BOOK REVIEWS

Rochdale Industrial Health Service. Third Annual Report. (P. 19; no price stated.) 1966.

It takes a good deal of time to establish an industrial health service, and this is only the Third Annual Report of the Rochdale experiment. No service can be expected to break even in the third year, which is liable to be a stage of considerable promotional activity with not overmuch to show for it. But there are reasonable gains to report. Income is now £9,449 and expenditure £14,782, and the problem for the next few years, therefore, will be to bring these figures into balance. About 5,400 employees are covered by the Service, so far. Items of more than usual interest in the Report are that a new headquarters and central clinic building, appropriately named Nuffield House, has just been opened, and that some research on byssinosis is being conducted in collaboration with the Department of Occupational Health and Applied Physiology of the London School of Hygiene.

This Service has made quite a good start, as the brochure explains. If the reviewer had an administrative interest in it, he would pay particular attention to the turnover of personnel connected with it, to the expenditure on travelling, and to the work done in relation to the staff employed. We wish it well.

R. C. BROWNE

How to Get Industrial Injuries Benefit. By J. Bell. (Pp. 275; 35s.; Paperback 18s. 6d.) London: Sweet and Maxwell. 1966.

This little book has been written by a former Trades Union Claims Officer and is based on a wide personal experience of disputed injury claims. Those matters which the author found to occur commonly have been fully treated, while little contested points are purposely omitted, *e.g.*, unemployment supplement and constant attendance allowance.

The book must be used in conjunction with the Statutes Regulations and Orders in force (to be found in "The Law Relating to National Insurance (Industrial Injuries)") as well as with Commissioner's Decisions.

A useful section deals with the common reasons for Medical Board decisions being referred to the Medical Appeal Tribunal.

The book would appear to be of considerable value to those who are engaged in the practical exercise of advising workmen about their industrial injury claims, particularly with a view to seeing that benefit is not missed.

It is likely, however, to be of somewhat less value to the student whose requirements are more superficial and

who merely wishes to learn something of the Industrial Injuries Act.

R. E. LANE

Chemicals Used in Food Processing. Publication 1274. (Pp. 794; \$6.50.) Washington, D.C.: National Academy of Sciences—National Research Council. 1965.

To those not intimately concerned with food manufacture, the vast number and variety of compounds employed directly or indirectly in food processing presents a bewildering array. What is more, one seeks in vain for a work of reference that lists them all, indicates their functions and range of levels of use—or, rather, one sought in vain until the appearance of the monograph under review.

This compilation has evolved from two earlier publications of the National Research Council's Food Protection Committee. As one has come to expect from this body, one finds a lucid, concise, and informative account of the nature and functions of the various categories of food additives. This introductory section is followed by lists of additives grouped under 12 headings. Of these, the list of flavouring agents, natural and synthetic, occupies nearly 200 pages! Many of the 'synthetics' are of course compounds that exist in nature and, where this is the case, the natural sources are listed. Finally, there is an excellent index.

The lists themselves are a mine of information. For each additive the reader is provided with a detailed statement of functions and usages, with the corresponding range or maximum levels of use for each application. The full significance of technical terminology of the food processor may escape us; for instance, sodium citrate is used at 0.1% in cream to prevent 'cream plug' and at 0.012 to 0.37% to prevent 'feathering' in coffee cream. At any rate, the applications of this particular sequestrant are all set out and one knows that it may constitute up to 3.0% of processed cheese.

The only shortcoming of this valuable work is the fact that it inevitably reflects U.S. legislation and technical practice. Hence some of the information is inapplicable elsewhere. Nevertheless one envisages its main use as an invaluable source of information regarding the use in food of particular chemicals, such as Musk ambrette or Yara yara, to name but two.

L. GOLBERG

The Evaluation of the Built Environment. By R. G. Hopkinson. (Pp. 27; 5s.) London: H. K. Lewis. 1966.

This is an Inaugural Lecture by the Haden-Pilkington Professor of Environmental Design and Engineering in the University of London. Professor Hopkinson discusses the need to set standards, to develop valid techniques for setting the standards, and to develop methods of sensory evaluation in the completed building which will reveal whether or not the standards have been met at a subjective level.

