

INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE NEWS LETTER
Current News of Official Industrial Hygiene Activities

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SICKNESS ABSENTISM RATES FOR 1944 CONTINUE HIGH

Available data from a sample of industrial sick benefit organizations covering almost 300,000 male and female workers reveal that for both males and females the frequency of 8-day or longer disabilities in 1944 exceeded slightly the relatively high rates recorded for 1943, according to figures just released by the Industrial Hygiene Division, U. S. Public Health Service.

The 1944 male rate for all causes (140.9 absences per 1,000 males) is the highest annual rate of the 10-year period 1935-44, being 37 per cent above the 10-year mean (102.9), but only 2 per cent above the corresponding rate for 1943 (138.1). The 1944 female rate for all causes (221.0 absences per 1,000 females) is likewise the highest rate recorded for the 10 years, being 35 per cent above the mean of 163.1 but only 8 per cent above the corresponding rate for 1943 (204.1).

For both males and females the frequency of respiratory diseases was less in 1944 than in 1943, the 1943 frequencies reflecting the presence of the respiratory epidemic occurring principally in December of that year. Nevertheless an examination of the male and female respiratory frequencies for the 10 years, 1935-44, reveals that the rates for 1944 are exceeded only by those for 1943, and are 41 and 29 per cent, respectively, above the average male and female rates for the 10-year period.

For both the digestive and nonrespiratory-nondigestive diseases the 1944 male and female rates have never been equalled or exceeded in the 10-year period. The noteworthy excesses of over 40 per cent in the 1944 frequencies of nonrespiratory-nondigestive diseases when compared with the corresponding male and female mean rates for 1935-44 are due primarily to increases in the rheumatic diseases, neurasthenia, diseases of the circulatory system, and diseases of the genito-urinary system. For each of these causes the 1944 rates are the highest recorded for the 10-year period, the percentage excesses over the appropriate 10-year means being for males and females, respectively, as follows: rheumatic diseases, 38 and 66 per cent; neurasthenia, 100 and 89 per cent; diseases of the circulatory system, 65 and 68 per cent; and diseases of the genito-urinary system, 37 and 40 per cent.

The 1944 disabilities among males were relatively longer than the disabilities recorded for the years 1941-43. Among females, on the other hand, the distribution of the 1944 absence durations was approximately the same as that for 1941.

ALABAMA INDUSTRIAL HYGIENISTS REPORT ON SILICOSIS THERAPY

Acting upon requests from management and labor for dependable information on silicosis prevention and cure, members of the Alabama Division of Industrial Hygiene have recently completed a study of information available on aluminum as a therapeutic and prophylactic agent for silicosis.

Dr. Irving R. Tabershaw, Director of the Division of Industrial Hygiene, and Bernard D. Tebbens, Industrial Hygiene Engineer, of the Alabama State Department of Public Health, visited various centers in the United States where aluminum is used for dust disease control.

They interviewed Dr. L. U. Gardner, Director of the Saranac Laboratory at Saranac Lake, New York, and a leading authority on the pathology of silicosis; Dr. J. W. G. Hannon, Director of McIntyre Research, Ltd., Washington, Pennsylvania, who has wide clinical experience with aluminum therapy; and Dr. Dudley A. Irwin, Medical Director of the Aluminum Company of America, which is active in developing this form of therapy.

Industrial hygienists familiar with the problems of silicosis and its control were visited in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and New York. Plants and mines where aluminum regimen has been instituted were studied.

The report includes a complete analysis of the theory and practice of aluminum therapy. Copies may be obtained from Dr. Tabershaw, Division of Industrial Hygiene, Alabama State Department of Public Health, Birmingham, Alabama.

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PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE STARTS STUDY OF CARBOLOY INDUSTRY

Study of the health hazards in the cemented tungsten carbide tool industry has begun, with a preliminary survey to be conducted in three large plants in the Pittsburgh and Detroit areas by the Industrial Hygiene Division, U. S. Public Health Service, in cooperation with State industrial hygiene personnel.

