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INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE NEWS LETTER Current News of Official Industrial Hygiene Activities		
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LATEST ACTION ON STANDARDS FOR ALLOWABLE CONCENTRATION
OF TOXIC DUSTS AND GASES

On September 30, 1944, the Committee on Allowable Concentrations of Toxic Dusts and Gases, of the American Standards Association, met in New York City. Eighteen representatives of industrial hygiene agencies attended.

The Subcommittee on Fluorine and Fluorides and Hydrofluoric Acid reported that it is now prepared to write a report using a suggested maximum allowable concentration of 6 p.p.m. expressed as hydrofluoric acid for an 8-hour, 6-day week continuous exposure. The Subcommittee is also prepared to include in its report a physiological standard based on the amount of fluorine excreted in the urine. The maximum allowable excretion concentration will be 10 milligrams per liter.

The Committee approved the report of the Subcommittee on Methyl Chloride recommending the writing of a standard using 100 p.p.m. as a suggested threshold limit.

The Subcommittee on Radium, Radon Gas, and Gamma Ray Exposure reported that it will have a draft for consideration in the next two months. It was decided to recommend the appointment of a Subcommittee to prepare standards for sulfur dioxide, cyclohexanes, industrial X-ray exposures, and certain fungicides.

The Committee voted to invite The National Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists to appoint a representative to serve on the Committee.

ACTIVITY IN PROPOSING STATE LEGISLATION TO ESTABLISH
INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE SERVICES

A number of inquiries from State health departments have recently been received by the Industrial Hygiene Division concerning the type of legislation considered desirable and effective for presentation to State legislatures in requesting funds for initiation and expansion of industrial hygiene services.

This upsurge of interest has developed because of the urgent need for more services in many States, and for the financial assumption by the States of more of the costs of these services. Since many State legislatures convening this year, will not meet next year, the time for action is at hand.

PLANS FOR NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE MEETINGS IN APRIL, 1945

The four national associations of professional workers in the field of industrial health will again cooperate in 1945 in holding their annual meeting at the same place and time. These associations are the National Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists, the American Association of Industrial Physicians and Surgeons, the American Association of Industrial Hygienists, and the American Industrial Nurses Association. These groups will meet at the Drake Hotel, Chicago, during the week of April 23, 1945.

At preliminary meetings of representatives of the four groups held in Chicago in September and October, the general outline of the program was decided upon. The National Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists will hold its meetings on April 23 and 24, the American Association of Industrial Hygienists will meet on April 25 and 26, and the American Association of Industrial Physicians and Surgeons' meetings are scheduled for April 25-27, the last day's sessions to be held jointly with the American Industrial Nurses Association, which will continue its sessions on April 27 and 28.

A general program chairman and appropriate special committee chairmen have been appointed by the various organizations. The first day's sessions of the governmental group will include all business matters and committee reports and be open only to members. The second day is being planned to cover subjects of interest to the other groups who will be invited to attend.

INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE FOUNDATION MEETS

The Ninth Annual Meeting of Members of the Industrial Hygiene Foundation will be held at the Mellon Institute, Pittsburgh, November 15 and 16.

The Foundation reports that it "has made a modest start toward assembling occupational disease statistics. Several States are now reporting regularly and others promise to participate."

VISITORS FROM CHILE

Two members of the Industrial Hygiene Division of the Public Health Department of Chile are making a study of industrial hygiene methods in the United States, following a 4-months' course in Industrial Hygiene at Harvard University. Mr. Juan Varleta, a chemist, spent two weeks with the Montana Division of Industrial Hygiene studying problems of silicosis and manganese poisoning associated with mining. He spent another week with the Wisconsin Division of Industrial Hygiene. These visits were preceded and will be followed by several months' study in the Industrial Hygiene Division at Bethesda.

When he returns to Chile, Mr. Varleta will establish an industrial hygiene laboratory in the School of Public Health in Santiago, for training of laboratory workers in industrial hygiene; he will also conduct a laboratory service for the recently organized Industrial Hygiene Division.

