**Virgil Anghelescu**

ELEMENTS OF APPLIED ERGONOMY

Political Publishing House, Bucharest, 1971, 54 pag.

The volume signed by Virgil Anghelescu occupies a place among the works addressed by the Political Publishing House, through its collection "Organization and Scientifical Management Library", to those who organize and are managing the great variety of industrial processes.

The work has a stressed synthesis character as it presents the latest few years' conclusion of various specialists in Europe and U.S.A. doubled by the author's taking up a position, by his personal proposals and practical solutions, in the field of applied ergonomy in our country (The author is also the director of the first Romanian film with an ergonomic subject, achieved in a factory in Brașov).

Starting from an ample and suggestive history of the ergonomic sciences, insisting upon its notion and comprehension sphere, the author makes a critical, well-informed analysis of the various trends in considering ergonomy: as a science in which multidisciplinary notions are interwoven and integrated; as a science in which several sciences interfere; as a field of a certain science, a.s.o. The author succeds in formulating a comprehensive definition — which considers that between the relation "man-machine" the production relation complex is interposed — a definition which clearly and precisely expresses the object, content, sources, aim and conditions of this new discipline.

Further on, the physiologic bases of the economy of motions and of fatigue reduction in the labour process, are examined. A special attention is paid to the study of work place, to the functionality of apparatus, equipments and tools in the production process. This analysis is effected on the basis of the conception that the worker is trained during the working process, and that the success of this process can, and must be quantitatively influenced also by the reduction of the training duration and the fact of possesing knowledge and dexterities to utilize tools and functional means is a first condition of labour, in the conditions of the contemporary technology and science.

In terms of the work-place study, the environmental factors are presented, which must he observed within the production process with a view to completing the endowment of enterprises and factories in our country. By using concluding examples, the author demonstrates the correct use of light, of colours and of ambient temperature, the necessity and the possibilities of reducing noise, a.s.o.

The reader is also put before an ergonomic "check list" that can be easily applied and which can be used within every industrial branch (in case of manual labour, mechanical and apparatus-handling labour, laboratory, office and conception labour).

In the end part of the work are presented the efficiency indicators which ergonomy can put at the disposal of economic-unit managing staffs — indicators which contain and reflect human energy consumption.

The work is concluded by an ample bibliography, which was used and quoted in the book.

By its contents and treating manner, the book is devoted to all specialists — engineers, economists, mathematicians working in production, as well as to the students of the faculties where economy and industrial production organization are studied.It succeeds in giving a clear and correct idea about the role and the importance of economy in the conditions of the present-day technical-scientifical revolution, about the contribution it can bring to the improvement of production and labour organization, to the increasing of economic efficiency concomitantly with the alleviating of the efforts of all working people.

**Ion Rațiu Suciu**