Plant-wide surveys will be made, including medical examination of all employees and engineering survey of environmental conditions, to determine what occupational health hazards exist and to find their causes. Evaluation of dusts and their effects upon the workers will be an important feature of the study, since the manufacture of cemented carbide tools is a dusty process.

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CHILE TO LAUNCH INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE PROGRAM

In preparation for launching a nationwide program in industrial hygiene, the Republic of Chile has sent a number of its nationals for training in

this country. This is part of a war-born program for reorganization of the Chilean public health services, in cooperation with the Institute of Inter-American Affairs, the Rockefeller Foundation, the Pan-American Sanitary Bureau, and the Commonwealth Fund.

Most recent trainees have been Alejandro Forero, M.D., M.Sc., Chief of the Santiago Industrial Hygiene Office of the Chile Public Health Service, who will head the new industrial health service, and Carlos Valenzuela, Ch.Eng., M.Sc. They have just completed their training period—Dr. Forero at Columbia and Mr. Valenzuela at Harvard. Following this training, these men are observing the work of the U. S. Public Health Service Industrial Hygiene Division and various State industrial hygiene laboratories, as well as laboratories of nonofficial agencies and private industries. Upon their return to Chile, Dr. Forero and Mr. Valenzuela will organize and teach a course in industrial health in the University of Chile, Santiago.

Organized as a part of the Public Health School of the University of Chile, whose Director Hernan Romero, M.D., M.Sc., also received his public health training in the United States, the industrial health course will offer training to public health personnel, industrial physicians, chemists and engineers, who will then be sent here for further instruction. United States authorities in various aspects of industrial hygiene are to be invited to Chile as visiting lecturers and consultants.

Reorganization of the general program in public health, headed by Dr. Nacianceno Romero, General Director of Health, is to be completed as soon as possible. By 1951 it is expected that enough industrial health workers will have been trained to serve the whole nation, with industrial hygiene units established in the main mining and industrial centers and in every important city. Already one of the most highly industrialized nations in South America, Chile has embarked upon an intensive program of electrification and expansion of its mining and industries.

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DRIVE BEGINS ON STRUCTURAL STEEL INJURY AND HEALTH HAZARDS

Structural steel fabrication is the next industry upon which effort will be concentrated in a nationwide drive to control accidental injuries and health hazards. The drive is scheduled to begin August 1, and to last four months, covering the approximately 1,200 plants, in 41 States, which make up the industry.

In a preliminary conference held June 29 in Washington and attended by representatives of many interested governmental agencies and other organizations and groups, plans for the drive were made and active support pledged. Represented at this conference were the U. S. Public Health Service, U. S. Departments of Labor and Commerce, National Safety Council, American Standards Association, American Red Cross, MILL & FACTORY Magazine, American Federation

of Labor, United Steel Workers of America, and International Association of Bridge, Structural and Ornamental Iron Workers.

Also pledged to give support are the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, Congress of Industrial Organizations, National Fire Protection Association, National Bureau of Standards, American Mutual Alliance, Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute, and National Association of Miscellaneous and Ornamental Iron Manufacturers.

The U. S. Public Health Service offered support through its publicity channels, and through enlisting the efforts of industrial hygiene organizations and personnel in the States and localities where structural steel is made. The representative of the Industrial Hygiene Division, U. S. Public Health Service, pointed out that although the health status of structural steel and iron workers is not unfavorable as a whole when compared with that of other groups of industrial workers, serious problems of health hazards in this industry nevertheless exist.

Respiratory diseases of a serious nature, including pneumonia and bronchitis, occur more frequently among iron and steel workers, the rate for pneumonia being 92 per cent above that of the non-iron and-steel group. Many processes and materials used in the fabrication of structural steel present potential dangers to workers. In the manufacture of carbon steel, pickling acids and alkalies, zinc fumes in galvanizing, a number of toxic materials used in heat treating, abrasive cleaning, and degreasing represent health hazards. In the making of steel alloys many toxic materials are used. Welding makes use of dangerous materials and processes. In metallurgical laboratories and throughout the plants other processes present dangers to health.

