facets. Rather surprisingly, nothing about atomic energy and its waste disposal is said, notwithstanding the fact that many large tracts of country cannot develop because they have no water which might be provided from the sea with a desalting plant energized by an atomic power station.

R. C. BROWNE

Occupational Disease in California—1965.

Prepared by Goldy D. Kleinman, Public Health Statistician, with assistance from the staff of the Bureau of Occupational Health and the Auxiliary Services Unit of the Data Processing Center. (Pp. 45; copies available free as long as supplies last from: State of California, Department of Public Health Bureau of Occupational Health, 2151 Berkeley Way, Berkeley, California, 94704.)

This contains a short, well-written analysis, of the pattern in 1965 of occupational diseases in California, supplemented by descriptive statistics, covering about 80% of the total employed population. The information comes mainly from about 27,000 'doctor's first reports' of selected occupational disease. These first reports are required by State law and must be furnished by physicians who give other than first-aid treatment to injured employees. The 80% covers a wide range of occupations including agriculture, mineral extraction, construction, manufacturing, transportation, and local government service. Those not included in the 80% are federal employees, and maritime and railway employees, for whom there are separate compensation provisions, and the self-employed, for whom there are no provisions.

The Californian method of presenting descriptive statistics for nearly all categories of employment is in marked contrast to the departmentalized national figures produced in the United Kingdom.

Apart from the descriptive statistics, Kleinman and his staff comment on the limitations of the Californian system of notification and the validity of 'first reports'. The latter, although not a good means for the recognition of new problems, accurately identify acute occupational disease. However, there is evidence of under-reporting of chronic conditions including, surprisingly, pneumoconiosis.

Despite a wealth of material, the report is commendably brief and lucid, and I recommend it to anyone who is interested in the incidence of occupational disease.

G. R. C. ATHERLEY

Anglo American Corporation of South Africa Limited: Consultant's Report 1966. (Pp. 44; 34 tables; one histogram; no price stated.) Johannesburg: Anglo American Corporation of South Africa Limited, 1966.

The Anglo American Corporation of South Africa operates gold mines, diamond mines, and collieries in many parts of South Africa and also in Zambia. It employs over 150,000 Africans, and a full-scale medical service, including nearly 3,000 hospital beds, is provided for them. The present report gives an account of the activities of the Medical Department during 1966, and some of the difficulties in providing an efficient treatment

service in industries whose assets wane every year are described. In addition to planning changes in relation to the expected life of existing mines in a given area, the development of new ones has also to be taken into consideration. Staffing presents problems since medical officers come and go and too few young men apply for posts, although this is merely a reflection of the shortage of doctors in South Africa generally. The recruitment of nurses, however, has improved, especially since the South African Nursing Council gave approval for the training of African male nurses, and arrangements have been made accordingly in the hospitals of the Corporation. This is a great advance as they are almost non-existent elsewhere, and it is hoped in due course to extend the scheme so that female African nurses may also be trained by the Corporation. The costs of the hospitals have shown a steady rise, and it is estimated that expenditure on medical services is of the order of R2,000,000 per annum.

Of course, the Medical Service has other duties over and above that of providing treatment for illness and accident. It is charged in addition with responsibility for the Public Health which involves making a pure water supply available, seeing that there are adequate sewerage systems and that general village hygiene is properly maintained. Much is done to educate the African, not excluding procedures which are taken for granted in more advanced societies.

Administration places a heavy burden on the medical staff at the head office, and much time has to be spent on managerial functions with the result that research has tended to suffer although there is much scope for it. Nevertheless research has continued and indeed expanded, and reference is made to drug trials and B.C.G. and heat illness investigations as well as to an enquiry into tuberculosis in mines.

The greater part of the report, however, is devoted to comprehensive series of tables dealing with the causes of lost time due to illness and accident and with morbidity and mortality. The last two are presented by broad classifications for each of the regions in which the various undertakings are situated; the causes of death are reported in a similar manner although in more detail. Special tables are reserved for tuberculosis and pneumoconiosis, which are considered on a regional basis and also according to the kind of mining undertaken. Finally, hospital costs are tabulated for each of the different types of mining. An analysis of lost shifts and lost time rates per 1,000 per annum for disease, mine accidents, and other causes presented as a histogram, showing the experience at each individual mine, completes the statistical survey. The incidence naturally varies from one unit to another, but in general accidents account for only 10% of the number of shifts, and the amount of time lost due to illness.

The impression gained from this review is that of well-run treatment and public health services for considerable communities. The only criticism that can be offered is the fact that the specific problems of occupational health receive little mention, although no doubt they form part of the day-to-day work of the Department. This report is the swan-song of