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1956). The colour obtained with many carbonyl compounds, such as α -oxoglutarate, fades within 10 to 15 minutes, as contrasted with the colour from ALA, which is stable for several hours. Glycine, glucose, and succinic acid, in amounts of 10 mg., gave no appreciable colour under the conditions of the test (Shuster, 1956).

Grateful thanks are due to Professor R. C. Browne and to Dr. J. Steel for their kind supervision, to Mr. R. W. Ellis for his expert technical assistance, to Dr.

D. J. Newell and Mrs. D. Weightman for statistical help, and to the Ministry of Education of the United Arab Republic who supported this work.

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THE OCTOBER (1963) ISSUE

The October (1963) issue contains the following papers:—

The Successful Prevention of Silicosis among China Biscuit Workers in the North Staffordshire Potteries.
A. MEIKLEJOHN

Aluminium Pneumoconiosis. I. *In vitro* Comparison of Stamped Aluminium Powders Containing Different Lubricating Agents and a Granular Aluminium Powder. B. CORRIN

Aluminium Pneumoconiosis. II. Effect on the Rat Lung of Intratracheal Injections of Stamped Aluminium Powders Containing Different Lubricating Agents and of a Granular Aluminium Powder. B. CORRIN

Energy Expenditure Ranges and Muscular Work Grades. J. R. BROWN and G. P. CROWDEN

The Control of Operating-suite Temperatures. F. P. ELLIS

Effect of Dust Suppression Measures on the Prevalence of Coal-workers' Pneumoconiosis in the Dutch Coal-mines. Ch. A. M. HENDRIKS and H. CLAUS

A Comparison of Some Alternative Procedures in the Classification of Chest Radiographs for Coal-workers' Pneumoconiosis. S. RAE, J. R. ASHFORD, D. C. MORGAN, R. S. H. PASQUAL, and N. G. PEARSON

An Experiment in Film Reading. F. D. K. LIDDELL

A Follow-up Study of Lead Workers. I. DINGWALL-FORDYCE and R. E. LANE

The Mechanical Fragility of the Red Cell in Patients with Lead Poisoning. A. J. de KRETSEK and H. A. WALDRON

Byssinosis Prevalence and Flax Processing. A. BOUHUYS, F. HARTOGENSIS, and H. J. H. KORFAGE

Blood Groups of Miners with Coal-workers' Pneumoconiosis and Bronchitis. I. T. T. HIGGINS, P. D. OLDHAM, G. S. KILPATRICK, R. J. DRUMMOND, and B. BEVAN

Book Reviews

Index to Volume 20

A number of copies are still available and may be obtained from the Publishing Manager, British Medical Association, Tavistock Square, W.C.1. price 18s. 6d.

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.