Previous drives have been conducted in the slaughtering and meat packing, paper and pulp, and planing mill and wooden container industries. Their results are considered highly successful in saving lives, limbs, and working time, with impressive reduction in accident frequency rates shown for each industry. Both management and labor have taken active interest in the drives, and it is believed both will continue to collaborate in sustained accident prevention and health protection work.

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INDUSTRIAL HEALTH EDUCATION NEEDS ANALYSED IN INDIANA BULLETIN

Industrial health education as a problem and a feasible approach to its solution are explored in a well-planned, thoroughly-organized, and thought-provoking article by Dr. Louis W. Spolyar, Director of the Division of Industrial Hygiene, in the May issue of the MONTHLY BULLETIN, Indiana State Board of Health.

"An adequate, workable and durable worker education program can be developed in any industrial area if the educational activities are carried

on among the local units of population," declares Dr. Spolyar. "This development will require the combined resources of the Federal and State health departments, various community health agencies, official and nonofficial, labor organizations, management organizations and the medical, safety and personnel services of industry."

Small plants represent the area of greatest need and the most difficult problem of health education, the article states. An interacting program is required, in which the Industrial Hygiene Division of the U. S. Public Health Service would provide health education materials, set up demonstration projects, and give guidance to the States in this field, while the State health agencies would make use of every instrument and channel for bringing to industry and labor the benefits of sound adult health education.

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WHAT'S THE pH?

(Reprinted from Connecticut Health Bulletin, June, 1945)

In the literature on industrial medicine the symbol pH crops up often. In "Protective Ointments and Industrial Cleansers," for example, Dr. Louis Schwartz of the United States Public Health Service says, "A normal industrial cleanser for general use...should have a pH of 10 or less in a 1 per cent solution."

Looking in on the industrial hygiene chemist in his laboratory, you find him adjusting dials and switches on a small cabinet similar to a portable radio. Asked what he's working on, he says, "Doing the pH."

You quietly open a fat handbook on his desk and run through the index, finding "pH, See Hydrogen-ion concentration." As you read, your chemistry begins to come back. An acid solution contains an excess of hydrogen-ions, while an alkaline one has more hydroxyl-ions. The pH scale shows the degree of acidity or alkalinity. A pH of 7 denotes a neutral solution, most nearly represented by pure water. Proceeding from 7, the higher pH's are increasingly alkaline, and the lower figures more and more acid. Because the pH scale is logarithmic, on a base of 10, a solution with a pH of 5 is ten times more acid than one with a pH of 6; the pH 4 solution is one hundred times more acid, and the pH 3 a thousand times more acid than the pH 6.

Armed with this information you turn back to the industrial hygiene chemist. "Of what do you take the pH?"

"Soaps and oils, usually."

"Because they might affect the worker's skin?"

"Yes. A soap that is too alkaline, or a solution that is either too alkaline or too acid, can act as a primary skin irritant."

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PSYCHONEUROTIC HAZARDS AMONG TRANSPORTATION EMPLOYEES DISCUSSED

Possible problems of psychoneurosis in the employment of ex-service-men as drivers of trucks and buses were considered in a meeting in Washington June 26, called by the Interstate Commerce Commission and attended by representatives of the Army, Navy, Veterans' Bureau, National Selective Service System, Civil Service Commission, U. S. Public Health Service, Interstate Commerce Commission, and a number of operators' associations. Presiding was Medical Director J. G. Townsend, Chief of the Industrial Hygiene Division, U. S. Public Health Service.

Operators were informed that medical records of war veterans constitute privileged communications and may not be released for employment purposes. The hazard in the employment of veterans was held by the attending psychiatrists to be no greater than in the employment for this purpose of men with no military experience. It was recommended that medical examiners of the companies include neuropsychiatric conditions as part of the general physical examination of all prospective employees.

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NEW HAMPSHIRE SURVEYS SHOE INDUSTRY

A study of health hazards in the leather shoe industry is being conducted by the Division of Industrial Hygiene of the State of New Hampshire Department of Health, with a large portion of the plants manufacturing men's and women's shoes already surveyed.

All solvents used in this industry are being tested for possible toxicity. Samples of cements used in making shoes are being taken for testing, since a number of cements have been found to contain toxic solvents in dangerous quantity.

