

biological laboratory work (together, these three articles occupy seven pages with a total of 17 references). Ten pages are devoted to lead, lead compounds and lead exposures in the occupational environment, with 18 citations. Several relatively rare but potentially serious hazards are covered, such as rabies, the chapter on which is clear and concise with three references. (The potential for animal bites, especially in the occupations where outdoor activity is frequent, is not insignificant, for example, in the small state of Maryland (U.S.), 838 animal bites were reported in 1983, 51 from bats and 735 from raccoons with the remainder from cats, skunks, and deer.)

Radiation and its effect on humans is given an especially fine treatment the broad subject area, from radar to radon and thoron, including visible, UV, IR, ionizing and non-ionizing radiation, occupies 68 pages with over a hundred references. A very valuable addition to the book is the international classification of pneumoconioses, as adopted by the Meeting of Experts on the International Classification of Radiographs of Pneumoconioses for the ILO in 1958. It was revised in 1968 and 1980 by the ILO in consultation with the Commission of the European Communities. Twenty-three full-page reproductions of the radiographs of pneumoconiosis, together showing the international classification, are included in the book along with a description of the standard radiographs. The quality of the radiographs is excellent, and well worth study even by lay personnel. Farmer's lung is included in the set.

Where chemicals are discussed, complete identification of the molecule is usually given, including, in many cases, the structure, molecular weight, melting point, boiling point, and other physical as well as chemical data useful in control of the material. Occupational postures and movements come in for a chapter with three references, supplementing another chapter on seats, tables, and desks with five references.

From the above, it should be obvious that only a first-hand examination of this two-volume tome will reveal its utility. We would hope that it finds its way into every engineering and technologically oriented school, college, and industry, as well as into law schools and agricultural organizations. As a first place to look, this book promises much and delivers a great and diverse viewpoint on a wide variety of subjects of vital concern.

H H FAWCETT

*Lead Versus Health Sources and Effects of Low Level Lead Exposure*, by M. Rutter and R. R. Jones (Eds.), Wiley Medical Publication, John Wiley & Sons, Chichester and New York, 370 pages plus index, 1983, \$39.95

This volume represents the edited proceedings of an international symposium on "Low Level Lead Exposure and Its Effects on Human Beings", held in London, May 10-12, 1982. It has been updated even more by

adding 1983 references to the extensive bibliography

The association between blood lead concentration and lead levels in motor fuels (petrol or gasoline) is reexamined in the light of new research findings in the U.S.A., the U.K., and the remainder of Europe. The methodology used for measuring lead in the environment is discussed, legislation and control are reviewed, and the specific disease syndromes, both physical and psychological, associated with lead exposures in adults and children are discussed in detail. The review in the introduction to the book of scientific issues and the state of the art in the 1980s is an excellent summary, leading into discussions of sources of lead in the environment, including lead in water and air and in dust from other sources, and the contribution of lead from organolead compounds in motor fuels. The toxicity of lead and of organolead compounds both in animals and in humans is explored in depth, as is the subject of the neuropsychological effects of lead, especially in the context of low-level lead exposure of children. Various techniques to correlate lead levels in the body with IQ and other markers in young children are explored in detail, ending with an excellent chapter containing conclusions as to low-level lead exposure sources, effects and implications. The book should interest chemists as well as pediatricians, neurologists, psychiatrists, industrial and environmental engineers, and others concerned with proper control of this valuable substance.

H H FAWCETT

*Asbestos, Vol 2, Properties, Applications, and Hazards*, by S S Chissick and R Derricott (Eds), Wiley-Interscience, New York, 1983, 625 pages plus index, \$110 00

This book, a supplement to Volume 1 published in 1979, is a very comprehensive review and update on the potential hazards of asbestos. The timeliness of this volume is confirmed by three separate events occurring on the day in February 1984 this review is written: the U.S. National Academy of Sciences issued a report on non-occupational aspects of asbestiform exposures (*Nonoccupational Health Risks of Asbestiform Fibers*, Board on Toxicology and Environmental Health Hazards, National Academy Press, Washington, DC 20418, U.S.A., 1984), the Wall Street Journal predicted that the U.S. EPA is considering mandatory inspections of asbestos exposures in schools (present regulations are voluntary), and two separate television stations in Baltimore, Maryland, an industrial city, reported on the evening news that 100 of the 250 public schools in that city needed remedial action to prevent further exposure from insulation installed years ago when asbestos was widely used in pipe lagging.

In volume 1 of *Asbestos*, the chemistry and physics of asbestos were covered, the effect on the health of people exposed to asbestos in industrial