

Chapter III. In connection with the use of phenolphthalein as an indicator, a rather satisfactory discussion of the subject of indicators has been included.

A. Marshal, F.I.C., contributes Chapter IX, Modern Explosives. As might be expected, in a work so thoroughly revised, a great amount of new material is found in this chapter in which the number of pages has been more than doubled. All of the "newer" explosives seem to be included.

The bibliography at the end of each chapter appears usually to be complete, the book-work is of very good quality, a very important factor in work of this kind which should ever be at hand and will undoubtedly often be consulted by the general analyst as well as those specializing along the lines covered therein.

JEANNOT HOSTMANN.

*Homöopathisches Arzneibuch.* Auzählung und Beschreibung der homöopathischen Arzneimittel, nebst Vorschriften für ihre Bearbeitung, Prüfung und Wertbestimmung. Bearbeitet und herausgegeben von Dr. Willmar Schwabe, Leipzig. 2. Ausgabe, 1924. Lex. 410 pp. Half Leather, Gold-Mk. 16.

As early as 1872 Dr. Willmar Schwabe, a recognized authority on homoeopathic pharmacy the world over published his *Pharmacopœa Homœopathica Polyglota*, at first in three, then in five, and last in seven different languages. The rapid progress during the past few decades in all sciences, including homœopathy, made a new edition advisable and necessary, which is just off the press, under the plain title *Homœopathic Pharmacopœa*. The work is from the pen of an authority on this subject, a man who owns one of the largest retail, wholesale and export homœopathic pharmacies in the world. The division of the book is as follows:

I. Homœopathic Pharmacy: Location, Laboratory, Utensils, Manufacture, Dispensing, Nomenclature, Methods of Chemical Assay and Capillary Analysis.

II. The Most Important Homœopathic Medicaments. This most valuable part occupies 323 pages. How complete and thorough the monographs are prepared can be seen from the one on *Hydrastis* which occupies a full page and contains Botanic Origin, Habitat, Part Used, Description, *i. e.*, reference to German Pharmacopœia, Preparations, Characteristics, Assay, Capillary Analysis, Strength of Tincture, Literature.

III. Appendix: The Less Important Homœo-

pathic Remedies. Table B: Poisons, Table C: Potent Remedies, Quantitative Analysis of Sugar according to Allihn, Synonyms and Index.

The author deserves special credit for the use of 45% Alcohol as a diluent in many low potencies and in all the high potencies above 4 X. The paper, printing and binding are excellent, far superior to many a "Government Pharmacopœia."

The book is a real master work and we hope that it will become known, or better known in the United States.

OTTO RAUBENHEIMER, PH.M.

*Organic Medicaments and Their Preparation.* By Ernest Fourneau, Head of the Laboratory for Therapeutical Chemistry in the Pasteur Institute; member of the Academy of Medicine; formerly director of the Poulene Laboratories. The English edition has been prepared *i. e.*, translated by W. A. Sylvester, chemist with the British Dyestuffs Corporation, Ltd. Prefaces by Émile Roux, Director of the Pasteur Institute, and George Barger, Professor of Medical Chemistry, University of Edinburgh. P. Blakiston's Son & Co., Philadelphia. 262 + pages. Price \$4.25. In 1917, by request of the *Junta para Ampliacion de Estudios*, M. Fourneau went to Madrid to arrange and direct a course of theoretical and practical instruction in the synthesis of the principal organic medicaments; his part of the work was concluded with the coöperation of Professor Madanaveita, in Professor Carracido's laboratory, and this volume, *i. e.*, the French, is the result. The list of medicaments is not complete, but those that are treated evidence painstaking care of one thoroughly acquainted with his subject. Dr. George Barger in his preface to the English edition says that "M. Fourneau has long been known as a master of drug synthesis. Not only has he done much work of an academic kind, but as a former director of the Poulene Laboratories, he has also an intimate acquaintance with industrial practice."

The successive operations in manufacture are given in detail. The author brings into the subjects some interesting data that usually are not included; for example, in some of the technical considerations he includes prices, patents and secret processes. In the consideration of guaiacol, as an example of another kind, the author speaks of the why of its introduction and in the description of other processes the pharmacology and chemotherapy is brought to the attention of the chemist.

