very different from the clear organizational charts which are seen on the walls of directors' offices. It will, perhaps, be more acceptable to sociologists than to medical men.

R. C. BROWNE

La Pollution Atmosphérique. I. Les Industries, Leurs Productions, Leurs Nuisances. By J. P. Détrie with the collaboration of P. Jarrault. (Pp. 624; 196 figures; 34 photographs; 156F.) Paris: Dunod. 1969.

This book is one of a series entitled 'Collection Les Industries, Leurs Productions, Leurs Nuisances' which is stated in the preface to be directed at all those types of nuisance to which industry gives rise. The purpose of this book appears to be to provide management with a handbook on problems of all aspects of contamination of the general atmosphere. The approach is that of an engineer on the production side of industry and relatively little space is devoted to pollution either from the heating of houses, flats and commercial premises or from vehicles.

There are five chapters, concerned with sources, disposal, methods of measurement, effects, and prevention. The authors have drawn their material from virtually all the countries in which pollution is treated as a serious problem, carefully sieved it, and succeeded in cramming an astonishing amount of information into a relatively small compass. Since, however, it covers such a wide field and therefore necessarily covers it thinly, it seems unlikely that readers of the *British Journal of Industrial Medicine* will find it useful, except as a means of tracking down the sources of material from which the authors have drawn. For this purpose it could be valuable: it contains numerous tables of useful data, and each chapter has a long bibliography. There is also a glossary of French technical terms at the back: this gives equivalents in German, English, and Italian, and also a brief definition in French for each word or phrase listed; at least one English-speaking reader was, however, somewhat surprised by some of the English equivalents.

J. MCK. ELLISON

Specifications for the Identity and Purity of Food Additives and Their Toxicological Evaluation: Some Antibiotics. Twelfth Report of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives. *Tech. Rep. Ser. Wld Hlth Org.*, 1969, 430. (Pp. 49; 6s.) Geneva: W.H.O. 1969.

The Joint F.A.O./W.H.O. Conference on Food Additives, aware of the growing health hazards involved in the use of antibiotics in food and feedstuffs, convened an expert committee to study this problem. Its tasks were, first, to draw up specifications for, and to make a toxicological evaluation of, certain antibiotics used as food additives, and, secondly, to assess the potential health hazards of

antibiotic residues in foods of animal origin. This is the first of two reports submitted by the Expert Committee and presents a toxicological evaluation of some 20 compounds belonging to eight classes of antibiotics. The second report, awaiting publication, is concerned mainly with the specifications of antibiotics and the methodology for the determination of antibiotic residues in foods.

The introductory section includes a brief review of the potential toxic hazards due to the chemical and microbiological effects of antibiotic residues in food. The committee viewed with grave concern the antibiotic resistance induced in micro-organisms, in particular in Gram-negative members of the Enterobacteriaceae, for example, the danger inherent in the development of resistance to chloramphenicol by species of *Salmonella* which cause typhoid and paratyphoid fevers.

In assessing the use of antibiotics as food additives and growth promoters, the Committee took into account these and other factors such as the presence of the breakdown products of antibiotics in food.

The report considers the use of a number of antibiotics as growth promotants to be acceptable and specifies the limits of residues present in animal food for human consumption. These are aminoglycosides (streptomycin, dihydrostreptomycin, kanamycin and neomycin), macrolides (erythromycin, leucomycin, oleandomycin, spiramycin and tylosin), penicillins (benzylpenicillin), polypeptides (bacitracin and polymyxin B) and tetracyclines (tetracycline, chlortetracycline and oxytetracycline). The Committee advises against the proposed use as direct food additives of tylosin, pimarcin and tetracyclines.

The report favours the use of the antifungal antibiotics, nystatin and pimarcin, as food additives, and, in contrast, considers that chloramphenicol and novobiocin should be restricted to human and veterinary medicine.

The original list of substances submitted to the Committee for consideration included 32 antiprotozoan and antibacterial compounds, but these could not be evaluated due to paucity of toxicological data. The Committee called for more research to be undertaken on these and other antibiotics and hoped for a freer exchange of information between national and international regulatory authorities.

The recent report of the Joint Committee on the use of Antibiotics in Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Medicine, under the Chairmanship of Professor Swann, not only endorses the findings of the F.A.O./W.H.O. Expert Committee but goes further in recommending the ban on the use of penicillin and the tetracyclines as feed additives.

S. D. GANGOLLI

Health Conditions in the Ceramic Industry. Edited by C. N. Davies. (Pp. 254; 120s.) Oxford: Pergamon Press. 1969.

This well-produced volume presents the papers and summaries of discussions in an international symposium organized jointly by the North Staffordshire Medical Institute and the British Occupational Hygiene Society and held from 27 to 29 March, 1968. There were 30

contributors, of whom 10 were from Europe and one from India.

The book opens with the first Wade Lecture in honour of Sir George Wade, President of the Institute, given by J. C. Gilson on 'The changing pattern of pneumoconiosis'. His theme was the need for greater precision in establishing and specifying dust standards, and how this can be achieved not only through environmental measurements but also by searching for early evidence of abnormality in the worker before disease becomes manifest.

The remainder of the volume comprises 29 papers centred on silicosis, particularly that in the ceramic industry. They are divided into six groups. The first discusses pneumoconiosis in the ceramic industries of North Staffordshire, India, Bavaria, Sweden and Italy and follows an excellent short historical introduction by A. Meiklejohn. The next two groups consist of a paper on the therapy of silicotuberculosis, one on the treatment of the general complications of silicosis, one giving a pathological description of the disease, and one on results of a large series of latex tests in 6 000 porcelain workers which suggests a higher percentage of positive titres in those with silicosis.

There follows a group of 10 papers on environmental conditions. These together form a useful and coherent account not only of the assessment of dust levels and hygiene standards but also of practical aspects of protective clothing, ventilation and dust control in the industry.

Three papers on respiratory disability discuss lung function in Staffordshire workers, the lung compliance in silicosis and finally evidence from Yugoslavia that an abnormally high bronchitis rate exists among ceramic workers in the presence of little or no radiological abnormality. The last group of papers discusses skin disease, lead poisoning, accidents and factory legislation.

This volume covers a wide field, and anyone concerned with industrial pulmonary disease is likely to find interest in it.

C. B. MCKERROW

1968 Evaluation of Some Pesticide Residues in Food. (Pp. 293; no price stated.) Geneva: Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, W.H.O. 1969.

This is the most recent publication coming from the regular meetings of a joint F.A.O./W.H.O. group of experts on pesticide residues. In its 293 pages of compact information, monographs are given on 32 individual pesticides. Some are merely supplementary monographs giving new data or evaluations on compounds previously reviewed. Most are complete summaries of available information on chemicals at the time of compilation.

The F.A.O./W.H.O. experts then make their own evaluation and recommendations on residue tolerances for the individual chemical on 'raw agricultural products moving in commerce', and list the further information required or otherwise desirable for the next improved review of each compound. Each monograph ends with a useful list of references to the main published literature.

This latest expert survey on the 'pesticide residue problem' is as welcome as previous versions. As an