In order that plant operators may be correctly informed about hazards in their processes of manufacture, the flash point of the solvents and cements is being determined. A general report of the survey will be made upon its completion.

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ABSTRACTS OF COLORADO INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE CONFERENCE RELEASED

Abstracts of papers presented in the Industrial Hygiene Section of the second annual Public Health Conference held in Denver, Colorado, May 24 and 25, have been prepared, and may be obtained upon request to Fred R. Ingram, Chief of the Division of Industrial Hygiene, University of Colorado School of Medicine and Hospitals, 4200 East Ninth Avenue, Denver, Colorado.

The papers include a discussion of the "Role of the Plant Physician," by L. V. Sams, M.D., Medical Director of Remington Arms Co., Inc., Denver;

"Role of the Industrial Nurse," by Agnes Sullivan, R.N., Continental-Denver Modification Center, Denver; "Role of the Plant Industrial Hygiene and Safety Engineer," by W. E. Jones, Safety Engineer of the Climax Molybdenum Co., Climax, Colorado; "Role of the Colorado Industrial Commission," by Albert E. Zarlengo, Secretary to the Industrial Commission; "Role of the Colorado Division of Public Health," by August T. Rossano, Jr., Director of the Division of Industrial Hygiene, Colorado Division of Public Health; and a discussion of the papers by Mr. Ingram.

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GEORGIA ORGANIZES A.I.H.A. SECTION

Industrial hygienists and industrial physicians and engineers of the State of Georgia met June 21 in Atlanta, and formed a Georgia Section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association.

Main speaker of the meeting was Engineer (R) T. R. Thomas of the Industrial Hygiene Division, U. S. Public Health Service, who talked about the place of industrial hygiene in the national economy, and the necessity for organization of industrial health workers. C. G. Pender, of the Bell Aircraft Corporation, Marietta Plant, presided.

Officers of the new organization are N. V. Hendricks, of the Industrial Hygiene Service, Georgia Department of Public Health, president; Dr. R. L. Brown, of Bell Aircraft Corporation, vice-president; C. G. Bender, Bell Aircraft Corporation, secretary-treasurer. The first meeting resulted in a membership of approximately fifty.

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BALTIMORE STUDIES HAZARDS IN BLACKOUT PAINT REMOVAL

A study of the health hazards involved in the large-scale removal of blackout paint is being made by the Division of Industrial Hygiene, Baltimore City Health Department, in response to requests for information from representatives of Baltimore industry.

With the ending of blackout precautions for industry on the eastern seaboard, it is believed that serious hazards will be encountered by workers engaged in removing such paint. Because scraping is not a feasible method for removal, chemical solvents must be used.

One group of paint solvents contains alkalis which produce dermatitis upon contact with the skin. Another group contains volatile chemicals, chiefly benzol, alcohol, and methylene chloride, which may result in various types of physical damage. The Division of Industrial Hygiene is urging that precautions be taken to protect the health of exposed employees whenever either group of solvents is used.

Recommendations include the provision of protective garments such as rubber gloves and tightly woven overalls which can be washed and changed, frequent determination of the atmospheric concentration of toxic materials, and medical control through periodic examination of urine for sulfate ratios and of blood for both white and red cell counts. The industrial group in Baltimore is reported to have adopted the suggested protective measures for the safety of their workers.

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DERMATOSIS COUNCIL REVIEWS SECTION'S WORK

Distinguished dermatologists who comprise the Consulting Staff of the Dermatoses Section, Industrial Hygiene Division of the U. S. Public Health Service, met in Washington June 25 and 26 for their annual review of the work of the Section, and to advise on dermatologic problems and assist in planning future activities.

Present were Dr. Paul A. O'Leary, of the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota, chairman of the Consulting Staff; Dr. S. William Becker of Chicago; Dr. Samuel M. Peck of New York City; and Dr. Harry J. Templeton of Berkeley, California.

Work reviewed included studies which have been made during the year on synthetic rubbers, resins, anti-mildew tropicalization compounds, atabrine dermatitis, anhydrous hydrofluoric acid burns, and biochemical investigations including testing of the efficacy of protective ointments, poison ivy studies, oxidation of hydro-urushiol with tyrosinase, and oxidation of Dopa with tyrosine.

