

Better Training for Diagnosing Industrial Diseases Urged Before Safety Group

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CHICAGO, Oct. 13.—The idea among physicians that industrial diseases are difficult to diagnose is fallacious thinking, Dr. Carey P. McCord of Detroit told the National Safety Congress here recently.

"Let it be said at once that at least one-half of all occupational diseases are almost self-diagnosing, particularly when arising in groups, and that the remaining half present no greater difficulties than attend the diagnosis of some other classes of disease," he said.

Diagnosing industrial diseases is rarely done well, emphasized Dr. McCord, but this situation arises

because of the lack in the training of the physician and not particularly in the diseases themselves. Better training in medical school and in hospitals could do much to correct the matter, he said.

Trained Sailors Called Best Fire Protection

The risk of the worst of all fires, fire at sea, can be best overcome by proper training of seamen and officers, Commander Robert C. Lee, of the U. S. Merchant Marine, told the Safety Congress.

Much has been done, Commander Lee

Lee indicated, in the study of materials which go into ships in relation to their ability to burn or support combustion. All too little, he added, has been done from the side of improving seaman personnel, which is a big factor in any ship fire.

"This is not a very popular thing to discuss, and I am frequently in hot water on account of my publicly expressed views on the subject," he declared.

"Let us get going and give our sailors the best trained

Merchant Marine the best trained

sailors that can be produced," Commander Lee implored. "Then, with well designed ships, the menace of

fire at sea will have largely disappeared."

Pellagra Unnecessary At Any Time, Is Claim

DURHAM, N. C., Oct. 13.—Pellagra, hard-times disease of the South, can be eliminated in bad times as well as good, Dr. William H. Sebrell Jr., of the U. S. Public Health Service's National Institute

of Health, declared here.

The way to conquer this ailment

of the red rash, wracked nerves and

dementia is by teaching people

especially the tenant farmers and

sharecroppers in the South, to grow

and eat the right foods, Dr. Sebrell

said.

Pellagra in the United States, which in some years kills its victims by the thousands, has followed the prosperity of the cotton producer.

When cotton is profitable, Dr. Sebrell said, pellagra decreases; when cotton becomes unprofitable, pellagra increases. Then, if cotton continues unprofitable, pellagra decreases, because with the exhaustion of credit it is necessary for

the people to turn to production of

food and forage crops. Relief meas-

ures also then make themselves felt.

Pellagra, however, can be di-

vorced from poverty, Dr. Sebrell

declared. In other sections of the country there is much poverty without pellagra.

Low Voltage Shock Danger Is Cited

Low voltage shocks of even 12 volts can be dangerous, H. W. Arlin of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Co. told the Safety Congress.

Despite the general belief among workmen that voltages up to 110 or 220 volts cannot produce fatal shock unless a man has a weak heart, Mr.

Arlin cited reports on tests conducted by various organizations which show that when an electrical circuit is completed through a wet contact any voltage in excess of 12 volts is dangerous.

Tagged Iron Atoms Upset Old Theories

By Science Service

DURHAM, N. C., Oct. 13.—Current theories about how the body uses iron for blood-building have been upset by studies with radioactive iron atoms, Prof. George H. Whipple of the Rochester, N. Y., University School of Medicine, re-

ported to the Duke University symposium on medical problems.

Liver still stands at the head of

the list of foods that promote the building of hemoglobin and red blood cells in anemia, Prof. Whipple said.

After liver, kidney and other meat

products stand high on the list of

blood-building foods, whereas vegetables and dairy products stand low.

Describing his latest studies with the atom-smashing cyclotron of

Prof. E. O. Lawrence of the University of California, Prof. Whipple

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