

- LITTLEFIELD, L. D., COLYER, S. P., JOINER, E. E. DUFRAIN, R. J.: Sister chromatid exchanges in human lymphocytes exposed to ionizing radiation during G₀. – *Radiat. Res.* **78** : 514–521, 1979.
- MORGAN, W. F., CROSSEN, P. E.: X-irradiation and sister chromatid exchange in cultured human lymphocytes. – *Environ. Mutagen.* **2** : 149–152, 1980.
- PERRY, P., EVANS, H. J.: Cytological detection of mutagen-carcinogen exposure by sister chromatid exchange. – *Nature* **258** : 121–125, 1975.
- UGGLA, A. H., NATARAJAN, A. T.: SCE in plants. – In: SANDBERG, A. A. (ed.): *Sister Chromatid Exchanges*. Pp. 217–233. Alan R. Liss, Inc., New York 1982.
- UGGLA, A. H., NATARAJAN, A. T.: X-ray-induced SCEs and chromosomal aberrations in CHO cells. Influence of nitrogen and air during irradiation in different stages of the cell cycle. – *Mutat. Res.* **122** : 193–200, 1983.

BOOK REVIEW

STERRETT, F. S. (ed.): ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES. Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences, Vol. 502. – The New York Academy of Sciences, New York 1987.

This Annal contains most of the papers that were presented at the monthly meetings of the Environmental Sciences Section of the Academy in the years 1984 and 1985. It encompasses a wide range of subjects; many of the papers deal with exposure to radiation and to toxic or hazardous materials and their risks to human health and welfare.

The first paper – R. V. Benoit, "What's wrong with the Environment" – is a general discussion on environmental problems. It is followed by four papers dealing with radiation. The health effects of low-dose radiation are very difficult to determine with absolute certainty, which causes polarization of different interest groups. It is suggested that radiologic health may be better achieved by democratic dialogue.

The next five papers are devoted to air pollution. In three of them outdoor air is considered, indoor air in the fourth, and urban air movement in the last. The superb S. E. Schwartz's paper "Both Sides now: The Chemistry of Clouds" describes the process whereby sulfur- and nitrogen oxides are transformed in the atmosphere and deposited to the surface in precipitation, and elucidates two complementary approaches to the study of chemistry that occurs in liquid water clouds.

The next two papers treat the problems of water – one concerning the New York City's drinking water, and the other the ground water. S. E. Ragone's article "The U. S. Geological Survey's Toxic Waste – Ground Water Contamination Program" outlines the research on toxic and hazardous waste in ground water.

The last two papers in this volume stand by themselves. One discusses the sociological phenomenon of public recalcitrance at allowing environmentally questionable facilities to be sited "close to home". The last article investigates legislative and regulatory solutions to the problem of asbestos contamination of commercial buildings.

The merit of this volume is in the scientific approach to a problem which is often perceived on an emotional basis.

J. DOBR (Přaha)