by doctors, but by all those interested in the subject. The author has succeeded in his difficult task and his book will stimulate doctors reading it to take more interest in their patients' working environment, and laymen to appreciate the part they can play in making industry safer. It stresses the value of the team, including physicians, chemists, engineers, employers, and employees, in tackling industrial accidents and hazards.

The history of industrial medicine is frankly and graphically told, and the summary of legislation affecting working conditions is factual and clear. The importance of accident prevention is demonstrated by descriptions of the hazards met with in a number of heavy industries.

The second half of the book is principally concerned with prescribed diseases, but also includes some excellent sections on dangerous materials not yet in this category. Accounts of various disasters, when inadequate precautions were taken, in handling organic compounds, such as insecticides, should be a warning to all who are concerned with the manufacture, marketing, and application of new potentially dangerous chemicals.

To assist the layman there is a glossary of technical terms, and the author, having stimulated his reader's interest in this important subject, provides a list of books and papers for further study.

It is to be hoped that subsequent editions will include a chapter on the place of epidemiological and statistical methods in investigating accidents, industrial hazards, and the causes of sickness absence.

W. E. CHIESMAN


This should prove a useful book for all those concerned with the health of the industrial worker, including executives and trade unionists. For, as the authors wisely state in their preface, "The health of the industrial worker does not lie in the hands of those whose training makes them experts in this subject but of those who control industry . . .". For the new industrial medical officer, too, it provides an excellent summary of occupational diseases and control methods in a great number of industries. For the expert, its value—although still considerable—is limited by a tantalizing lack of references: there are only 36 in the entire book.

The book is divided into three parts. The first part describes the physical, biological, and chemical causes of industrial diseases. There are some excellent simple accounts of such things as radiant energy and the chemistry of the hydrocarbons which can be understood without previous technical knowledge.

In the second part the principles of the prevention of industrial disease—substitution, segregation, enclosure, exhaust ventilation, wet methods, protective clothing—are described and an account of air sampling and analysis is given. The extensive practical experience of the authors is apparent and many examples are given to illustrate the underlying principles. The chapter on exhaust ventilation, the longest and one of the best in the book, combines a simple theoretical explanation of air flow, with a practical account of the design of ventilation systems. The tables of air engineering data, which are also included, are unlikely to be used by many readers; but they serve to illustrate some of the technical problems.

The third part of the book concerns the comfort of the worker which, though it cannot be divorced from his health, requires environmental conditions better than the minimum necessary to prevent illness. It contains chapters on ventilation and heating, lighting and colour, and noise. A short, carefully chosen bibliography is given. Also, there is a 10-page glossary of chemical substances commonly used in industry. For each substance is given the chemical formula, physical state, main uses, its most likely mode of entry into the body, and its chief effects.

The inevitable difficulty of presenting technical information simply and concisely to readers with differing background knowledge and differing needs for new information is apparent in this book. For example, the authors could be criticised for omitting some detail which should properly be included in a comprehensive treatise: on the other hand, it is possible to argue that there is already too much detail and that more would deter those who should be encouraged to read the book. On the whole, the authors are to be congratulated on their selection of material and cannot be accused of oversimplification.

This, the first book of its kind from this side of the Atlantic, is a valuable contribution to bridging the gulfs which exist between medicine, industrial hygiene, and industrial management. The authors state that "the reader of this book will not necessarily discover how to swim, but it is hoped that he will learn to judge the depth of the water". Industrial medical officers should have this book and lend it to their non-medical friends.

C. H. WOOD


The author has developed the classification of the first edition and many additional conditions are discussed.

After a short review of recent developments he describes the various human physiological types, noting the average proportions and the usual relationships between height, chest measurement, and weight. It is pointed out that many persons vary so much from the normal as to be handicapped when using conventional equipment. Accident proneness also receives attention.

Methods for studying fatigue are described together with measures to lessen its severity. The effects of physical agents are described and in this section recent work on the effects of raised or lowered atmospheric pressure is noted.

Among the infections commonly contracted from certain special kinds of work Molfino includes epizootic foot and mouth disease, Q fever, ankylostomiasis, and many others. Dust diseases receive attention, and there is a good chapter on the symptoms caused by vibrating tools, for which dihydroergocornine and other ergot