

Thermal Comfort in Industry

In everyday circumstances of industrial and, for that matter, domestic life, the range of temperature and humidity that can be tolerated by the human body is really quite small. Human reaction to different thermal conditions, especially in factories and offices, is a subject of research falling within the ever-widening scope of ergonomics. In this context, there has recently been published a booklet by Dr. R. H. Fox, of the Division of Human Physiology, Medical Research Council (Ministry of Technology. *Ergonomics for Industry*, No. 8: *Thermal Comfort in Industry*. Pp. 52. London: H.M.S.O. Obtainable from Warren Spring Laboratory, Stevenage, Herts. 1965. *Gratis*). The essential theme of this guide-book (for that is the underlying purpose of each issue in the *Ergonomics for Industry* series so far available) is not only a discussion of human reactions to environmental conditions of temperature and humidity, but also the ways and means of ensuring that optimum conditions may be established. Quoting one specific instance (well illustrated), the author says: "Few people would choose to live in a greenhouse all the year round, yet the indoor climate in this modern office building is not very different". Thus attention is directed to the different conditions that different types of work require. It is recommended that buildings should be planned with the comfort and working efficiency of the occupants in mind. It stresses the problems encountered in some modern office buildings where large areas of glass prevail, with relatively little, if any, provision for air conditioning; such conditions result in overheating and consequent fatigue in summer, and coldness and discomfort in winter. Either of these extremes is inimical in the long run to welfare and efficiency. It is admitted that in some cases extremes of temperature occur and thermal control is impracticable; in the event, protective clothing and training are necessary; the principles involved in insulating individuals in such environments are outlined. The illustrations in this booklet are impressive, so is the advice and practical guidance throughout the text. Suggestions are made for further reading on this important subject of human and environmental relationship, while sources of specialist advice, and information on general ergonomic questions and on heating, ventilation and insulation of buildings, conclude a most practical exposition of the problems involved.

Science Information and Documentation Services

A *World Guide to Science Information and Documentation Services*, issued by Unesco, is intended primarily as a guide to the location of such services dealing with the natural sciences (Pp. 211. Paris: Unesco, 1965. 9 francs; 13s.; 2.50 dollars). Technology is to be dealt with in a separate volume, but services for agriculture and medicine are expressly included because of their paramount importance for the developing countries. The *Guide*, which is in both French and English, is based on 403 completed forms returned in a detailed questionnaire, and covers 144 institutions representing 65 countries. The institutions are listed under countries in alphabetical order of their titles and the entries indicate the subjects covered, approximate holdings and services offered. There is also an alphabetical list of institutions and a subject index. It might be noted that there are only three entries for the United Kingdom: Aslib; the National Lending Library for Science and Technology; and the Science Museum Library.

British Art, 1740-70

THE American Philosophical Society has rendered a notable service to art-history by publishing Prof. E. K. Waterhouse's Jayne Lectures for 1964 under the title *Three Decades of British Art, 1740-70 (Memoirs of the*

American Philosophical Society, 63. Pp. xii+77. Philadelphia: American Philosophical Society, 1965. 2 dollars). But these discourses can be interpreted more widely than that, namely, as a conspectus of what a certain cross-section of society was like at that period. In general, we note the advent of Italian influence, culminating in the Grand Style, and with it the works of such masters as Hogarth, Reynolds and Gainsborough. To men of science, there are several points of interest, but two stand out clearly. One is the statue of Handel by Roubiliac (illustrated), so complex and rather voluptuous, when one recalls that it is by the same hand as the ascetic and sublime "Newton" in Trinity College Chapel. How versatile and sympathetic the sculptor must have been to respond like that in his portrayal of two utterly different characters. The second matter is the 'characatura' (by Reynolds) of Raphael's *School of Athens*. This is indeed an odd fantasy—the great Greek philosophers and mathematicians replaced by eighteenth-century milords and their fellow-travellers, seen against a background of Gothic niches (in place of Raphael's classical statues). Sir Joshua was far too great a man to perpetrate this merely for fun. He was showing up his contemporaries, and incidentally instructing himself quite effectively. Altogether a most intriguing episode, described with exceptional insight.

University of Leicester, Department of Museum Studies

WITH the assistance of a £15,000 grant from the Gulbenkian Foundation, the University of Leicester has established a postgraduate Department of Museum Studies. The University has appointed H. R. Singleton, at present director of the City Museum, Sheffield, to be the first director of this new Department. His duties will commence on January 1, 1966, and it is expected that the first students will be admitted in the following October. Initially, the intake will be confined to graduates with qualifications in archaeology or geology, but in subsequent years it is hoped to accept graduates from other disciplines. The one-year, full-time course for a Certificate in Museum Studies will be designed to offer intending entrants to the museum profession a preliminary training in museum administration and organization, in the museum application of their particular subject, and in the practical side of museum work.

National Museums of Southern Rhodesia

THE report of the Trustees and Directors of the National Museums of Southern Rhodesia for the year ended December 31, 1964, records the probably unique event of the opening of three new museum buildings within one year, namely, the National Museum, Bulawayo, the Queen Victoria Museum, Salisbury, and the Umtali Museum (Pp. 25. Salisbury: National Museums of Southern Rhodesia, 1965). With the future in mind, each of the buildings is designed to allow for expansion, and the sites have sufficient ground reserved for extension. Although the fittings in the exhibition galleries were far advanced for the opening ceremonies, much still remains to be done. This great development has come at a time when political considerations in Africa have disturbed the progress which took place in the immediate post-war years. As a result, funds are not so freely available as formerly, and so, with Government sanction, it was decided to levy an entrance charge to help to offset the greatly increased maintenance costs on buildings some two-and-a-half times the size of the old. In view of the educational nature of the organization, school parties are admitted free.

Meat from Wild Animals in Africa

In the past decade increased attention has been directed towards the management and potential utilization of wild