
Injuries from occupational accidents form another major hazard. Statistics published by the Copper Industry Service Bureau show 6,583 lost shifts per 1,000 employees per annum from disease and 1,524 from accidents, accounting for about 25% lost time. Specific disease and accident rates among 1970 hospitalized employees were for bronchitis, emphysema, and asthma 9-22 per 1,000 per annum and mainly industrial accidents 33-90. Broken Hill Division has a potential lead hazard, controlled by regular medical examinations, blood-lead assays, and environment monitoring. Respiratory protection by using a simple aluminum (Martindale) mask and thick replaceable cloth filter moulded to the face appears unsatisfactory despite the suggestion that since its use blood lead levels have improved.

No national code of practice exists for protecting persons against ionizing radiation. One, however, has been evolved jointly by the Corporation's Medical and Group instrumentation departments.

Zambian mines, with shafts below 4,000 feet, have potential problems of heat stroke and exhaustion. For new underground employees there are acclimatization and induction procedures with refrigeration or air-conditioning in some mines below 2,600 ft.

In 1968 the Corporation's Abnormal Haemoglobin Research Unit was established at Rokana Central Medical Laboratory, Kitwe, primarily to survey sickle cell gene distribution and haemoglobinopathies and to study Zambian sickle cell anaemia, a three-year project.

This report gives an impression of an efficient and well-run mines' medical service with a very good public health service for some non-mining communities.

D. J. THOMAS


No one can but admire the authority which illumines this book as a whole. It has been written by some 30 contributors, all of whom are experts in the subjects of their respective chapters. Most of the industry's problems are common to all types of mining and most of them are covered. It has been necessary, therefore, to include such diverse subjects as dust inhalation and control, noise, dermatitis, beat diseases, and emergency accident surgery among the many various aspects of medicine and other disciplines, knowledge of which is essential to the protection of the health of the miner. The National