The Council members visited Hagerstown, Maryland, to witness a demonstration of methods devised by the Dermatoses Section for control of an epidemic of ringworm of the scalp among school children.

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C.I.O. HEALTH INSTITUTE GIVES COURSE IN SAFETY

Industrial safety is being taught in a course offered by the C.I.O. Health Institute in cooperation with Wayne University, and held in the Institute's Detroit premises. The course, which opened June 5, will run for 16 weeks, on Tuesday and Friday evenings.

Authorities on safety and health in industry are to lecture and lead discussion on the causes of industrial injury, plant inspection, job safety analysis, accident investigation, prevention of falls, fire prevention and protection, machinery safety, eye protection, first aid, State safety laws and codes, and workmen's compensation acts.

The only prerequisite required of students is an interest in industrial safety. Many workers in the Detroit area are enrolled, and classes

have been visited by representatives of the Detroit City Health Department, Michigan Department of Labor, nursing associations, and other interested groups.

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INDUSTRIAL FEEDING PAMPHLET ISSUED

"Industrial Feeding Management," a new pamphlet which covers methods and procedures for the establishment and maintenance of nutrition programs in industry, has been issued by the War Food Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture, and is available to industrial hygienists, management, labor, and other interested persons.

The pamphlet was prepared by the Committee on the Nutrition of Industrial Workers of the National Research Council, in collaboration with the War Food Administration. It includes sections on the management of food preparation and service, facilities and equipment for industrial feeding, food-service personnel, educational programs, and sources of educational materials in this field. The pamphlet may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., at 10 cents per copy.

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INTER-AMERICAN HEALTH FILMS RELEASED

Health films prepared by the Walt Disney Studios for the Institute of Inter-American Affairs for use in primary health education in Latin-American countries are soon to be available to health departments in the United States.

Preliminary showings have been given of a number of these films, titled: "The Human Body," "What is Disease," "Tuberculosis," "Infant Care," "How Disease Travels," "Cleanliness Brings Health," "Hookworm," "Insects as Carriers of Disease," "Environmental Sanitation," and "Nutrition."

The films were planned by members of the staff of the Institute of Inter-American Affairs, with assistance from the U. S. Public Health Service and many other United States and Latin-American governmental agencies and health and educational authorities. Their purpose is to provide basic health education of the general public, primarily for audiences attending the new Health Centers developed by the cooperative health organizations.

They present, in a highly entertaining, simple, and clear form, accurate factual information concerning the spread of disease and precautions that the people can take to protect themselves.

Health departments may have negatives of films so far released by early October. Prints are not yet available, but requests may be sent to Dr. G. C. Dunham, President of the Institute of Inter-American Affairs, 499 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C.

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Two positions for engineers are open in the Sanitation Section of the Division of Health, St. Louis City Department of Public Welfare.

One of the positions carries the rating of Public Health Engineer II and a salary range of \$210 to \$285 per month. Its duties consist of making surveys and studies of industrial plants to determine industrial hygiene problems. Desirable qualifications include graduation from a recognized school of engineering and some experience or graduate training in industrial hygiene or public health engineering.

The other carries the rating of Public Health Engineer I, with a salary range of \$170 to \$220 per month. It involves the engineering investigation of environmental problems and conditions which may affect the health of inhabitants of a large community, including water supply, sewage disposal, swimming pool construction and maintenance, air pollution, waste disposal, insect and rodent control, housing, ventilation, illumination, and other conditions. It offers an opportunity for learning the specialty of public health engineering in a city health department. Desirable qualifications include graduation from a recognized school of engineering, but no experience is necessary.

Applicants will be subject to Civil Service examination, and the positions are permanent. Application should be made to the Personnel Department, Room 235 Municipal Courts Building, St. Louis 3, Missouri.

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Supplementary to this issue of the News Letter, you will find your new DIRECTORY OF STATE AND LOCAL INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE PERSONNEL. Additional copies may be obtained from Senior Sanitary Engineer J. J. Bloomfield, Industrial Hygiene Division, U. S. Public Health Service, Washington 14 (Bethesda Station), D. C.

