

*Biomagnetism*, by R.S. Wadas, Published by Ellis Horwood Series in Physics and Its applications, New York, and Prentice Hall-Simon Schuster New York 10016, and by PWN-Polish Scientific Publishers, Warsaw, ISBN 0-13-084666-X, 170 pages, 1991, \$79.95.

To the six senses which have been long recognized as affecting biology, magnetic phenomena should be added. Magnetism has now been shown to have significant effects on biomagnetic properties. In addition, the possibility of a magnetic field having an influence (although small) on chemical reactions, is now being recognized. Free radicals, so important to many chemical reactions, have been modified in their spins, although the potential to cause major disruption is not yet achieved.

This book, written by Professor Wadas, Head of the Magnetic Laboratory, Electronic Materials Research and Production Center, Warsaw, Poland, is a comprehensive review of the state of the science. It is intended primarily for graduates in biophysics and biochemistry, physics, chemistry, biology, medicine, zoology, ecology and astronomy. This is the first book on biomagnetism available in English, and “secrets” of magnetism including the uncertainties of the effects and effects of magnetic fields on living organisms. Experiments are noted in considerable detail. The experiments described in the book are not all academic — a detailed set of data for the magnetic field influence on the operation of the heart (in monkeys) will doubtlessly improve monitoring of aortic blood flow.

Many graphs and drawings are included to assist the reader. The book doubtlessly will generate much interest in this subject.

HOWARD H. FAWCETT

*Material Safety Data Sheets*, The Writer's Desk Reference, Edited by R.P. Molinelli, M.J. Reale and R.I. Freudenthal, Hill and Garnett Publishing, Inc., Boca Raton, FL 33481-0847, 1992, ISBN 0-962-38133-0, 394 pages, \$99.50.

Widespread or indifference to complete facts have been observed in many Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS's) which have appeared over the past years in an attempt to comply with OSHA 29 CFR part 1910.12 Hazards Communication. Each shipment of a chemical should be accompanied by an appropriate MSDS, containing information the ultimate user will find useful in protection from adverse effects while transporting, reacting, using, and disposal, including precautions and information as to medical care needed if spills or other misadventures occur.

To assist writers of MSDS's, three highly qualified editors, assisted by 13 associates, have set the record as to both the informational and legal requirements, suggested data sources, and presentation of the final product. The