

Milk Hygiene is sub-titled *Hygiene in Milk Production, Processing and Distribution*, and its 37 distinguished contributors attempt to cover this wide field from a practical point of view. That this is an urgent problem is emphasized by the estimate in the final chapter that a new milk plant, with a capacity of 100,000 litres per day, should be opened every two weeks for the next 10 years in the underdeveloped countries just to provide the expected increase of 65 million in the child population with 0.25 litre/day each. The areas with the greatest need are just those where the problems of adequate milk production per animal, of prevention of contamination, and of preservation of milk until it can reach the consumer are greatest. Drawing on the experience of countries which have virtually eliminated the spread of milk-borne disease, the contributors make detailed proposals for organizing efficient and safe milk production under various environmental conditions. Their reminder of the importance of the education and training of milk handlers is timely, even for a country such as Great Britain.

J. LEESON

Text-book of Orthopaedic Medicine, Vol. I. Diagnosis of Soft Tissue Lesions, 4th ed. By James Cyriax. (Pp. xiv + 735; 134 figs. + 40 plates; 55s.) Cassell, London. 1962.

Dr. Cyriax, physician to the Department of Physical Medicine at St. Thomas's Hospital, needs no introduction, nor should this book as it is now in its fourth edition.

The book is of great interest to all who practise medicine even though some may disagree with some of his deductions.

The chapter on referred pain is clear and concise, and a knowledge of it, as is forcibly pointed out, gives the only chance of accurate diagnosis in many unfortunate people who are labelled anything from 'arthritic' to 'neurotic', both equally damaging to the patient and in the long run to the doctor.

Dr. Cyriax's plea for an open-minded approach is an attitude about which many doctors might learn much from their scientific colleagues.

My only major criticism of this book concerns the chapter on psychogenic pain, undoubtedly because it is an 'extra'. I find it quite impossible, with the majority of patients, to divide people suffering from pain into physical or psychogenic, and this is the impression given by this chapter, though I doubt that this is Dr. Cyriax's intention.

There are some very scathing words written about intermittent mis-directed prolonged physiotherapy and also medico-legal problems with which the reviewer completely agrees.

The book is easy to read, the diagrams are clear, and the paper has not got the glossy finish so tiring to the eyes.

J. R. BURROWS

Air Sampling Instruments for Evaluation of Atmospheric Contaminants, 2nd ed. (Pp. vii + 424; illustrated; \$8.00 soft bound, \$9.50 hard bound). American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists, 1014 Broadway, Cincinnati 2, Ohio. 1962.

In this country, at least, many workers in the field of occupational hygiene have not had the opportunity to undergo formal instruction in their subject and yet may be called upon to carry out environmental determinations of a wide range of substances. Nor is the task of literature study made easy, for many of the standard textbooks devote but little space to detailed descriptions of air sampling equipment, and articles dealing with this aspect are scattered throughout a very wide range of publications.

There should, therefore, be a warm welcome for the volume which is the subject of this review. In a series of five introductory papers the principles of air sampling are reviewed under the headings of:- Air sampling and analysis for contaminants; aerosol sampling and the importance of particle size; home-made instruments; calibration of air sampling instruments; and factors affecting the selection of an air sampling method. The main body of the book is occupied with reviews of specific types of instruments ranging from air movers and filter media through electrostatic and thermal precipitators to direct reading colorimetric devices and physical instrumentation. Each review takes the form of an introductory technical section in which the inherent capabilities, sensitivities, advantages, and limitations of the particular methods are discussed, followed by descriptions of current instruments, supplied by the manufacturers. The majority of the instruments described are manufactured in the U.S.A., but the increased availability of these products in this country makes this less of a disadvantage than would have been the case a few years ago. Indeed it is a sign of the development of occupational hygiene in this country that more of our own manufacturers are now becoming interested in meeting demands for air sampling equipment.

D. E. HICKISH

Occupational Health Problems in Agriculture. *W.H.O. Tech. Rep. Ser.* No. 246. Joint I.L.O./W.H.O. Committee on Occupational Health. (Pp. 61; 3s. 6d.) Geneva: W.H.O. 1962.

In view of the recent appearance in this country of the first report on Safety, Health and Welfare in Agriculture it is opportune to see this short booklet which is the report of a joint I.L.O./W.H.O. Committee on Occupational Health Problems in Agriculture. The subject is considered under four headings.

Public Health Problems related to agricultural work embrace housing conditions, water, and sewage disposal. Specific problems include the economic situation of the agricultural worker in the community and the economic vulnerability of those workers to the caprice of the weather. Accidents on the farm are considered under the heading of Public Health Problems. It is noted that accidents are a leading cause of death and disability.

