

BOOK REVIEWS

A Handbook for Occupational Health Nurses. By Marion M. West. (Pp. 180; 20s.) London: Edward Arnold. 1962.

This is a valuable book not only for the occupational health nurse starting in industry, but also for the nurse already established or who is engaged in teaching occupational health. The third edition has been revised and largely re-written to bring up to date the knowledge and skill required of the nurse to enable her to meet the new demands made upon her by the expansion in modern industrial technology and recent legislation.

The history of industrial nursing in the first chapter is obviously the product of a deep knowledge and wide experience. The provisions of the Factory Acts which the author has selected as being of interest to the nurse in the U.K. are well chosen and include the recent regulations for first-aid boxes in factories. The work of the appointed factory doctor is also outlined. The pride of the author in her profession shines brightly in her section on ethics for the industrial nurse, and every nurse in industry should read this chapter.

Miss B. M. Slaney has helped in the revision of the chapters on the health department, records and reports, and on the treatment to be given by the nurse. Due emphasis is placed on the limits to which the nurse may go without the supervision or instructions of a doctor. There is a refreshing absence of the stereotyped photographs of health departments so often included in works of this description.

There is a great deal of useful information in this book, not least the last chapter, which contains details of organizations with which the occupational health nurse is likely to be associated or to which she can refer for help or guidance. The nurse's horizon will be widened by the further reading of the recommended list at the end of each chapter.

In the next edition—and a fourth will surely come—one hopes to see rather more than a few lines about industrial dermatitis, as much a problem and a dilemma to many nurses as are eye injuries which, deservedly, have a whole chapter by Dr. H. F. Chard. Possibly some of the specimens of record forms could be sacrificed to make more space for the discussion and treatment of dermatitis and of burns, another common and serious industrial hazard which receives only one paragraph.

But it is captious to make petty criticism of a book which contains so much information so well presented and which demonstrates so clearly the scope of the occupational health nurse. This handbook will help her to meet the increasing complexity of modern scientific, industrial, and business methods.

T. S. SCOTT

Temperature, its Measurement and Control in Science and Industry, Vol. III, Part 3, Biology and Medicine. Edited by James D. Hardy. (Pp. 683; illustrated; 180s.) New York: Reinhold; London: Chapman and Hall. 1963.

The contents of this book represent the proceedings of the medical and biological section of a symposium of the same name, and is the latest in a series of such symposia. The sub-committee responsible is to be congratulated on devising a comprehensive programme of contributions of a high standard. The symposium is divided into seven sections: (1) Temperature measurement and calorimetry, concerned wholly with techniques; (2) temperature effects in biological systems, with papers on comparative biological problems; it also contains an admirably simple explanation of the importance of counter-current heat exchanges in thermoregulation; (3) tissue heating and thermal sensation, dealing largely with problems concerned with radiant heat, the skin, and its nerve receptors; (4) physiological responses to heat, which first considers the responses of specific physiological systems and then whole-body responses, and includes a paper on psychological performance; (5) physiological responses to cold, in which appear papers dealing with thermoregulatory mechanisms with an emphasis on metabolic changes and hibernation; (6) hypothermia, which deals with physiological mechanisms in body cooling, methods of induction of hypothermia, and their practical value; and (7) temperature regulation, in which the predominant subject is the role of the hypothalamus in thermoregulation. The scope of the symposium is at once broad and detailed, and this book must serve as an excellent source of information on current concepts and development in thought about the responses of man and animals to their thermal environment. The time lag between the symposium and its publication, so often a source of criticism, is long at just over two years, and the cost of the book is high at £9.

A. R. LIND

First Aid in the Factory, 2nd ed. By Lord Taylor. (Pp. 146; 75 figs; 10s. 6d.) London: Longmans Green. 1962.

The second edition of *First Aid in the Factory* shows little variation from the first. One main addition is the inclusion of a comprehensive section on the 'mouth to mouth' method of artificial respiration, and the authors must be congratulated on the clarity of their description and for including the answers to some of the common questions.

The criticism of the orthodox first-aid manuals is unduly harsh; criticism might more properly have been