

Chapter V gives the geographical distribution of all the known deposits of refractory clays in India arranged in a specified way according to Provinces and States in alphabetical order. Each of these deposits has a brief useful note containing all the information available on it. The information on the refractory clay deposits of Mysore, however, as extracted from older publications, is incomplete and not up-to-date.

There are 8 tables containing additional useful information, such as the analyses of

Indian and foreign fire bricks, analyses of Indian refractory clays of some 89 samples from different parts; analyses of standard foreign refractory clays and similar other particulars. There is also a map of India showing the deposits of the three types of refractory clays described in the book.

It is needless to say that this handy reference book will be highly useful to those who are interested in refractory, ceramic and other allied industries in India.

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The Thyroid Gland and Its Disorders

1938 Transactions of the Third International Goiter Conference and the American Association for the Study of Goiter. (J. C. Hamilton, Goiter Publications, Concord Building, Portland, Oregon), 1939. Pp. 547. Price \$3.50.

THE American Association for the Study of Goiter deserves the warmest congratulations of all medical scientists, engaged in the study of the thyroid gland and its disorders, for the initiative it has taken in getting together and publishing in book form the interesting and valuable transactions of the Third International Goiter Conference held under its auspices last year at Washington, D.C. Though goiter was first clinically recognised more than hundred years ago and considerable amount of knowledge has gathered since then, there are quite a number of questions which remain still unanswered. The International Goiter Conference has not only attempted to review and bring up-to-date the modern status of knowledge about thyroid disorders but, by many original articles and discussions contributed by some of the world-renowned specialists, has tried to indicate newer lines of thought and investigations. There is little doubt that the *Transactions* will be very welcome and largely appreciated by all keen students and teachers of the subject.

Starting off with an ably written *Foreword* and addresses of greetings from the President of the Conference, the Secretary of State for the United States Government and the Chairman of the Reception Committee, the subject-matter is presented in thirteen sections as follows: (1) Etiology—Radioemanation; (2) Prophylaxis; (3) Congenital and Childhood Factors; (4) New Growth and Infection; (5) Special Endocrine Aspects; (6) Surgical Aspects; (7)

Medical Aspects, Cardiac and Renal Aspects; (8) Iodine; (9) Vitamins and Thyroid; (10) Research; (11) Metabolism and Basal Metabolic Rate; (12) X-ray; (13) Colloid Goiter. From the titles of the sections, it will be apparent that nearly all aspects of the thyroid problem have been touched and discussed. The arrangement of the various articles has been executed with commendable judgment, enabling readers with different fields of interest such as the clinician, the public health worker, the surgical specialist or the laboratory investigator to concentrate attention on their individual specialities easily. It is difficult to single out from such a formidable array of well-written articles by renowned workers any particular note for special mention, but presumably, writings from authorities such as George Crile, David Marine, H. Eggenberger, Henri Welti, J. B. Collip, F. H. Lahey, I. S. Ravdin and A. C. Wegelin will attract more attention than others.

In the concluding lines of the *Foreword*, the American Association for the Study of Goiter states, "To the profession we offer this volume in the conscious pride of its potentiality—as a strategic and valuable reference work, to everyone directly or remotely interested in the fields of the study of Goiter". The Association, it must be admitted, has succeeded in its endeavour. The treatise is undoubtedly a valuable collection and presentation of current knowledge about the thyroid gland and its disorders. Superbly bound and richly got-up, with clear illustrations and neat Zinc-cuts, the volume will be a welcome addition to all medical institutions and post-graduate medical libraries.

B. MUKERJI,