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ACTIVITIES AMONG THE STATES

ARKANSAS

Approximately 2,000 employees in three Camden plants were X-rayed during the last week in June in a drive to locate cases of tuberculosis

among industrial workers, by the Division of Industrial Hygiene and the Division of Tuberculosis Control of the Arkansas State Board of Health.

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CALIFORNIA

Concentration of carbon monoxide and other combustible gases in converted bombers now used as cargo ships was investigated by the Bureau of Adult Health of the State of California Department of Public Health during July.

Sources of carbon monoxide studied were the exhaust gas stream from the motors and leakage from the heating system. A concentration of this toxic gas which would be insignificant at ground level could be extremely serious at high altitudes where the oxygen supply in the air is just sufficient for physiological requirements.

Measurements for combustible gas were included in the study, since it is proposed to permit passengers and crew off duty to smoke while these planes are in flight. In certain types of transport planes where extra gasoline tanks must be carried in the cargo space, dangerous concentrations of gasoline vapors sometimes develop.

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Health hazards in the manufacture of plastics were studied by the Bureau of Adult Health, in a plant producing laminated plastics which make use of phenolic formaldehyde resins or vinyl resins. A high incidence of dermatitis has occurred among the plant's employees. This condition is thought to result from three causes: handling of spun-glass cloth which is impregnated with resin and formed into a laminated product, handling of the resin in its raw and liquid form, and dust from sawing and sanding the finished product. Local exhaust ventilation was recommended to control dust and vapors, and it was recommended that additional washing facilities be supplied close to the point of operation.

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In a study of X-ray exposures in a large clinical radiographic and X-ray therapeutic unit, it was found that while the operator received adequate protection, the nurse who arranged patients under the tube and actually held small children during the time the tube was in operation was receiving a high intensity of radiation.

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Evaluation of the dust hazards associated with grinding operations, in a process involving the use of alundum and carborundum abrasive wheels

Correction. The news letter described in the June Industrial Hygiene News Letter as issued by the Colorado Division of Industrial Hygiene actually is a publication of the Division of Industrial Hygiene of the University of Colorado School of Medicine and Hospitals, 4200 East Ninth Avenue, Denver.

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IOWA

Purchase of a mobile small-film X-ray unit has been authorized by the Executive Council of the State of Iowa, for use in the tuberculosis case-finding program conducted jointly by the Industrial Hygiene Division and the Tuberculosis Division of the Iowa State Department of Health.

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Two suspected cases of benzol poisoning were investigated recently by members of the Iowa Division of Industrial Hygiene, after an elderly couple had been overcome by vapors emanating from their basement. It was found that the basement had been painted with aluminum paint containing benzol. When the furnace was started before the paint was dry, dangerous amounts of benzol vapors were given off.

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MARYLAND

Under the direction of Dr. Moses S. Shiling of the U. S. Public Health Service, assigned to the Baltimore City Health Department, 32,000 industrial workers have been examined in the tuberculosis case-finding program. One and one-half to two per cent of those X-rayed showed evidence of tuberculosis. Management and labor in seven large industrial and related groups of the city gave their cooperation.

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NEW JERSEY

Physicians of the Bureau of Industrial Health, New Jersey State Department of Health, have been requested by the Supervisor of Migrant Labor of the New Jersey Department of Labor to make a survey of medical facilities for migrant workers in the State. Following an evaluation of the preventive and curative health services available to this group of workers, recommendations for proper medical care will be submitted.

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Medical examination of workers in plants where exposures to toxic materials exist have been inaugurated recently by the Bureau of Industrial

Health, with medical studies conducted at the same time as environmental studies and the results correlated in evaluating exposures. Two such studies already have been made in molded plastics plants manufacturing frangible lead bullets, where a detailed history was obtained and physical examination and laboratory tests were performed on each worker.

