living environment for some chemical, physical or biological properties of airborne contaminants. The second part deals with the calibration and working principles of air-sampling instruments. It includes discussions on airflow metering and the production of monodisperse test aerosols.

The third and fourth parts consist of discussions and descriptions of what the authors term 'sample system components' and 'sample collectors', that includes air movers and samplers, sampling probes for ducts and stack sampling, sequential and tape samplers, filter media and filter holders, inertial and gravitational collectors, electrostatic and thermal precipitators, and gas and vapour samplers. The fifth part comprises discussion and descriptions of direct reading instruments such as colourimetric indicators and those for analysing airborne particles, gases, and vapours. The volume also includes a comprehensive glossary of terms and tables of conversion factors and equivalents and of atomic weights.

The coverage of this work is comprehensive. It is well illustrated and contains all the relevant literature references. The performances of the instruments described are those quoted by the manufacturers. Therefore they have to be checked for reliability, the authors warn. The addresses of all the manufacturers, whether based in the USA or not, are given. However, the list of distributing agents includes only those based in the USA.

This is undoubtedly an invaluable book for anyone concerned with the measurement of airborne substances.

F. F. CINKOTAI

Beyond Plastic Surgery. By Charles Beaver Edwards. (Pp. 135; illustrated; \$12.95.) Detroit: Wayne State University Press. 1972.

This is an account of the use of cosmetic prostheses in making good deficiencies, either congenital or acquired, in various parts of the body. The author has had a unique training for this type of work, being essentially an artist who obviously possesses much skill in sculpture. The book, presumably directed towards workers in the field of prosthetics, has considerable technical detail relative to the construction and colouring of prosthetic appliances. It is surprising, though, that latex is used almost exclusively for the prostheses. In this country, hard acrylic or silicone have largely replaced latex on account of their more durable qualities.

The creation of an artificial ear is taken as a basic model in the art of prosthetic construction and is given due emphasis. The method of duplicating the patient's natural ear in each case seems unnecessarily painstaking, although obviously the ideal. When it comes to applying prostheses in facial defects, the author uses the technique of modelling the head ('portrait sculpture') rather than the standard method of making a face mask. His method does demand considerable skill such as he possesses as a sculptor but which would be difficult to acquire by someone lacking his gifts.

The chapter on artificial hands is the best in the book. He rightly stresses the value of cosmetically acceptable prostheses in persons who have either lost a hand or who have been born without one. He shows some beautiful results. The type of prosthesis used, namely a slip-on, flexible glove, is similar to that employed for a number

of years by Dr. J. Pillet of Paris, who prefers silicone to latex.

There are one or two medical inaccuracies, e.g., regarding the nomenclature of skin malignancies. The text is well written and the photographic reproductions are of moderate quality. There must inevitably be a small market for such a book with its emphasis on the sculptor's skill. This is not what the average technician requires.

D. A. CAMPBELL REID

Air Pollution and Respiratory Disease. Edited by W. W. Holland. (Pp. 163; \$20.) Technomic Publishing Company, Westport, Conn., USA. 1972.

Evelyn, writing about London in 1661, stated that 'catarrhs, phthisicks, coughs and consumptions rage more in this one city than in the whole earth besides' because of smoke from coal. This volume is a review of the literature on atmospheric air pollution and respiratory disease up to 1971 and it is clear that we still do not know, for certain, whether Evelyn's assertion is true or false. Seven authors contribute chapters on measurement of air pollution, on the effects of smog in London, the USA, and Japan, on mortality and morbidity in different countries, on lung cancer, on the effect that pollutants have on resistance to bacterial and viral infection, and on measurement of pulmonary function.

This review gives a useful account of the present state of play in the competition between cigarette smoke and urban pollution for the title of Public Enemy No. 1 in the causation of both chronic bronchitis and bronchial carcinoma. Its contributors deal with subjects as mundane as the siting of atmospheric sampling apparatus and as ethereal as the effect of mucus from the garden snail on inhibition of haemagglutination by influenza virus in the presence of ozone.

The literature on atmospheric ozone, NO_2 and SO_2 , is reported, but there is no mention of such important occupational pollutants as asbestos or di-isocyanates. Indeed, the emphasis is on pollution of the external atmosphere rather than of the internal environment of a factory; but in collating widely dispersed references and bringing together the expertise of Drs. Bennett, Clifton, and Waller, and of Professors Miller, Pemberton, and Semple, Professor Holland has produced a valuable source book. An index would have enhanced its value.

The publishers are to be congratulated on the format and the highly legible type, but the heavy underlining of every bacterial name tends to impede the even flow of the eye in chapter 10. Printers' errors are commendably few and make no material difference to the meaning.

G. L. LEATHART

Occupational Disease in California Attributed to Pesticides and Other Agricultural Chemicals 1970. (Pp. 33; 10 tables; copies available free on request as long as supply lasts from: The Bureau of Occupational Health and Environmental Epidemiology, State of California, Department of Public Health, 2151 Berkeley Way, Berkeley, California 94704.)

Previous reports have been reviewed in earlier issues of the Journal (25, 157, 1968; 27, 294, 1970; 29, 345, 1972) and