Dr. Carlos Valenzuela is spending a month with the Massachusetts Division of Occupational Hygiene. He also expects to teach in the School of Public Health, and to be engaged in research in the Industrial Hygiene Division.

The new public health training program now being organized in Chile, of which industrial hygiene is a part, is being financed by the Rockefeller Foundation, cooperating with the office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, the Public Health Department of Chile, and the University of Chile.

ARTICLES ON HEALTH AVAILABLE FROM MARITIME COMMISSION

A series of articles on health has been especially prepared by the staff of the U. S. Maritime Commission's Division of Shipyard Labor Relations. Although primarily addressed to shipyard workers, the material covered is pertinent in many other industries.

Written in non-technical language, the articles should be especially helpful to foremen who must include among their duties an intelligent concern for their workers' health.

The articles cover treatment of injuries to eyes, head, feet, skin, throat, and lungs, muscles and ligaments as well as treatment of electric shock, heat prostration, and non-industrial ills such as colds and headaches.

A limited number of copies of this series may be obtained from the Division of Public Relations, U. S. Maritime Commission, Washington 25, D. C.

MEETING OF COMMITTEE ON APPRAISAL AND REPORTING OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE ACTIVITIES

The Committee on Appraisal and Reporting of Industrial Hygiene Activities of the National Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists met on October 6, in New York City.

The Committee voted to adopt the plan which was developed by the Industrial Hygiene Division of the U. S. Public Health Service for establishing uniform recording and reporting procedures in State and local industrial hygiene divisions, and recommended that the Industrial Hygiene Division take the necessary steps to initiate the program among the States.

DUST CONTROL BY WET METHOD SUCCESSFULLY
APPLIED TO ELECTRIC SHOVELS

Mechanical water sprays mounted on large electric shovels have been used in the Tennessee Valley Authority Quarry at Fontana Dam for controlling silica dust exposures in the rock mucking operations. Details of the design and installation of the spray apparatus along with data showing its effectiveness appeared in the July, 1944 issue of the "Pit and Quarry" magazine. Reprints of the article may be secured from the author, Frank N. Chirico, Tennessee Valley Authority, Industrial Hygiene Section, B-2, First Quarters, Wilson Dam, Alabama.

CONFERENCE OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE CONSULTANT
AND SUPERVISORY NURSES

Approximately 50 nurses attended the conference of State and local industrial nursing consultants and supervising nurses in industry held in New York City on October 1 and 2. Three sessions were devoted to eye care in industry, with lectures and demonstrations arranged by the National Society for the Prevention of Blindness. In a fourth session functions of the industrial nursing supervisor and the consultants of official agencies and insurance companies were discussed.

PREPARATION FOR INDUSTRIAL NURSING

The American Association of Industrial Nurses through its Education Committee has prepared an outline of a basic course in industrial nursing and suggestions for other general courses desirable as preparation in the field of industrial nursing. This outline has been submitted to universities throughout the country. In response to requests from local groups of industrial nurses, courses giving an overview of the industrial hygiene field have already been offered by nearly all universities having a program of study for public health nursing. In addition, a number of these universities have presented courses relating to specific activities of industrial nurses such as "eye care in industry."

The Collegiate Council for Public Health Nursing Education is giving thought to the developing of a program of study for industrial nursing and also is considering the preparation needed by the industrial nursing consultant in official and other agencies.

COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES OF THE INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE
DIVISION AND THE STATES

Dr. J. G. Townsend and Mr. J. J. Bloomfield conferred on administrative matters with the Director of the Industrial Hygiene Division of the Ohio Department of Health.

Miss Victoria Trasko spent several days with the Industrial Hygiene Division of the New York State Department of Labor, also with the Division of Occupational Hygiene in the Massachusetts Department of Labor and Industries, in discussion of records and reports on industrial hygiene activities.

Dr. F. H. Goldman visited the Michigan Bureau of Industrial Hygiene to advise on laboratory procedures and equipment.

Miss F. Ruth Kahl and Miss Elna I. Perkins assisted the West Virginia Division of Industrial Hygiene in a series of industrial nurses meetings. They visited the West Virginia State Health Department for conferences on industrial nursing and health education activities.

