

1942

Police Science Book Reviews

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POLICE SCIENCE BOOK REVIEWS

Joseph W. Harney [Ed.]

ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL POISONS, HAZARDS AND SOLVENTS. By Morris B. Jacobs. Interscience Publishers, Inc. (New York, 1941). Pp. 661. \$7.00.

This book will surely be indispensable to chemists in the field of industrial hygiene, and valuable for reference to many others. Health officials, physicians, and attorneys having to do with industrial poisoning or hazardous conditions of employment will find in it data and discussion regarding permissible concentrations, toxicity, and physiological response, as well as analytical chemistry of the substances covered.

The book is almost wholly concerned with air-borne poisons and hazards, whether present in the air as gas, vapor, mist, dust, smoke, or fumes. Substances which are hazardous without being poisonous are chiefly those forming explosive mixtures with air. The preliminary chapters are: Industrial Hygiene and Industrial Poisons; Sampling; Measurement of Gas Volume and Quantity; Absorbers and Absorbents; The Chemical and Microscopic Estimation of Dust. Then follow chapters on The Chemical and Microscopic Estimation of Silica; The Dangerous Metals: Lead, Mercury, and Arsenic; Other Harmful Metals; The Common Poisonous Compounds of Sulfur, Phosphorus, and Nitrogen-Oxygen and Ozone; The Common Poisonous Compounds of the Halogens; Carbon Monoxide, Carbon Dioxide, Hydrocyanic Acid and Cyanogen; General Methods for the Determination of Combustible and Solvent Vapors; Paraffin and Unsaturated Hydrocarbons; Benzene and Aromatic Hydrocarbons; Halogenated Hydrocarbons; Alcohols, Glycols and Alcohol-Ethers, and Ethers; Acids, Esters, Aldehydes, and Ketones; Phenolic Compounds, Aniline and Derivatives; Chemical Warfare Agents; and finally an Appendix of 15 tables, and both an Author Index and a Subject Index.

With respect to the chapter on Chemical Warfare Agents the author points out that these are industrial hazards in the course

of their manufacture, and there is also the possibility of their use against the civilian population in war.

About 150 substances are specifically treated. In general there is mention of the uses of the substance in industry, its properties, trade names, etc.; then a section on its physiological response; and finally a section on its detection and determination. Methods of analysis are explained and fully set out. Most of them are quantitative determinations or estimations, sometimes of a general character. Methods of detection are also given; but tests for specific identification are not stressed, since usually it is known what dangerous substance may be present.

There are a great many footnotes citations of the original articles from which data and methods are taken, and also more general references at the end of each chapter. The book thus contains a bibliography of the subject in all its aspects. The 110 illustrations are nearly all diagrams of apparatus.

This book is Volume I of a series of monographs on Analytical Chemistry and its Applications, and sets a very high level for the series.

CHARLES C. FULTON

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THE POLICE AND CRIME-DETECTION TODAY. By Reginald Morrish (Ex-Chief Inspector, Metropolitan Police). Oxford University Press (London, 1940). Pp. 159. \$2.00.

The Police and Crime-Detection Today is one of a series of books published by the Oxford University Press on the arts and sciences of today, and is an elementary survey of the field of crime detection rather than a detailed exposition of the techniques employed in criminal investigation.

The book is divided into two parts. The first section, of 60 pages, deals briefly with several phases of police investigation, including such topics as Tracing the Criminal, Statements and Police Reports, Systems of Communications, Evidence

and *The Detective and Crime*. The second part is concerned with the role of the police laboratory in criminal investigation, and in this section the author describes numerous cases to illustrate the importance of coordinated efforts by the scientist and the police officer. Separate chapters are devoted to various types of crimes such as burglary, manslaughter by motor vehicles, homicide, arson, etc., and examples are given of the types of evidence commonly recovered in each and the results which can be achieved with the aid of scientific examinations. Some of the commonly used laboratory techniques are described concisely and in non-technical style, and the text is illustrated with many excellent photographs and several diagrams.

Although too elementary in treatment for the technician or the officer who has had close contact with a police laboratory, this book should be valuable to the layman and to many investigators as a general introduction to police science.

M. EDWIN O'NEILL

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AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS. Published by the Chemical Publishing Company (Brooklyn, New York, 1941). Reprinted by permission of the Controller of His Britannic Majesty's Stationery Office. \$3.00.

The book *Air Raid Precautions* is made up of a series of pamphlets issued in England from 1935 to 1939. These were gathered together into one book and published in the United States. It consists of the following subjects: Rescue Parties, Decontamination, Air Raid Wardens' Service, Structural Defense, Communications, Notes on Training, Gas Detection, Protection of Windows in Industry, Inspection of Respirators, and Care of Equipment.

The passage of time, as well as the highly technical nature of these pamphlets, tends to limit their American usage. Since the book was written five years ago, the pamphlets on Structural Defense and Gas Detection have become obsolete. In addition the section on Structural Defense, as well as many paragraphs in the pamphlets on Protection of Windows in Industry, Gas Detection, and Decontamination, are of a technical nature. Thus, anyone without a

technical education would have difficulty understanding them.

