A magnificent account of the early history of the medical aspects of occupations, *Man and His Work*, is followed by a description of the industrial revolution and social reforms in the nineteenth century. The crisp sub-headings show the existing character of the book, e.g. Greek Prejudice against Manual Labour; Evil State of the Towns; The Sweating System; and The Climbing Boys. Later chapters describe the health of the worker in the twentieth century with succinct accounts of legislation and the development of the social services as they affect people at work. The description of toxicology, diseases due to physical agents, the pneumoconioses, accidents, occupational cancer, and occupational diseases due to infections are clear and adequate. Numerous references for further study are given at the end of each chapter. The extracts from the works of nineteenth-century novelists and poets are well chosen and have no doubt stimulated many readers to turn to the original volumes. Perhaps the quality that is most apparent is *enthusiasm*, strongly imparted by this book, which is so much more of a joy to read than multi-author works. Dr. Hunter gives full acknowledgment to his colleagues but it is his own drive and enthusiasm that are evident in the style and make the book such a delight to read.

This third edition contains numerous additions and amendments, with additional illustrations. It is a wonderful collection of occupational health lore, with the emphasis on the clinical aspects. The index is now very good indeed—65 pages of it, covering some 9,000 items!

Strongly recommended, this is now the standard work on industrial medicine for those entering a career in this branch and for the many general practitioners who undertake part-time factory work.

L. G. NORMAN

Études de Physiologie et de Pathologie du Travail. (Pp. 630; illustrated.) Luxembourg: Communauté Européenne du Charbon et de l'Acier. Haute Autorité. 1961.

This massive volume is an account of 166 research projects sponsored by the High Authority during its first four years of effective operation. The subject matter ranges from dust retention in the lungs and its physiological effects to rehabilitation and the effect of noise and high temperature on performance. The work was carried out at 72 centres whose activities were not initially co-ordinated. There was therefore need for standardization of techniques, definition of problems, and preparation of integrated programmes for research. This ground work does not appear to have been carried out. In particular there is no evidence that the High Authority is planning epidemiological surveys which experience in this country has shown to be essential both to describe the effects on health of components of the mining environment and to judge the effectiveness of remedial action.

The account is uncritical and on the relatively few occasions when reference is made to authorities outside the Community the sources are not provided. For example, no reference is given for the internationally agreed I.L.O. radiological classification of coal-workers' pneumoconiosis, and it is remarkable, when considering

the physiological changes accompanying pneumoconiosis, that no mention is made of the work of the Medical Research Council, Pneumoconiosis Research Unit. The book, which is in French throughout, contains no summaries and there is no acknowledgement to the other languages used in the Community, except in the appendix where titles are given to 304 publications on which the report is based. Many of these papers are summarized more critically in numbers of the *Bulletin of Hygiene*, and for fuller details the original articles should be consulted. The present account cannot be recommended except to medical historians, and there is real doubt if the money and effort put into its preparation was worth while.

J. E. COTES

Some Social and Industrial Implications of Shift Work. By James H. Downie. (Pp. 24; 3s. 6d.) London: Industrial Welfare Society. 1963.

This is a summary of an investigation by study groups which were formed by the United Kingdom members of H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh's Study Conference, 1956.

It summarizes the views of a number of these groups and individuals from a wide variety of areas of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and more than 100 questionnaires completed by shift workers in various industries in the Leicester area.

A report on a subject such as this is bound to be diffuse because of the number of factors involved, but it summarizes in a useful form all the views and prejudices which are common on this subject.

It points out that there is no direct evidence that shift work harms health, but without stressing the possibility that this is because those who are affected by shift work either do not enter shift work jobs or quickly leave them.

The conclusions are that shift work mainly affects the social well being of those involved in it.

This will be a useful booklet for management and doctors in those industries where shift work is being increasingly introduced.

P. A. B. RAFFLE

Lehrbuch der Arbeitsmedizin. Band i. Allgemeine Physiologie Pathologie—Fürsorge. (Textbook of Occupational Medicine. Vol. i. General Physiology Pathology—Welfare.) By Dr. Franz Koelsch. (Pp. viii + 748; DM 99) Stuttgart: Enke. 1963.

This is the first volume of a revised edition of Dr. Koelsch's textbook previously published under the title *Textbook of Occupational Hygiene*. At first sight, it seems a formidable tome for in its 748 pages there are no illustrations and few tables. However it makes very easy reading, partly because the author's style is direct and partly because the book is written for laymen interested in the workman's health, as well as for doctors working in industry.

The early part of the book is concerned with the physiological aspects of the worker's relationship to his work. It goes on from a definition of the normal man to discuss many familiar problems such as fatigue, job selection, and juvenile employment. In regard to the latter the theme is in the saying "A farmer would not think of yoking a foal or a calf to the plough". The