

surely the emergency services and survivors will have learned that there comes a time when it is prudent to think laterally, abandon the car and run. The results of the oleum spillage on the M6 in 1971, when the tank was ruptured, were horrific, but then an overturned tanker carrying oleum, which tobogganed down the M5 on its side at high speed in 1976, did not rupture, because a safety barrier had been fastened on the sides of the tank; presumably because of previous experience.

The work is valuable, and authors, contributors to the discussion and organising committee are to be thanked for producing such an absorbing reference work.

G. STAPLETON

*Toxic and Hazardous Waste Disposal, Vol. I, Processes for Stabilisation/Solidification* by R.B. Pojasek (Editor), Ann Arbor Science Publishers Inc., 1979, £19.80.

This 400-page volume is the first of a series dealing with the options for disposal of toxic and hazardous waste. Eighteen chapters review processes for solidification or stabilisation. Following a general introduction to the series by the editor, which is based on US Environmental Protection Agency material and the need for careful matching of a treatment to the waste and its hazard, Thompson, Malone and Jones survey the available stabilisation technology. Although a useful survey of fixation vendors is mentioned, no reference is given to the original source, an important omission.

The next chapter deals in a superficial way with solidification of radioactive waste — a topic which hardly fits with the rest of the volume, since radioactive materials are normally dealt with by specialists outside the normal waste disposal industry. The information given could be dangerous if applied by those without considerable knowledge and experience of radioactivity. Curiously, UK work is completely ignored.

The following sections tend to deal with proprietary processes, written by the manufacturers' staff and read like sales brochures. Not surprisingly most processes seem perfect and of universal application. A little more critical comparison would have been most useful. I would find it most difficult to select a process from reading the book, particularly since most writers are reticent about costs.

An indication of the chapter at the top of the pages would help one to find a way through the text — the beginnings of chapters are singularly elusive if the index is not used.

A book I find hard to recommend at £19.80 although it could be useful as a reference volume on the library shelf. However, all the information is already available in sales brochures and EPA reports for those with the time to find it.

F.S. FEATES