spell produced a temporary improvement. Benzedrine had the effect of improving performance. Under conditions of high temperature accuracy decreased.

The second part of the report deals with tests to assess the effect of different environmental conditions on efficiency at different operations. In one set of experiments the effects of non-lethal war gases on performance at various tasks were investigated. It was found that on the whole arsenical smoke was not a handicap to physical efficiency, though in tasks requiring accurate visual perception there were wide individual differences.

A further group of men were required to perform various operations—a pull test, a pursuit-meter test and a wireless telegraphy test—under various controlled conditions of temperature, humidity and air movement; i.e., in five different climatic conditions.

It was found that at certain temperatures (effective temperatures between 83 and 87.5°F.) men could not work effectively indoors, whether engaged in physical or on mental work. In tasks of skill the higher skilled men were less affected than the less skilled men. The relation between effective effort and period of work was examined under the different climatic conditions.

This report is a lucid account of a series of painstaking and detailed studies. It will be of interest to physiologists and to those interested in the psychological aspects of fatigue and skill.

H. G. MAULE

Industrial Health: An Introduction for Students.
By R. Passmore and Catherine N. Swanston. 1950.
Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone. Pp. 110. Price 4s. 6d.

This book is unique, for within little over a hundred pages the reader can find well informed and thoughtful comments on almost the whole content of occupational health. Information is provided on such matters as the distribution of manpower in Great Britain, employment of women and of young and old people, methods of assessing the health of a working community, the physical and social environment at the place of work, occupational diseases and accidents, and industrial legislation as it affects health. In spite of its small size, and in spite of possible criticism that it is cursory and that its simplicity may defeat its object, this book is a satisfying and effective contribution to our educational literature in this subject. It is well written and, as one would expect from the publisher, attractively produced. In any student of industrial health, stimulation of thought invariably should lead to an appreciation of the need to obtain more information. The next edition, therefore, might with benefit provide a more comprehensive bibliography than the present somewhat meagre ration.

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