Much of the lecture is devoted to methods of correlating the physical measurements of the environment with the subjective sensations of observers. For a time, with increasing familiarity with an environment the observer becomes more sensitive to its imperfections until a steady state is reached—his subjective impressions are then more valid and reproducible. In designing experiments it has to be remembered that, broadly, successive doubling of the strength of a stimulus to a sensory system is required to produce equal changes in the subjective sensation.

The illustrative examples are mainly from the effects of environment on vision—in particular refinements in the daylight lighting factor and glare index and their application to the design of schools and hospitals.

This interesting and closely argued lecture is rounded off with a discussion on the implications for architecture and town planning of the development of validate standards for all aspects of the built environment.

P. A. B. RAFFLE

Compendium of Emergencies, 2nd Ed. Ed. H. Gardiner-Hill. (Pp. 374; 60s.) London: Butterworths. 1965.

It is not surprising that the first edition of this book, which appeared in 1963, was sold out so quickly. Dr. Gardiner-Hill, the editor, was wise to prepare a second edition rather than a reprint. This made it possible for his authors to revise and bring up to date the material in the original chapters.

In this edition there are three more chapters, each written by a specialist in the subject; the new section on air, sea, and underwater hazards could well have been fuller, especially on in-flight emergencies, and the hazards of high-altitude flying are not dealt with but the emergency problems of drowning, underwater hazards and decompression sickness are succinctly and adequately described. The new chapter on burns and scalds comprises an excellent up-to-date description of their assessment and treatment.

This is not a book for the first-aider. It is an informed description of the nature, pathology, diagnosis, treatment, and management of medical and surgical emergencies. The new chapter on the hazards of medical procedures is therefore perhaps not misplaced in this volume, and it may be necessary reading to those who have to undertake some of the procedures advocated in the rest of the text, procedures as routine as blood transfusion or as esoteric as pericardial aspiration.

It should be emphasized that this is a book for doctors who may have to undertake emergency treatment in conditions outside their own spheres of practice. Industrial medical officers should find it of great practical

value when they are faced with certain serious emergencies and when specialist help is not immediately available.

T. S. SCOTT

The Prevention and Control of Dust Diseases in Industry. (Pp. 20.) London: British Chemical Industries Safety Council. 1966.

This publication is the most recent in a series on medical care and safety published by the British Chemical Industries Safety Council which was established as a joint body by the Association of British Chemical Manufacturers and the Association of Chemical and Allied Employers now amalgamated as the Chemical Industries Association. The size of the pamphlet precludes it from being a comprehensive treatise on dust disease but it summarizes well the physical properties of dust and the various types of pneumoconiosis. The control of dust in industry is discussed on general principles of occupational hygiene. A comparison of the relative efficacy of the different types of dust mask is made. Methods of estimating dust in the working environment are described shortly but no real comparison of their value or any recommendation of which to apply in any given situation is made.

The booklet contains little for the expert but for the novice in industrial medicine and the lay administrator it provides a broad outline of the problems created by dusts in industry, of the means at present available for assessing them, and methods for the suppression of dust in the atmosphere. It is a useful starting point for the layman or the doctor unfamiliar with industrial problems who wants an introduction to the general aspects of occupational dust disease.

T. S. SCOTT

Death Rates by Site, Age and Sex 1911-1960, Scotland. Series 1. All Causes of Death. Deaths from Cancer at all Sites. Deaths from Cancer of the Digestive Organs. Compiled by Joyce L. Harley and Catherine A. Hytten. (Pp. 49). University of Aberdeen: Dept. of Public Health and Social Medicine, 1966.

This is the first of a set of publications showing the mortality rates in Scotland from cancer from 1911 to 1960, by site, sex, and age, and also mortality rates from 'all causes'. The method of presenting the tables follows that described by Case and Lea as comparative cohort analysis. This volume contains the rates for 'all causes' and for cancer of the various sites of the digestive organs. The denominators on which the rates are based are shown in separate tables.

Workers in research and teaching of epidemiology will be grateful to the authors because tables of this type are essential in our libraries and it needs a great deal of work to prepare them. Cohort analysis, as the method is called, has proved its value in a number of instances, and mortality studies in general still have a lot to offer. The tables are well set out and the explanatory notes are adequate although a beginner may want to