

BOOK REVIEW

Analyst's Pocket-Book, by J. R. MAJER, Butterworths Scientific Publications, London, 1959, ix + 100 pages, price 17 s. 6 d.

According to the preface, this book has been produced to serve the needs of students and routine analysts by providing quantitative data "in simple and compact form". The form is compact but the simplicity at times appears to have been overdone; especially in the section on standard solutions, where for example it is pointed out that basic solutions should be protected from the atmosphere but no mention is made of the fact that carbonate-free distilled water should be used in the preparation.

The tables of indicators are conveniently grouped and useful, but it is a pity that the more recent chelatometric indicators are only mentioned without giving the conditions under which they are used.

Approximately one half of the book is taken up with tables of gravimetric factors and their logarithms. One wonders why the gravimetric factors were computed so that one must divide the amount of substance found by the factor in order to obtain the amount of substance sought.

It is rather distressing to see that the practice of tabulating densities of solutions at 15° C, without giving temperature coefficients has been continued in yet another book. An otherwise handy set of tables loses a lot of its usefulness, for few laboratories nowadays have an ambient temperature of 15° C.

Although the needs of students are adequately covered, the practising analyst would find that his needs are not so well covered.

Typographical errors are few and the presentation is good.

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ERRATUM

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In the short communication "The analysis of isoprene by gas chromatography", by F. ARMITAGE, the wrong correction factor for the pressure gradient along the column was used.

The factor used was:

$$\frac{3 (p_i/p_o)^2 - 1}{2 (p_i/p_o)^3 - 1}$$

which should have been:

$$\frac{3 (p_i/p_o)^2 - 1}{2 (p_i/p_o)^3 - 1}$$

The amended correction factors and partition coefficients are given below.

Table I:	<i>f</i>	0.7368	0.7392	0.6261	0.6322	0.7481	0.7526
	<i>K</i> for isoprene	68.86	67.57	105.4	106.3	134.9	137.5
Table II:	<i>f</i>	0.8167	0.8182	0.7185	0.7245	0.7291	0.7306
	<i>K</i> for isoprene	82.07	79.70	109.2	108.1	143.4	142.6