The chapters on Air Raid Wardens' Service, Rescue Parties, Inspection of Respirators, and Care of Equipment were written to apply to equipment and conditions in England. For this reason these chapters need modification for use in this country, as we should plan our procedures on the type, length, and intensity of attack that could be possible here. The intensity of an attack made from thousands of miles cannot be the same as one made from forty miles. Even if aircraft carriers are used, the number of planes participating in an attack could not compare with the number of planes that were used by Germans in the fight over England.

It would seem that before this book is studied with the idea of applying its principles to this country, it should be revised by someone who has had practical experience with the ever-changing war situation. The reviser should also possess a thorough knowledge of conditions here, both geographical and technical. For instance, the pamphlet on Communications could be improved by our own telephone and telegraph technicians who are familiar with every detail of our communication systems. Likewise, the section on Gas Detection should be brought up to date by Army chemists or chemical manufacturing firms, just as the chapter on Structural Defense should be revised to conform with the American situation.

It is the opinion of the reviewer that, except for the general information on first aid, this book in its present form is of little practical value to the police in this country.

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BASIC PHOTOGRAPHY. Technical Manual 1-219. Prepared under the direction of Chief of Air Corps, War Dept., July, 1941. Pp. 334. 35c. (Obtainable from Supt. of Documents, Washington, D. C.)

The material covered in this manual is basically the same as that of the training manual issued by the War Department (Air Corps) in 1930, which is now out of print. However, this later publication is far from being a reprint of the earlier text.

The subject matter has been rearranged and brought up to date. New chapters

have been included on Color Photography and Sensitometry, and a chapter on Sensitized Materials brings together data on negative, positive, and special emulsions. A list of photographic chemicals, glossary of terms, and formulary appears for the first time.

Larger type makes for easier reading, and the numerous photographs, charts, and diagrams are helpful in explaining the various topics.

Unlike the old manual, the practice of devoting the end of each chapter to laboratory exercises is omitted. The novice is required to lean heavily upon past expe-

rience or some other guide in order to obtain initial results.

Repetition which was frequently encountered in the 1930 manual is noticeably lacking in this new text. The subject matter has been treated concisely and in a less elementary fashion.

For the beginner in photography, the 1930 edition is to be preferred, but for the more experienced person the 1940 edition is worth many times its nominal cost.

PATRICK J. KISSANE

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PUBLICATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICE OF CIVILIAN DEFENSE*

[The following pamphlets which have been issued by the Office of Civilian Defense are some of the publications which have been prepared to date by this office. Except where noted, these publications can be obtained without cost from the Office of Civilian Defense, Washington, D. C.]

A HANDBOOK FOR AIR RAID WARDENS. Pp. iv, 27 (1941). (Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C., Cost, 10 cents.)

A HANDBOOK FOR AUXILIARY FIREMEN. Pp. ii, 94 (1941).

A HANDBOOK FOR DECONTAMINATION SQUADS. Pp. iv, 62 (1941).

A HANDBOOK FOR DEMOLITION AND CLEARANCE CREWS. Pp. iv, 52 (1941).

A HANDBOOK FOR FIRE WATCHERS. Pp. iv, 52 (1942).

HANDBOOK OF FIRST AID. Pp. viii, 72 (1941).

A HANDBOOK FOR MESSENGERS. Pp. iv, 44 (1941).

A HANDBOOK FOR RESCUE SQUADS. Pp. iv, 56 (1941).

A HANDBOOK FOR ROAD REPAIR CREWS. Pp. iv, 44 (1941).

The purpose of these handbooks can be very well described by quoting the preface.

"This is a series of Civilian Defense handbooks prepared by the United States Office of Civilian Defense. The purpose of each handbook is to instruct the individual enrolled civilian defense worker in his duties, and to serve as a manual for reference.

"The measures for safeguarding civilian life and property against the fire

* This is the first of a series of reviews dealing with publications of the Office of Civilian Defense. Notice of other pamphlets originating from this source will appear in subsequent issues of this Journal.

hazards resulting from air attack, which are described in the following pages, have become a necessary part of the defensive organization of any country open to air attack.

"Every State and municipality should take such legal or administrative action as may be necessary to provide for the organization, direction, and training of its various defense services."

These handbooks are well written, with a considerable number of diagrams and self-explanatory pictures. In brief, they are excellent for both study and teaching.

GLASS AND GLASS SUBSTITUTES. (Protective Construction Series No. 1.)¹ (November, 1941.) Pp. iv, 18. (Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C. Cost 10 cents.)

This pamphlet discusses, first, the effects of high explosives on glazing, and, second, types of protection (protection against near effects and protection against distance effects). Also there is a one page bibliography of about twenty-six items on this phase of civilian defense. On page 17 of this pamphlet are some conclusions and recommendations with respect to protective construction.

JOSEPH W. HARNEY

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¹ The War Department has prepared, and the United States Office of Civilian Defense has recently published, a series of Protective Construction Pamphlets which deal with protection against the effects of aerial bombs.