BOOK REVIEWS

Professor W. J. Riddell has written the second part of the book on visual hazards, injuries in industry, and their prevention. The important chemical research of the British war period is reflected. Miner's nystagmus, non-existent in the United States, has been the subject of British research for a long time. Most of the evidence seems to suggest that the absence of this disease in the U.S.A. is due to better lighting and a greater feeling for safety, and that miner's nystagmus is basically a psychomatic problem, but the final word has not yet been said. Britain, fortunately, was not a victim of epidemic kerato-conjunctivitis as we were and are still in some areas of this country, so they have nothing to contribute to this ever threatening problem. Sir Arthur McNalty has written part three on special aspects, injuries, and psychology of sight.

Research in visual testing in industry, the perfection of the equipment for this and the study and interpretation of the results, has hardly even started in Britain while it has made tremendous advances in the States. Elaborate eye protective equipment such as has been promoted in this country is not available in England.

That the authors do not discuss the relationship of the professional eye man with plant management and personnel reflects the loose character of their arrangement. Also, no mention is made of what we consider would be vitally important, namely the need for carefully outlined first aid technique and standing orders for nurses. While visiting British plants and talking to their industrial nurses I felt there had been too much leeway given to nurses. I am sure that their legal status does not include the practice of medicine, i.e. working and prescribing other than directly under defined doctor's orders. In the States we are very strict and our nurses are glad of the protection.

To anyone who wants to and needs to understand physiological and psychological visual functions and their relationship to industry this excellent book will be valuable.

HEDWIG S. KUHN

BOOKS RECEIVED

(Review in a later issue is not precluded by notice here of books recently received.)

A Catalogue of Film Strips for Health Education. Edited by John Burton. (Pp. 54. 2s. 6d.) London: The Central Council for Health Education. 1952.