Dr. Louis Schwartz made several investigations of dermatitis outbreaks in Illinois plants at the request of the Illinois State Department of Health.

Dr. Samuel M. Peck visited the industrial hygiene divisions of Washington and Idaho to confer on dermatitis problems, and made several inspections in Idaho industries to determine causes of occurring dermatitis.

Dr. L. D. Keacock visited dentists in Binghamton, New York to assist the New York Sixth District Dental Society in formulating plans for industrial dentistry in the Elmira-Binghamton area.

PERSONNEL

Surgeon (R) Wayne L. Ritter will be assigned to the Kentucky Board of Health to serve as Director of the Bureau of Industrial Hygiene, effective November 1. Dr. Ritter has been attached to the Mississippi Division of Industrial Hygiene for the past 2 years.

Assistant Engineer (R) Andrew D. Hosey is being transferred on November 1, from the Massachusetts Division of Occupational Hygiene to the Industrial Hygiene Division of Virginia. His position in Massachusetts will be taken by Mr. Lloyd S. Harris, Junior Sanitarian (R), who has just been inducted into the Public Health Service.

STATE ACTIVITIES

CALIFORNIA: A mimeographed publication on "Industrial Nursing: Functions, Organization, and Policies" has been prepared by the Bureau of Industrial Health, California Department of Public Health.

CONNECTICUT: "Industrial Nursing in Connecticut," an 18-page booklet, prepared jointly by the Industrial Nursing Section of the Connecticut State Nurses' Association and the Bureau of Industrial Hygiene, Connecticut State Department of Health, is gaining favorable

attention over a wide area. It discusses organization and functions, records, standing orders, qualifications and other basic problems in industrial nursing service.

INDIANA: "Recommended Respiratory Devices" is the title of an illustrated list of approved respirators of all types, recently published by the Division of Industrial Hygiene, Indiana State Board of Health. The names and addresses of companies that have received approval are listed. The photographs reprinted have been obtained chiefly from the U. S. Bureau of Mines. The date of approval of each type of respirator by the Bureau of Mines, and the name of the manufacturer is given in the listing of the various types. The use and care of respirators is also discussed.

The introduction emphasizes the policy of the Division in making recommendations regarding protection against harmful dusts, fumes and gases. It is stated that "this Division does not recommend the use of respirators as the principal control for these harmful substances in the air when it is at all possible to control them by other means. The purpose of the publication is to assist industrial plants in making proper selection of respirators when needed.

KENTUCKY: The Kentucky State Bureau of Industrial Hygiene had an extensive exhibit of their engineering, chemical, and medical laboratory and field equipment at the recent meeting of the Kentucky Medical Association in Lexington, Kentucky. Physicians throughout the State displayed much interest in this exhibit and special enthusiasm was manifested in the new micro-gasometric method of carbon monoxide estimation.

A keynote address was given before the Medical Association by Col. Anthony Lanza on the "Present Status of Industrial Medicine."

LOUISIANA: A new possibility of lead poisoning developed in a large Louisiana shipyard where cargo boats were being built. A plan to modify the structure of these boats, originally designed to carry 200 tons of cargo, involved adding more superstructure and deck space. To offset the resultant raising of center of gravity, 101 tons of molten lead are poured into the double bottoms. The Industrial Hygiene Section, State Department of Health, has surveyed the situation and taken atmospheric samples to determine the exposure of workers engaged in pouring the lead. Suitable control measures have been recommended.

MASSACHUSETTS: Dr. James P. Deery, and Mr. Manfred Bowditch visited Professor Robley D. Evans of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology as representatives of the Committee to Study Methods for Securing Effective and Uniform Reporting of Occupational Diseases and Other Illnesses Among Workers of the National Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists. The purpose of this visit was to appraise the methods of Dr. Evan's laboratory in handling radon analyses for radium dial painting establishments.

