recent development in the estimation of trichloroethylene, namely the use of long-running personal samplers.

G. F. SMITH

Teaching First Aid. Edited by Stanley Miles and Peter J. Roylance (Pp. 116; 18s.) London: Baillière, Tindall and Cassell. 1970.

This is a refreshing book. It is clear, simple, direct and, therefore, easy to understand. This is what one hopes for but seldom gets in a teaching manual.

The first part of the book is devoted to what to teach. There are some excellent chapter headings announcing, as in a good lecture, what the subject matter is about. For instance:

'Chapter 6. Burns and Scalds
Life Saving Action:

Immediate first treatment – wash with cold water; apply sterile dressings; give reassurance; repeated sips of water and early transfer to hospital.'

'Chapter 7. Fractures, Dislocations and Sprains.
Life Saving Action:

Stop any external bleeding by direct pressure; prevent injury becoming worse; reassure.'

Even some of the newer, unorthodox first aid books are encumbered with unnecessary detail. This book takes us a step nearer reality. The emphasis in dealing with the unconscious patient is rightly put on maintaining an airway and keeping the patient alive. The differential diagnosis of unconsciousness as attempted in the traditional first aid books is abandoned.

There is never a mention of stretcher drill which one suspects is only retained as a ceremonial ritual for the uniformed organizations.

There are some apt, concise concepts like the 'WET-COLD' patient suffering from hypothermia, or the transition in unconsciousness from the 'WHITE' fully conscious patient through various shades of grey to the 'BLACK' deeply unconscious patient. There is yet another attempt to explain shock in simple language, but it has not quite succeeded.

This part of the book forms an excellent basis for the teaching of the theoretical aspects of first aid. First aid is, however, essentially a practical subject and the guidance here, while useful, is less precise. This is probably because it is not possible to describe practical procedures in a few simple words without pictures. It is much easier to *show* than to *describe* them.

The second part of the book is a brave attempt to describe how to teach in just over 20 pages. Few people could improve on this without expanding the book well beyond its slim covers. The truth is that no textbook can replace a difficult period of apprenticeship and training when it comes to practical teaching. A few are born teachers, most have to acquire a competence which is better than their natural ability. There are, however, in this book a great number of useful tips and ideas.

The teacher who is anxious to improve his teaching techniques will find it a very valuable book indeed. He

must read it with a receptive mind and without prejudice. This, of course, is the trouble. Many teachers (not only teachers of first aid) are so complacently confident that they are blind to their own ineptitude. It will be the good teachers who will buy this book, agreeing with most of it, re-thinking about some aspects of first aid, and picking up some most useful practical teaching hints. As for the bad teachers, even a willingly subscribed presentation copy from a long-suffering first aid class is unlikely to be read.

G. O. HUGHES

Books received

Epidemiologia e Profilassi delle Malattie Respiratorie Acute di Origine Virale in Una Collettività Lavorativa. By Carmine Melino. (Pp. 90; 29 figs; no price stated) Rome: Istituto d'Igiene. 1969.

Specifications and Criteria for Identity and Purity of Some Flavouring Substances and Non-nutritive Sweetening Agents. (Price not stated) Geneva: W.H.O. 1969.

Arbeitsmedizinische Fragen in der Ophthalmologie. Edited by H-J Merté. (Pp. 288; 79 figs; 28 tables; 148s.) Basel and New York: Karger (distribution in U.K. through Academic Press, Berkeley Square, London, W.1.) 1969.

Experimental Pneumoconiosis. By S. H. Zaidi. (Pp. 326; illustrated; 143s.) Baltimore: John Hopkins Press. 1969.

Research in Health Education. Report of a W.H.O. Scientific Group. (Pp. 30; 6s.) Geneva: W.H.O. 1969.

Toxicological Evaluation of Some Food Colours, Emulsifiers, Stabilizers, Anti-caking Agents and Certain Other Substances. (Pp. 161; obtainable from Food Additives, W.H.O., Avenue Appia 1211, Geneva, Switzerland, free of charge) 1970.

Bericht über das Gesundheitswesen in Österreich im Jahre 1968. (Pp. 266; S.60) Vienna: Republik Österreich. 1970.

International Directory of Occupational Safety and Health Services and Institutions. (Pp. 515; obtainable free of charge from I.L.O., Geneva) 1969.

International Directory of Occupational Safety and Health Courses. (Pp. 128; obtainable free of charge from I.L.O. Geneva) 1970.

Notices

Sixth World Congress on Prevention of Occupational Accidents and Diseases

The Congress will be held in Vienna, 10-15 May 1971. Further information may be obtained from VI Weltkongress für Unfallverhütung, Postfach 745, A-1015, Vienna, Austria.