Book reviews

The Radman Guide to the Ionizing Radiation Regulations 1985. Edited by D Hughes. (Pp 56; £5.00.) Leeds: H & H Scientific Consultants Ltd, 1986.

This guide to the recently enacted Ionising Radiation Regulations is intended to help those responsible, in a managerial or administrative sense, for work with ionising radiations. It identifies the principal aspects of the lengthy and necessarily legalistic regulations and highlights statutory requirements. It does not set out to be all embracing, indeed this would be infeasible. Rather it distills the essential points and indicates where further advice on interpretation will need to be sought—for example, in the complex question of exemption from the regulations.

Central feature of the regulations is the designation and classification of workers and areas, decisions which are inter-related and which will be made taking into account the advice of the radiation protection advisor. The chapter concerning this aspect gives comprehensive insight into the criteria that will underlie such advice.

The local control, with which managers will be particularly concerned will depend largely on the contribution of the local radiation protection supervisor (RPS). The guide provides a practical specification of the duties and responsibilities of these RPSs.

Solid help also is available in the form of summaries of the statutory notification and of the records which must be kept in order to comply with the regulations. All in all this guide may be commended not only to the target audience but to all who need or want to understand the legislation governing the occupational and scholastic use of, and exposure to, ionising radiations.

M R BAILEY

State of the Art Reviews: Occupational Medicine. Vol. 1.1: The Microelectronics Industry. Edited by J LaDou. (Pp 197; \$22.00.) Philadelphia: Hanley and Belfus Inc, 1986.

Microelectronics is a relatively new post second world war manufacturing industry, and tends to have a high turnover of part time women workers. Perhaps as a consequence not much attention has been paid to the associated work hazards. The general image of the industry is of a clean quiet environment, safe and

attractive to the worker. This, certainly on the manufacturing side, is a distorted picture and this book goes a long way towards rectifying it.

It is a mine of information, much of it extremely detailed, on the chemical, physical, and biological hazards of microelectronics. The chapters are written by different authors but good editing has ensured little overlap of content. Each chapter is followed by an exhaustive and up to date list of references from European as well as United States sources. The authors are all from the United States and the text reflects this. For instance, underground storage of solvents is not allowed in the United Kingdom but has given rise to serious problems in "Silicon Valley" in the United States where aquifers have become contaminated. There is also little reference to colophony related asthma, a much talked of topic in the United Kingdom but not much mentioned in the United States—however, relevant papers on the topic are quoted.

This book is not easy reading but rather a work of reference and certainly a must for any physician working in the microelectronics industry.

J R CARRUTHERS

Notice

First Conference on Education and Training in Occupational Health, Hamilton, Ontario, 4-6 May 1987

The conference will be held under the auspices of the scientific committee on Education and Training in Occupational Health of the International Commission on Occupational Health. It will provide a major opportunity for those engaged in teaching or learning about occupational health issues to review with colleagues from many countries and of diverse backgrounds opportunities and problems such as teaching methods/education theory, methods of evaluation, use of information sources, worker education, professional education, content of programmes, and continuing education. Authors wishing to present papers are invited to submit abstracts to the conference secretary Mrs P M Yake, Occupational Health Program, McMaster University, Health Sciences Centre, Room 3H50, 1200 Main Street West, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada L8N 3Z5.