interspersed with many examples which vividly illustrate the conditions found and the administrative problems involved. There are brought to light many unforeseen ways in which an apparently simple measure such as the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act, 1944, can be complicated in practice by human and environmental factors. Much depends on flexible and imaginative administration. Apart from improving basic living conditions the authors suggest four lines of action: mitigation of the gross lack of education, adoption of energetic action to secure satisfactory settlement immediately after leaving school (as otherwise "the hopes of 14 turn into the cynicism of 21"), remedy of the present serious lack of training courses for disabled young people, and intensive medical and surgical treatment, including the provision of necessary aid and appliances.

There are several references to the very excellent work of the Glasgow Outdoor Mission to the Deaf, a voluntary body, and the suggestion is made that similar success might be attained in other disabilities if the same deep insight and interest were shown.

A short account is given of the work of the Danish Invalidity Court from which it is inferred that vocational training for disabled young persons is more widely practised in Denmark than in this country.

A. S. DOIG

Slough Industrial Health Service. Fifth Annual Report for 1951-52. By A. Austin Eagger, with Foreword by Sir Noel Mobbs. (Pp. 39. 2s.) 1952.

This is not only a report for the year 1951-52, but also an account of the development of the Service during its first five years. The scheme has expanded from serving 52 member firms in 1947 to 143 with 15,175 employees today, but there are still some 150 factories which have not joined the Service.

For this lack of interest among some managements and workers, Dr. Eagger suggests the reasons may be economic, an impression that industrial health services are a State responsibility, or simply apathy.

The experimental nature of the original plan is stressed. Certain facilities had to be provided to ascertain their value. With this experience and the need for economy, it has been both necessary and possible to modify the original plan but still to provide for essentials.

The report deals with various aspects of the Service in some detail. The Occupational Hygiene Team, which was formed jointly with the Occupational Health Unit of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, has been doing valuable field work in the detection and control of toxic hazards for the member firms, and also for outside bodies through enquiries submitted to the School of Hygiene.

The Casualty Service has not changed its form to any great extent over the five years, though a hand clinic has recently been introduced.

The Physiotherapy Department's work has increased each year, and in the year under review 31,089 treatments were given to 4,084 patients. Patients are referred not

only by the Service, but also by the staffs of local hospitals and general practitioners.

The Social Service Department is a recent innovation. The social service officer deals with many medico-social problems which are referred by the medical officers or by the management of firms. This has been shown to be valuable in an area where many of the firms are so small that they have no welfare service of their own.

Farnham Park Recuperative Centre is an integral part of the Service with accommodation for 66 in-patients and 20 out-patients. In five years 2,432 men and women have been treated here. There are full facilities for occupational therapy, physiotherapy, and remedial gymnastics, with a balanced programme of education and recreation. The facilities provided by the social service department are particularly valuable in this centre. There is close cooperation with the Government Training Centre in the rehabilitation and assessment of patients.

The statistical report gives a general picture of the amount and type of work done in the various clinics and departments, and of the types of defects found at medical examinations. It is unfortunate that progressive simplification of the records system on the grounds of economy has prevented comparison of the statistics for more than the past three years. It is also a pity that it has not been possible to present comprehensive morbidity statistics for all this large industrial population, but the multiplicity of organizations obviously make this difficult.

The report shows that the sponsors, council of management, and staff can be well satisfied with their achievements in this important experiment. However, its financial position is not very healthy. During 1951-52 there was a deficit of about £3,500 and there is an overdraft of £12,778. The Nuffield Provincial Hospitals Trust is now only supporting the Occupational Hygiene Team. The North-West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board contributes two-thirds of the total cost of the Service. This meets a large proportion of the cost of the work carried out at the Recuperative Centre and in the therapeutic clinics.

From the accounts it is not possible to get more than a rough estimate of the cost of the preventive and casualty part of the services as opposed to the therapeutic services, which are really provided on behalf of the National Health Service.

However, the report will be of value to all those who are interested in the development of a comprehensive occupational health service.

A. RAFFLE

Biological Hazards of Atomic Energy. Edited by A. Haddow. (Pp. 225 plus index; illustrated. 35s. net.) Oxford University Press (London: Geoffrey Cumberlege). 1952.

What are the dangers in exposure to ionizing radiations? How can they be minimized? These questions were considered at a conference sponsored jointly by the Institute of Biology and the Atomic Scientists Association in October, 1950, the proceedings of which are reported