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978-1-107-41921-6 - Occupations: From the Social, Hygienic and Medical Points of View

Sir Thomas Oliver

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## CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC HEALTH SERIES

UNDER THE EDITORSHIP OF

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Medicine Syndicate

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**OCCUPATIONS**  
**FROM THE SOCIAL, HYGIENIC AND**  
**MEDICAL POINTS OF VIEW**

BY

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## EDITORS' PREFACE

**I**N view of the increasing importance of the study of public hygiene and the recognition by doctors, teachers, administrators and members of Public Health and Hygiene Committees alike that the *salus populi* must rest, in part at least, upon a scientific basis, the Syndics of the Cambridge University Press have decided to publish a series of volumes dealing with the various subjects connected with Public Health.

The books included in the Series present in a useful and handy form the knowledge now available in many branches of the subject. They are written by experts, and the authors are occupied, or have been occupied, either in investigations connected with the various themes or in their application and administration. They include the latest scientific and practical information offered in a manner which is not too technical. The bibliographies contain references to the literature of each subject which will ensure their utility to the specialist.

It has been the desire of the editors to arrange that the books should appeal to various classes of readers: and it is hoped that they will be useful to the medical profession at home and abroad, to bacteriologists and laboratory students, to municipal engineers and architects, to medical officers of health and sanitary inspectors and to teachers and administrators.

Many of the volumes will contain material which will be suggestive and instructive to members of Public Health and Hygiene Committees; and it is intended that they shall seek to influence the large body of educated and intelligent public opinion interested in the problems of public health.

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## AUTHOR'S PREFACE

**O**F the many subjects which at present claim attention none is more interesting or calls more insistently for our consideration than the influence of occupation upon health. The prosperity of a nation is intimately bound up with the health of the people who compose it. Recent years have witnessed improvements in the conditions under which labour is carried on in this and other countries. Factory legislation has accomplished much, much yet remains to be done. While our hearts are no longer saddened by tales of children of tender years lifted from their bed and carried in the early morning into a coal mine to spend several hours a day in darkness minding a trap door, there are still children who to-day in brickfield and factory are forced to carry weights far beyond their strength and who, as a consequence, suffer in health and remain stunted in growth.

This book has been written not for members of the medical profession alone, but for all who are interested in those movements which make for better health of the large army of workers. It ought to appeal to students of social problems and of subjects connected with public health, also to workers in the cause of industrial legislation. The space allotted is only sufficient to allow of merely the fringe of some of the subjects being reached, but even the little which has been attempted may be enough to stimulate some of the readers to take up and assist in solving problems which are of vital importance to the working classes.

As the book was partly on the way before the war began I have not thought it desirable to alter the text nor to change the references. When the war is over new labour difficulties

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will arise, and new social aspirations will have to be considered and met. Work, for example, will have to be found for many of the soldiers who are maimed or otherwise, and to women some consideration will have to be shown for the promptitude with which they stepped into the breach and helped their country in her hour of trial and at a time when male labour was becoming unprocurable.

THOMAS OLIVER.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE

*December, 1915.*



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