Toxic Hazards are a relatively new problem to agriculture and have attracted a good deal of attention and legislation. But to keep this in perspective it is pointed out that in the U.K. and U.S.A., at least, accidents from mechanical equipment far outnumber those from poisoning (nevertheless 'Toxic Hazards' occupies nine pages of the report, compared with one and a half devoted to farm accidents). Much trouble seems to stem

from the unfamiliarity of farmers and farm workers handling potentially dangerous materials in bulk, one important result of which is wrong disposal of the container with serious results.

Occupational Diseases in agriculture, as in industry, provide a difficulty of definition. The committee met this by dividing the diseases into those principally, those occasionally, and those questionably contracted through an agricultural occupation (it is interesting to find 'Orf' in the second group and cowpox in the third). The difficulties of collecting data are mentioned and protective measures are discussed.

Organization of Occupational Health in Agriculture is the title of the final section. In view of the overlap, in the case of the agricultural worker, between occupational and general health problems (and the likelihood that non-occupational health risks form the higher proportion) it is suggested that, in developing countries, occupational health be 'integrated within the framework of public health and medical care'.

Whilst this booklet will obviously be of interest to medical practitioners concerned with the protection of the health of agricultural workers, it should provide an interesting half hour of reading for any industrial medical officer, particularly as it considers from first principles, albeit in very general terms, the occupational health problems of a group of workers and the relation of these problems to other community medical problems and medical services.

W. R. LEE

Handbook of Treatment of Acute Poisoning. By E. H. Bensley and G. E. Joran. (Pp. 227; 15s.) London: Livingstone. 1963.

The preface to this book states that 'although many industrial poisons are included we have not attempted to cover this field'. There is, therefore, a lot of material which is unlikely to be of special industrial interest (glutethimide, gold, mushrooms) and where industrial poisons are mentioned stress is laid on the acute effects, even if these are relatively uncommon; 'the use of mercury in industry sometimes leads to acute intoxication through inhalation of the dust or vapour'; 'in acute poisoning (with benzene) the most prominent feature is stimulation of the central nervous system followed by depression . . . action in the bone marrow, a characteristic feature of chronic intoxication, does not play an important part in acute poisoning'.

Rather more than 50 poisons are dealt with in about 200 pages. Thus each poison has a brief note on its use, actions, and symptomology of poisoning. Treatment in every case is considered under the headings of Treatment before Arrival of Physician, and Treatment after the Arrival of the Physician. This is written in brief note form and includes not only the immediate treatment but the measures to be taken in hospital as well.

Although one can well imagine this book to be of great value in the pocket of a general practitioner, industrial doctors can, as the authors of this book point out, 'anticipate hazards and thus have ample opportunity to obtain the information they need from standard texts . . . on industrial toxicology'.

W. R. LEE

Notices

British Occupational Hygiene Society

The Second International Symposium on Inhaled Particles and Vapours is to be held in September, 1965 in the United Kingdom (provisionally at Cambridge) as a sequel to the first conference held at Oxford in 1960.

The theme will be advances in knowledge of basic mechanisms governing the entry of foreign material into the lungs and the response of the lungs and body to inhaled matter. The following are some of the topics to be discussed: Anatomy and physiology of the respiratory tract relevant to inhaled material. The relation between exposure and body uptake for particulates and vapours; the effects of respiratory volume, flow pattern, rate, etc.; differences between individuals and between men and animals. The deposition, elimination, and storage of inhaled material; the significance of the physical properties of aerosols, such as size, density, particle shape (compact and fibrous), solubility, electric charge, aggregation, and effects of condensation. Absorption and fate of inhaled vapours. Pathological effects of inhaled material; biochemistry and immunology of tissue response, effect of bacterial infections, the pneumoconioses, and aspects of chronic bronchitis and lung cancer.

Contributions to the Symposium will be welcome from all countries. They should in general describe original research but some papers of a review nature will be accepted. Contributions will be subject to scrutiny by the Society's Honorary Editor with the help of an advisory Panel.

The Symposium is expected to last three or four days; full details will be announced later. Will those interested write to Dr. J. S. McLintock, c/o N.C.B., Hobart House, Grosvenor Place, London, S.W.1.

Mediterranean Society of Occupational Medicine

Last September, during the Fifteenth International Congress of Occupational Medicine held in Madrid, the Mediterranean Society of Occupational Medicine was founded and already many countries have joined.

A committee was set up on which the following countries are represented: Spain, by Professor Manuel Bermejillo Martinez, Director of the Institute of National Medicine and Occupational Safety (University of Madrid); France, by Professor P. Dervillé, Director of the Institute of Legal Medicine and Occupational Medicine in Bordeaux; Italy, by Professor Scipione Caccuri, Director of the Institute of Occupational Medicine (University of Naples); Yugoslavia, by Professor Miomir Savicevic of the Medicine Faculty (University of Belgrade); Greece, by Professor J. C. Melissinos, Director of the Occupational Board of Athens; Israel, by Dr. K. Dror and Morocco by Dr. Chaudron.

Professor Caccuri was elected President of the Mediterranean Society of Occupational Medicine and the general secretaries are Professors Dervillé and Melissinos.