

new to the field. The description of basic standards is unusually complete. However, one notes a confusion between slack and elastic diaphragm gages, an explanation of critical flow which omits showing a nozzle cross section, a misleading schematic for simple proportional control, the use of "power" to mean stiffness, and the use of  $\psi$  for lb per sq in. There is to me an imbalance between the partial differential equation on page 2 and the large sectional drawing of globe valves which constitutes page 277. The chapter on automatic control is quite inadequate. Throughout the book there is a general tendency to expound design formulas for commercially available instruments which no engineer would think of building for himself.

A preponderance of short one-clause sentences gives a style which is understandable yet not pedestrian. The author's logic is not always clear, however, as when he introduces driving dynamometers by saying "Absorption dynamometers are useful only in testing engines." References are to be found as footnotes on the page concerned, which is convenient. Type is very readable, and few errata were found.

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***Toxicity of Industrial Organic Solvents.*** Rev. ed. Medical Research Council, Industrial Health Research Board, Report No. 80. (Revised in consultation with the Toxicology Committee). Ethel Brown-ing. London: H.M. Stationery Office, 1953. 411 pp. £1.

This book is a revision of Report No. 80 issued in 1937 by the Medical Research Council of the Industrial Health Research Board, London. This new edition does not attempt a critical review of available information; however, it is an excellent source of information with extensive references up to 1948. Even though the book is now several years out of date, it is a valuable reference for medical officers and those charged with safeguarding the health of individuals engaged in the manufacture, use, and handling of the common organic solvents.

The subject matter is divided into 10 chapters, each dealing with from four to thirty common, industrially important organic compounds. The classes of compounds covered are hydrocarbons, chlorinated hydrocarbons, alcohols, ethers, esters, ketones, glycols and derivatives, amines and coal tar derivatives, nitro compounds, and six miscellaneous compounds.

Each compound is treated differently because of the available information. In general, the toxic effects in animals and in man are treated separately. Such important items as absorption, excretion, symptoms, toxicity, acute and chronic poisoning, lethal and narcotic concentrations, and effect on metabolism are reviewed. In addition, industrial problems such as dangerous concentrations, methods of measuring concentration, treatment and post-mortem findings (of little concern to the average individual) are given consideration.

Such items as properties, commercial preparation, and uses add little to a book of this nature.

This book is especially recommended as a reference book for those concerned with the health of workers exposed to common industrial solvents.

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## ***Books Reviewed in THE SCIENTIFIC MONTHLY***

### **November**

***The New Force.*** Ralph E. Lapp. New York: Harper, 1953. x + 238 pp. \$3.00.

Reviewed by Bowen C. Dees.

***Teamwork in Research.*** George P. Bush and Lowell H. Hattery, Eds. Washington, D. C.: American Univ. Press, 1953. xii + 191 pp. \$4.00.

Reviewed by Eric A. Walker.

***The Road to Abundance.*** Jacob Rosin and Max Eastman. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1953. vii + 166 pp. \$3.50.

Reviewed by Hubert N. Alyea.

***Digging Beyond the Tigris.*** Linda Braidwood. New York: Schuman, 1953. xii + 297 pp. Illus. + plates. \$4.50.

Reviewed by Samuel Noah Kramer.

***Cacti and Succulents.*** G. Gilbert Green. London-New York: Pitman, 1953. 238 pp. Illus. \$7.00.

Reviewed by Edward J. Alexander.

***Calculus.*** C. R. Wylie, Jr. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1953. x + 565 pp. Illus. \$6.00.

Reviewed by F. A. Ficken.

***Stewart's Scientific Dictionary***, 4th ed. of *National Paint Dictionary*. Jeffrey R. Stewart. Alexandria, Va.: Stewart Research Laboratory, 1953. 788 pp. \$10.50.

Reviewed by B. G.

***High Jungles and Low.*** Archie Carr. Gainesville, Fla.: Univ. Florida Press, 1953. xvi + 266 pp. Illus. \$4.50.

Reviewed by Lorus J. Milne and Margery J. Milne.

***The Yields of a Crop.*** W. Lawrence Balls. London: E. & F. N. Spon, 1953. xv + 144 pp. Illus. + plates + charts. 21s.

Reviewed by A. A. Moursi.

***Social Behaviour in Animals.*** N. Tinbergen. New York: Wiley; London: Methuen, 1953. xi + 150 pp. Illus. \$2.50.

Reviewed by W. C. Allee.

***Outlines of Structural Geology***, 3rd ed. E. Sherbon Hills. New York: Wiley; London: Methuen, 1953. xi + 182 pp. Illus. + plates. \$3.00.

Reviewed by Arthur Bevan.