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NEW YORK

Investigation of a magnesium foundry by staff members of the Syracuse Unit, Division of Industrial Hygiene of the New York State Department of Labor, revealed the fact that a new potential health hazard is soon to be introduced in this industry. The plant is about to begin bubbling carbon tetrachloride and chlorine through the molten magnesium in order to improve the graining of the metal. The process will be observed periodically, so that the hazard from these chemicals as well as from phosgene and hydrochloric acid are entirely eliminated.

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A full-time nutrition expert has been assigned by the State Emergency Food Commission to work in a six-county area including three of the counties serviced by the Syracuse Unit.

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The Syracuse Unit has begun active participation in a tuberculosis case-finding program among industrial workers.

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Simultaneous tests for lead in the air of a tin-can factory were made by the Syracuse Unit together with chemists from an insurance carrier. A health hazard from calcium cyanamide was investigated in an artificial fertilizer plant.

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The Industrial Nursing Sections of Districts 4 and 7 of the New York State Nursing Association were assisted and advised during the month by the Syracuse Unit nursing consultants. The Unit participated in the staff education program of the Syracuse Visiting Nurse Association.

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PENNSYLVANIA

New and larger quarters have been obtained for the Pittsburgh district office of the Bureau of Industrial Hygiene, Pennsylvania State Department of Health. Additional laboratory space will now be available for the personnel serving this important center of industry.

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SOUTH CAROLINA

"Industrialights," the news letter of the Division of Industrial Health, South Carolina State Board of Health, featured for July advice on summer season problems of industrial workers.

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TENNESSEE

The illness of a worker engaged in spraying a liquid insecticide in a feed and grain mill was investigated recently by the Industrial Hygiene Service of the Tennessee Department of Public Health. When samples of the sprays used were analyzed in the Industrial Hygiene Service Laboratory, it was found that one contained 35 per cent carbon tetrachloride and 60 per cent ethylene dichloride. The label on the container of this material gave no indication of its toxic properties nor instructions for its use. It is thought that the manufacturer had changed the composition of this spray but continued to market it under the same trade name and label.

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UTAH

A preliminary survey of the dust hazard connected with the open-pit mining and crushing of iron ore in Utah has been completed by the Division of Industrial Hygiene, State Department of Health. It was found that workers are exposed to a dust containing 5 to 10 per cent silica and an atmospheric dust concentration varying from 6 to 9 million particles per cubic foot of air. Steps for the reduction of dust concentrations are being taken by the companies engaged in mining ore.

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In response to popular demand, the pamphlet "Useful Criteria in the Identification of Certain Occupational Health Hazards" has been revised and reprinted. It may be obtained from the Industrial Hygiene Division, State Department of Health, Salt Lake City, Utah, at \$1.00 per single copy or 75 cents per copy on orders of 50 or more.

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PERSONNEL NEWS AND NOTES

DR. W. M. GAFAPER, Chief of the Statistical Unit, Industrial Hygiene Division of the U. S. Public Health Service, has been appointed a member of the Advisory Editorial Board of the newly-established Journal of Gerontology. All aspects of the problems of aging and the proper care of the aged will be given attention in this periodical. The Journal will be issued quarterly, the first number to appear during the first quarter of 1946. The publisher is Charles C. Thomas, Springfield, Illinois.

Presently contemplated sections of the Journal include: 1. Reports of original investigations; 2. Reviews; 3. "Browsing through the Ages," a section devoted to a scholarly treatment of some topic from the field of art or literature relating to aging and the aged; 4. Editorial comment; 5. Abstracts of the current periodical literature; and 6. Book reviews. There also will be a supplement of 12 to 20 pages each quarter, paged and bound separately, containing a nontechnical abstract of each Journal article.

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SR. CHEMIST FREDERICK H. GOLDMAN, Chief of the Chemical Unit, Industrial Hygiene Division of the U. S. Public Health Service, visited Kentucky recently to give technical advice on special laboratory procedures to the Division of Industrial Hygiene there.

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DAVID A. MORTON, JR., has begun work with the Division of Industrial Hygiene, Arkansas State Board of Health, as Industrial Hygiene Chemist. Mr. Morton is a graduate of Hendrix College and has had post-graduate work at Washington University. He was formerly with the U. S. Bureau of Mines, the Metals Reserve Corporation, and the Pine Bluff Arsenal.

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