

carbon-14 beta plate, wash your hands as a precaution, but carbon-14 has low radiotoxicity and some even occurs naturally in the body. A Product Specifications Sheet has been developed and may be requested from Amersham Searle Corporation, 2636 South Clearbrook Drive, Arlington Heights, IL 60005.

Despite the problems with the beta plate the National Gallery's paper conservators are continuing their ongoing project of recording watermarks on prints and drawings received for treatment in their laboratory, and would be interested in exchanging contact prints of beta radiographs with other conservation labs or in hearing from anyone doing beta radiography. The NGA project has concentrated on Schongauer and other Northern Renaissance artists, Claude Lorrain, Rembrandt, and Whistler.

NANCY ASH
Conservator of Paper
National Gallery of Art

ETHYLENE OXIDE: AN ALERT

"The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) recommends that ethylene oxide be regarded in the workplace as a potential occupational carcinogen, and that appropriate controls be used to reduce worker exposure. These recommendations are based primarily on an industry-sponsored study demonstrating that ethylene oxide was associated with increases in leukemia in female rats and peritoneal mesotheliomas (malignant tumors) in male rats. There has been widespread recognition of the mutagenic potential of the ethylene oxide, and recent evidence demonstrates adverse reproductive effects in mammals, which are also of public health concern. In addition, limited epidemiological investigations at two worksites provide evidence that excess risk of cancer mortality may exist for the ethylene oxide workers studied. Some workers are on occasion exposed to relatively high concentrations of ethylene oxide, particularly where it is used for fumigation and sterilization."

The Center for Occupational Hazards advises the wearing of passive dosimeter badges to measure the exposure to ethylene oxide. The badges function similarly to those used to measure exposure to x-radiation. The dosimeters are worn on the shirt collar for a given time period, and then mailed to the supplier company for analysis. The company notifies the user of the results. The passive dosimeter badges are produced by 3M Company (Occupational Health Products, 3M Center, St. Paul, MN 55101).

The above information was brought to our attention by Art Hazards Newsletter (8/81 and 10/81). The quotation is excerpted from NIOSH Current Intelligence Bulletin #35, Ethylene Oxide (EtO): Evidence of Carcinogenicity, which may be ordered from NIOSH Publications Dissemination, Division of Technical Services, 4676 Columbia Parkway, Cincinnati, OH 45226.

PUBLICATIONS

Two booklets are currently available from The Center for Archaeometry: Maintenance Manual for Outdoor Bronze Sculpture (12 p.) particularly concerns sculpture that has previously been given conservation treatment including a protective coating of Inralac. The newly revised Bibliography of Material Related to the Conservation of Outdoor Bronze Sculpture (11 p.) includes 87 entries on corrosion and corrosion control, patination and finishing, Inralac, atmospheric corrosion investigations and conservation. Cost: each \$2.50 postpaid, from The Center for Archaeo-

metry, Box 1105, Washington University, St. Louis, MO 63130.

The Utah Museum Association, Conference of Intermountain Archivists, and the Special Libraries Section of the Utah Library Association announce the availability of a disaster planning packet. The packet includes two disaster plans (Universities of California Libraries Systemwide Plan, by Hilda Boehm; and Brigham Young University's Plan by CRAIG JENSEN and Sally Jo L. Mielke), AASLH Technical Leaflet #114 Emergency Preparedness for Museums, Historic Sites, and Archives: An Annotated Bibliography by John Hunter and Library of Congress Procedures for Salvage of Water-Damaged Library Materials by PETER WATERS plus \$1 postage and handling. Send prepaid orders to: Patricia Lyn Scott, Salt Lake City Public Library, 209 East Fifth South, Salt Lake City, UT 84111. Checks payable to: The Special Libraries Section, ULA.

The Builder's Dictionary (2 vols., 1017 p. 33 plates, hardbound \$40 per set postpaid). An unabridged republication of the 1734 London edition which originally served as a ready reference on the theory of architecture and the practice of building in England and its colonies. Entries include marquetry, painting [in oil] and varnishing. Order from: Foundation for Preservation Technology, 1511 K Street, N.W., Suite 1005, Washington, D.C. 20005.

The History and Art of Glass: Index of Periodical Literature, 1956-1979 from The Corning Museum of Glass, G. K. Hall Library Catalogues, 1982, 650 p. \$85. The comprehensive index of articles on the history, archaeology and art of glass references 500 journals with over 16,000 entries. Order: G.K. Hall, 70 Lincoln Street, Boston, MA 02111, (800-343-2806).

The English Miniature by John Murdock, Jim Murrell, Patrick J. Noon and Roy Strong, Yale University Press, New Haven, 1981, 231 p. illus., index, softbound \$14.95, hardbound \$40. The well-documented and richly illustrated volume documents the history of English miniatures from manuscript origins to the nineteenth century. Conservator J. Murrell discusses the craft of the miniaturist in detail.

Atlas of Rock-Forming Minerals in Thin Section, by W. S. MacKenzie and C. Guilford. Halsted Press, John Wiley and Sons, New York, 1980. 98 p., paperbound, \$22.50. A laboratory handbook containing very good color photomicrographs in plane-polarized light and under crossed polars of 97 minerals. Data on chemical formula, crystal system, optic sign, and refractive indices, as well as a paragraph describing the properties seen in the photographs, are included for each mineral.

The Committee on Production Guidelines for Book Longevity of the Council on Library Resources has issued a report on permanence of book papers. Recommended guidelines are a simplified version of those adopted by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission and the American Society for Testing and Materials/American National Standards Institute. Send a self-addressed envelope to the CLR, One Dupont Circle, Suite 620, Washington, D.C. 20036.

A History of Textile Art, by Agnes Geijer. Pasold Research Fund in association with Sotheby Parke Bernet, 1979. 464 p., hardbound, \$36. The volume is a revised translation of Ur Textilkonstens Historia, a survey of woven textiles from ancient times to the twentieth century. Opening chapters discuss fibers, looms, and weaves, while later chapters consider special topics, such as silk weaving, knotted pile fabrics, and dying.