

of professional and academic personnel, including physicians, safety officers, trade unionists, architects and designers, industrial hygienists, occupational health nurses, chemists, and factory inspectors, not only in the U K but anywhere this valuable mineral has been used. When one notes that one case of asbestos disease had a forty-three year induction period, the importance of prompt and adequate controls is clearly in order.

H H FAWCETT

Toxic and Biomedical Effects of Fibers, by P Gross and D C Braun, Noyes Publications, Park Ridge, NJ, 1980, 257 pages, \$36

When I received this book in the mail directly from the publisher, I was surprised because a book written by medical doctors is one I would not ordinarily be interested in. However, an initial scan of the table of contents quickly allayed my fears. The subject material is of great interest to those who routinely deal with hazardous materials and are concerned about their health effects. What caught my eye quickly in the table of contents was the second chapter, Asbestos and Lung Cancer — certainly one of the key areas of current environmental/hazardous material concern.

Of course the concern with asbestos and similar materials is not a one-time exposure. The writer in the book really deals with constant exposure to and the health effects resulting therefrom of fibers such as asbestos, talc, glass, fiberglass, carbon, nickle, cotton, bagasse, nylon, rayon and aramid.

The book is mainly medical in content, delineating the impact of inhaled and ingested fibers on the lungs and the gastrointestinal tract. However, the definition of fibers (description), a survey of their uses, their chemical properties, etc., are of great interest to industrial readers.

GARY F BENNETT

Handbook of Chemical Industry Labelling, by J C O'Connor and S L Lirtzman (Eds), Noyes Publications, Park Ridge, NJ, 1984, 487 pages, \$64

Workers' right-to-know laws, which are becoming very common in the United States, and the "need-to-know" information during chemical spills or emergencies, have created a need for a comprehensive treatment of labelling in the chemical industry. The authors describe their book as a "concise treatment" of the topic. However, with 487 pages the book is hardly concise, but in view of the need to transmit information on labels in the work place, in transportation, in distribution and disposal operations, while simultaneously complying with complex government regulations,