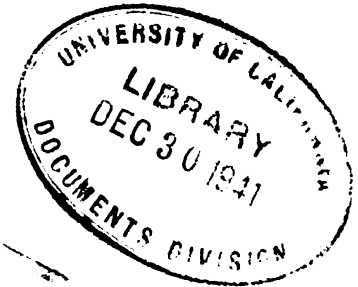


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INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE

Current News of Official Industrial Hygiene Activities



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DIVISION OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE, NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH
U. S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE, BETHESDA, MARYLAND

FULL SPEED AHEAD!

December 1941 has brought with it not merely the end of another year, not merely the time to look over our past year's work and say to ourselves, "We did accomplish a lot this year." December 1941 has brought not merely the time to make the ordinary sort of New Year's resolutions promising to do more of this or less of that. No! December 1941 has brought the culminating crime in the Axis drive for world conquest, the crime that has catapulted our country into total war for its own survival. It is in the light of this new crisis that every individual and group must say--"Yes, we accomplished many things in 1941--but not enough! We must do more, much more, and we must do it now!"

It has been said that this war will be won or lost on the assembly line. It is the literal truth. America has the most powerful industrial machine in the world, it has the manpower and womanpower jointly with its allies to smash Hitlerism wherever it rears its ugly head. America can and must produce as it has never done before.

President Roosevelt has said that the primary thing is to keep the work going, that there must be no stoppages of any kind, that speed and more speed is essential. Industry is pledging itself to produce, and produce to the limit.

Workers on the assembly lines are posting signs--"No interruptions, please--we're out to lick the Axis!" And that is where public health workers, especially industrial hygienists, come in. The interruptions in production which are caused by accidents and illness, either occupational or nonoccupational, must be cut to the absolute minimum. Workers must be kept on the job to produce the enormous quantities of tanks, planes, guns, and other weapons required for the fronts in the Pacific and Asia, in Europe and in Africa. Workers must not merely be kept on the job. They must be kept on the job at peak physical and mental health so that there will be no reduction in their productivity because of preventable diseases and accidents, because of lowered morale due to poor working or living conditions.

Just as there has, in recent months, been steady progress in expanding defense output, so has there been steady progress in expanding industrial hygiene services. But this is no longer sufficient. Every industrial hygienist, every industrial hygiene agency, official or nonofficial, has now the task of making extraordinary efforts to maintain our industrial manpower in topnotch health, so that it cannot be said that the Nation's defense has been hindered by lack of healthy, efficient workers to produce the materials so vital to that defense.

No, this is not the time to make the ordinary sort of New Year's resolution. In fact, the situation is too urgent even to wait until January 1, 1942, to make our resolution. We're making it now. The medical department of the U. S. Navy is dedicated to the principle -- "To keep as many men at as many guns as many days as possible." Our resolution is -- "To keep as many workers at as many machines as many days as possible" -- so that the armed forces of our country and its allies will have the material to destroy the enemy wherever he may be, will have the material to bring victory. We are determined to carry out this resolution. We can do it. We must do it. Full speed ahead!

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Subcommittee on Industrial Health and Medicine to Meet in January

The Subcommittee on Industrial Health and Medicine, of the Office of Defense Health and Welfare Services, will meet in Chicago on January 10, 1942, prior to the American Medical Association's fourth annual Congress on Industrial Health, which is to be held January 12-13. The Subcommittee will evaluate the progress which has been made during the past year in industrial hygiene activities in the national defense program, and will determine the steps which need to be taken to increase the tempo and efficiency of defense activities.

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Fluorographic Units Available for Loan to State Industrial Hygiene Bureaus

The States' Relations Division of the U. S. Public Health Service has assigned two 35 mm. fluorographic units to the Division of Industrial Hygiene, National Institute of Health, for loan to State industrial hygiene bureaus for the purpose of tuberculosis case finding.

The fluorographic unit is composed essentially of a stereo viewer, a screen, and an automatic camera. Each unit is accompanied by a medical officer who will interpret the 35 mm. films and a technician who will operate the camera. The salary and travel of these persons are paid by the Division of Industrial Hygiene, National Institute of Health. When assigned to a State, this personnel will be under the administrative direction of the State industrial hygiene bureau.

The units will first be assigned to the North Carolina and New Jersey industrial hygiene bureaus. On completion of the work in these locations, the units will be available to other States. Any industrial hygiene bureau desiring the use of this equipment should address a request to Sanitary Engineer J. J. Bloomfield, Division of Industrial Hygiene, National Institute of Health, Bethesda, Maryland.

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Industrial Hygiene Services Offered to Federal Agencies in the States

The Washington, D. C., Safety Society, which includes in its membership the safety officers and engineers of the various departments of the Federal Government, recently met with representatives of the Division of Industrial Hygiene, National Institute of Health, at Bethesda, Maryland. At this meeting, the activities of the Division and the services which it has to offer were described. It was also pointed out that State industrial hygiene bureaus are well equipped to provide services to the field offices of the various Federal agencies.

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Correction

In the November issue of the news letter, it was stated that Sir Wilson Jameson, Chief Medical Officer of the British Ministry of Health, and Dr. W. A. McIntosh, of the International Health Division of the Rockefeller Foundation, recently visited the Division of Industrial Hygiene at Bethesda, Maryland. It was Professor James MacIntosh of Edinburgh University who accompanied Sir Wilson.

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News items for publication in INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE should be submitted to
Sanitary Engineer J. J. Bloomfield, Division of Industrial Hygiene
National Institute of Health, Bethesda, Maryland

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