MISSISSIPPI: From October 3 through 5, 1944, the Industrial Nurses of Mississippi held their annual meeting as a section of the Mississippi State Nurses Association. This was the second annual meeting for the Industrial Nurses but the first one at which they had a full section status in the State Nurses Association.

These Industrial Nursing meetings are well attended since almost without exception plant management has felt that its nurses got enough out of these meetings to justify their being sent at the expense of the company. Probably the most effective part of the program was an informal meeting. No set program was arranged for this time which was devoted to such ever-present problems as, nursing salaries--what to do when no doctor can be found--to whom should the nurse be responsible in the small plant administrative set-up--effective and cordial relationship with employment, insurance and safety divisions. Since these are all questions upon which industrial nurses either felt that they are doing extremely well or extremely poorly, the discussion during this period seemed to be most appreciated by everyone.

MONTANA: Two large metal reduction plants in Montana have made additions in their present industrial hygiene staffs. One plant has added an engineer and a chemist, making a total of two chemists and one engineer now employed at full time industrial hygiene work. The other now has one engineer and one chemist.

NEW JERSEY: A large potteryware manufacturing plant in New Jersey is contemplating the installation of equipment for the administration to its employees of aluminum powder by inhalation. This is believed to be the first plant in the State to use inhalation therapy in its silicosis control program.

OKLAHOMA: A leaflet on Industrial Dentistry has been prepared by the Division of Industrial Hygiene, Oklahoma State Department of Health, to interest industries in establishing dental services for employees.

PENNSYLVANIA: The Bureau of Industrial Hygiene of the Pennsylvania Department of Health has recently completed a survey of medical facilities available in 4,637 Pennsylvania industrial plants employing 1,221,226 persons. It was found that 50 of the plants provide full-time physician service and 277 plants provide part-time physician service. The number of employees benefiting from these services, however, is 45.7 percent of the total number of employees in the plants surveyed.

WASHINGTON: Seattle's Wartime Conference on Industrial Health, held on August 30, was attended by approximately 300 representatives of labor, management and the medical profession. The morning session was occupied with the showing of motion pictures on industrial health and safety.

In the afternoon, a symposium was held on the subject, "The Community Contributes to Industrial Health," featuring as speakers, Dr. L. M. Farner, Chief of the Division of Industrial Hygiene, Mr. John E. Morgan, Supervisor of Safety, Department of Labor and Industry, Lt. Commander Ernest D. Ponzer and Mr. J. Frank Ward, Area Representative, Committee for Congested Production Areas.

Dr. Farner described how 20 governmental and voluntary agencies interested in industrial health have developed a plan for correlating their activities. As part of the plan the Division of Industrial Hygiene serves as an information center to direct management and labor to the agency best qualified to give the type of assistance desired. Mr. Morgan, Commander Ponzer, and Mr. Ward rounded out the program with discussions of the interests and activities of their respective groups in contributing to community welfare through industrial hygiene.

The address at the dinner session was delivered by Dr. Dudley A. Irwin, Director of Medical Research, Aluminum Company of America, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on the subject of "Industrial Health of Tomorrow." Dr. Irwin gave an interesting outline of the requirements for an adequate industrial medical program.

His address was followed by an evening panel on "Industrial Health—A Four-Fold Responsibility." The responsibilities of the medical profession, labor, industry, and government in bettering industrial health were ably discussed by Dr. Warren B. Penney, Past President, Washington State Medical Association, Mr. Harry L. Carr, President, Seattle Building Trades Council, Mr. Frank West, President, Preservative Paint Company, and President, Manufacturers' Association of Washington, and Dr. J. L. Jones, Chief, Bureau of Medical Services, State of Washington Department of Health. Dr. Jones stressed that the responsibility of all concerned lies not merely in compensation for impaired health, but more important, in preventing the recurrence of necessity for such compensation.

It was the consensus of this panel that industrial health is not only a problem of plant safety and hygiene, but one that embraces the broad field of adult health.

News items for publication in INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE NEWS LETTER should be submitted to: Senior Sanitary Engineer J. J. Bloomfield, Industrial Hygiene Division, U. S. Public Health Service, Bethesda 14, Maryland.
