

And indeed, it does, beginning with a look at the dangers of laboratory chemicals when Fawcett discusses compounds presenting unusual hazards and problems of waste disposal (the new problem for laboratories about which few of us know enough). The author then includes four informational chapters on toxicity, followed by a strangely out of place chapter on fire and explosion. Personally, I would have placed this chapter elsewhere and not disrupted the readers' focus on toxicity before he arrived at the next two chapters on protective equipment (personal and respiratory).

Other excellent chapters include an authoritative dissertation on dioxin, the current chemical at the top of the toxic hit-parade. Fawcett discusses well dioxin's chemistry and toxicity. Unfortunately, he confuses the issue by inserting PCB in the middle of the chapter; I would have separated the two. Indeed, PCB deserves a chapter of its own, but the author would be well advised to compare the two with respect to hazards, real and perceived. The dioxin chapter ends with an interesting, but again out of place, description of an office building fire involving PCB, and its toxic combustion products.

One cannot deny that hazardous waste can be toxic and hazardous. This is clear, so Fawcett's description of RCRA is in order. However, he approaches it from the point of view of the law rather than from a toxicity basis. I wish he had done the latter. Totally out of place in the book, however, is his discussion of Superfund (uncontrolled hazardous waste sites) and the needless inclusion of the list of National Policy Sites (which changes so often, the book was out of date almost before printing).

In summary, Fawcett has produced an up-to-date, readable, knowledgeable book on chemical hazards and chemical toxicity. Personally, I would have rearranged the material a little and amplified a couple of sections, but I admit that hindsight criticism by a reviewer is easy. I also would have dropped the Superfund section — perhaps that should be the base for Fawcett's next book.

GARY F. BENNETT

Leachate from Hazardous Wastes Sites, by D.H. Cheremisinoff and K.A. Gigliello, Technomic Publishing Co., Lancaster, PA, 1984, 92 pages, \$18.

There are few aspects of hazardous waste disposal of more current interest than leachate generation and its concomitant quality (or lack thereof). Thus when I received this book I opened it eagerly.

In the six chapters, information is given on:

- Solid waste land disposal systems
- Leachate formation, generation and characteristics
- Leachate sampling
- Leachate testing; laboratory methods
- Leachate control and treatment
- Leachate damage

These authors have given a good deal of information on landfill leachate, but most of the data are not for hazardous waste systems (as advertised by the title) but for conventional solid waste landfills. What there is is good; but what is there is also very limited in scope and amount. Moreover, I found these problems with the book:

- Most data were drawn from conventional, not hazardous waste site, sources.
- None of the references were to professional (journal) papers; all were to other texts and government reports.
- Lack of details; for example, many of the excellent hazardous waste leachate treatment systems suggested by Shuckrow et al. in the *Hazardous Waste Leachate Manual* published by the USEPA were not included — and that book contains a wealth of data (including process flow diagrams on the topic).

Finally, at \$18 for a soft-bound monograph of 90 pages, the cost works out to 20c/page. A great deal of money — for not too much information.

GARY F. BENNETT

Toxic and Hazardous Wastes: Proceedings of the Sixteenth Mid-Atlantic Industrial Waste Conference, by M.D. LaGrega and D.A. Long (Eds.), Technomic Publishing Co., Lancaster, PA, 1984, 587 pages, \$45.00.

This Industrial Waste Conference has grown from one of local importance to one with national prominence — and the timely publication by a well-known publisher, in July, of the papers presented in June, helps this image.

Among the topics discussed at the 1984 Conference were biological waste treatment, waste incineration, resource recovery, heavy metals control, physical-chemical processes, sludge management, hazardous waste cleanup and groundwater protection.

Of the 45 papers, almost one-half dealt with some aspect of hazardous materials. Examples of papers relevant to the interests of readers of this journal include:

- Economics of toxic substance control
- Biotoxification of hazardous wastewaters with activated rotating biological contactors
- Incineration of low-Btu waste
- Hazardous waste site cleanup (four papers)
- Groundwater protection (five papers)

Although the papers have been photoreproduced, the book is easy to read. Most gratifyingly, the publisher has not reduced the diagrams down to microscopic size — I did not find one I could not read.

In summary — a good conference with well written papers covering a wide variety of topics; it is a timely publication your library should have.

GARY F. BENNETT