

ideas of stereochemistry and ring configuration were used to account for the peculiar properties of the 1,6-anhydrohexofuranoses in one fascinating chapter.

### Dairy Engineering

ARTHUR W. FARRALL. xvii + 477 pages. 2nd ed. John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 440 Fourth Ave., New York 16, N. Y., and Chapman & Hall, Ltd., London, England. \$6.00. Reviewed by H. A. TREBLER, National Dairy Research Laboratories, Inc.

THIS excellent book is in its second enlarged edition, proving that it is definitely filling a need as an elementary textbook for students and operators concerned with the purchase, operation, and maintenance of processing and auxiliary equipment in the dairy field. The strength of the book is now, as before, in the clear and simple discussion of the mechanical and maintenance features of equipment which is well supported by a good selection of illustrations.

As might possibly be expected in these days of extreme specialization, the author is in need of a well-informed collaborator in the borderline fields of chemical and sanitary engineering and chemistry. For instance, the rather misleading term of "detergent" frequently used by old-timers in the industry to designate specifically a dairy cleaning compound con-

taining gritty material is rapidly being discontinued. Also, the use of barium salts for boiler water treatment in plants that use steam in direct contact with foods or food contact surfaces is inadvisable because of high cost and toxicity. No mention is made of the general use of reducing agents, such as sodium sulfite, in boiler waters to remove the last traces of oxygen. It would be difficult to figure heat transfer with the formulas as printed on page 93 or to run B.O.D. tests with oxygen-free dilution water.

However annoying these many minor mistakes in borderline fields may be to the initiated, they certainly do not detract too much from the general usefulness of the book for the purpose for which it is primarily intended and for which it can still be strongly recommended.

### Beet Sugar Economics

R. H. COTTRELL, xiii + 379 pages. The Caxton Printers, Ltd., Caldwell, Idaho. 1952. \$5.00.

AN ACCURATE, even minute profile of the beet sugar industry is provided in this book. As a case history of an industry, it should be of interest, not only to chemists and technologists in the beet sugar industry, but to those concerned with the economy of the West and to food and agricultural scientists as well. In discussing the industry's problems,

### NEW BOOKS

Cottrell stresses that the industry is a chemical one and is behind in its chemical research.

The book contains discussions on sugar marketing, nutrition of sugar, sugar legislation, and outlines the case for reliance on both continental and off-shore sugar.

### The Comparative Biochemistry Of the Carotenoids

T. W. GOODWIN. x + 356 pages. Chapman and Hall, 37 Essex St., London WC 2, England. 1952. 50 s.

THIS is a comprehensive biochemical treatment of carotenoids which covers very well the research work and literature, up to its time of publication, to produce a valuable and readable treatise. A great deal of work obviously has gone into its preparation.

Information is presented systematically and effectively. The author discusses distribution of carotenoids in plants and animals with a review of the evidence for their biogenesis and functions. The problem is presented clearly, although the great amount of data and information prevents arrival at definitive answers. Readers who keep in mind the great difficulties involved in biochemical appraisal of the subject in its present state will find this work very valuable.

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