Part I is descriptive and divided into 14 chapters; the latter includes general remarks on pharmaceutical products and imparts a knowledge of the medicaments considered and of the relationship that exists between their chemical constitution and their physiological action.

Part II is concerned with the practical application of the knowledge in the manufacture of the chemicals—that of guaiacol; phenacetine by three methods; acetylsalicylic acid from salicylic acid; diethylbarbituric acid from ethyl malonate; preparation of the mercurials, arsenicals, alkaloids, glucosides, etc., etc.

The book is of practical value to all who have a scientific interest in drugs, whether as teachers, students, manufacturers or pharmacists.

*Addresses on the Occasion of the Centenary Celebration of the Founding of the Franklin Institute and the Inauguration Exercises of the Bartol Research Foundation, September 17-19, 1924.*—Practical Results of Theoretical Development of Chemistry, by Professor F. Haber; Recent Progress in the Science of Aeronautics, by Joseph S. Ames; Military Aircraft and Their Use in Warfare, by Major General Mason M. Patrick; Spectroscopy in the Past and in the Future, by Professor Charles Fabry; The Steam Turbine—As a Study in Applied Physics, by Sir Charles A. Parsons; Lightning, by F. W. Peek, Jr.; The Influence of J. Willard Gibbs on the Science of Physical Chemistry, by F. G. Donnan; The Carbon Atom in Crystalline Structure, by Sir William Henry Bragg; The Fifth Estate, by Arthur D. Little; The Natural and Artificial Disintegration of the Elements, by Professor Sir Ernest Rutherford.

*Digest of Comments on the Pharmacopœia of the United States of America and on the National Formulary for the calendar year ending December 31, 1921.* By A. G. DuMez. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., 1924. Treasury Department United States Public Health Service. Hygienic Laboratory—Bulletin No. 137.

Comments on each issue of this valuable publication have been made in these columns, and what has been said previously applies to this bulletin. The appreciation expressed by the National Drug Trade Conference, about a year ago, evidences the value of this work, and the same views are on record in the PROCEEDINGS of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION and of its Executive Committee. Resolutions

by both of these organizations are printed on page 80 of the January JOURNAL of 1924. Pharmacists are indebted to Dr. A. G. DuMez, the editor and compiler of this and prior editions of the *Digest*.

*Elementos de Farmacia Practica.* By Dr. Ignacio G. Noble, Secretary of the National Pharmaceutical Association of Cuba, Vice-President of the Section on Pharmacy and Therapeutics of the 6th Medical Congress of Latin America, member of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, etc., etc. Doce esquiné á 21, Vedado, Habana, Cuba.

Dr. Noble has rendered a distinct service in the preparation of this volume for the pharmacists of Cuba and other Spanish-speaking countries. The author follows the lines of other pharmaceutical textbooks, first outlining medicine and pharmacy in its several divisions. Following these introductory statements, the various pharmaceutical processes are described. Solutions and solubilities are considered, the solvents, the effect of solutions, variations in solubility, and then follows a study of official processes in which the theories expounded are applied. The study of solutions is followed by methods of comminution and extraction. The means of providing heat, its measurement and application in pharmaceutical preparations, are next given attention, followed by a number of pages on metrology and arithmetic applied to pharmacy.

A chapter deals with pharmacopœias and the Brussels Conference, the strength of potent remedies in several pharmacopœias. The next chapter deals with pharmaceutical formulas, their preparation and compounding of prescriptions; other chapters are devoted to incompatibilities, newer remedies, doses, prescription writing, synonyms, ethics of the profession, antidotes, household remedies, etc.

The editor of the publication is M. Martin, Havana, Cuba. Doubtless the book has found many patrons among the pharmacists of Cuba and in other countries where Spanish is the official language.

Editor R. E. Dyer of *Practical Druggist* was tendered a luncheon by Romaine Pierson, the publisher, May 28. Dr. Geo. C. Diekman presided as toastmaster. The celebration commemorated twenty-three years of service as editor.

Prepare to attend the Des Moines Meeting, A. P. A., week of August 24.