

writ requiring Warden John W. Snook to produce Dr. Frank Sofge, a Federal prisoner serving time for a narcotic violation.

Judge Sibley also denied a motion for bail for Dr. Sofge pending an appeal to the United States Supreme Court. In denying both the habeas corpus writ and the motion for bail Judge Sibley announced that he was forced to uphold the decision of the Supreme Court in the Doremus case, in which the Harrison Anti-Narcotic Law was held constitutional.

GERMANY BANS PROPYL ALCOHOL USE AS DRUG.

The German Minister of Public Welfare, in response to an inquiry as to the permissibility of the use of propyl and iso-propyl alcohol in the manufacture of pharmaceuticals, has stated that ethyl alcohol is the only alcohol suited for making tinctures and the like, basing his argument on the rules and regulations of the German Pharmacopœia.

He claimed that it is altogether too early to countenance the use of propyl alcohol or

iso-propyl alcohol in the place of ethyl alcohol, because its effect on the human organism is not yet thoroughly understood. A distinction must not be made between medicinals used externally and internally in this connection. Restriction of the use of propyl and iso-propyl alcohols for pharmaceutical purposes also applies to their use in the manufacture of cosmetics, for many cosmetics have a more or less medicinal use.—*Oil, Paint and Drug Reporter.*

PRICE MAINTENANCE TO BE CONSIDERED BY COMMITTEE.

A special subcommittee will be appointed next winter to consider price maintenance legislation, according to Representative Parker of New York, chairman of the House committee on interstate commerce. The subcommittee, it was stated, will go over the testimony and briefs presented to the full committee, will receive suggestions from parties interested in the legislation, and make changes that may be deemed necessary to perfect the bill.

BOOK NOTICES AND REVIEWS.

Chemistry and Recent Progress in Medicine. The Dohme lectures for 1924. By Julius Stieglitz, Ph.D., Chairman of the Department of Chemistry in the University of Chicago, 5³/₄ × 8¹/₂, VIII + 62 pages. Bound in cloth stamped in gold \$1.50, in paper \$0.75. Published for The Johns Hopkins University by The Williams & Wilkins Company, Baltimore.

This volume contains the second series of the Charles E. Dohme Memorial Lecturers. In these lectures, the author has endeavored to bring up-to-date the record of the relation between chemistry and medicine as it is outlined in the "Report on the Future Independence and Progress of Medicine in the Age of Chemistry," prepared by a committee of the American Chemical Society in 1921. That he has done admirably well, all who read the volume must admit.

The subject has been approached from two main points of view, namely: from the standpoint of the materials which have to do with the cure and prevention of diseases and from the point of view of the functional or dynamic side of chemical action.

Beginning with an account of the recent discovery of the advantages of ethylene gas

as an anesthetic, the author reviews the more recent advances in the field of chemotherapy and the isolation (partial or complete) of the active principles of the internal secretions and biochemical products (antitoxins, sera and bacterial vaccines). These discussions take up the greater part of the first two lectures. The remaining lecture takes up the matter from the second point of view stated above, namely, the study of the functions of the commonest and simplest materials of the body organism by the experimental methods indicated by the laws of physical chemistry. In this discussion, the author takes up the work of Dr. Howland and his associates on the problem of rickets and tetany, the work on the physico-chemical equilibrium of the blood by Van Slyke, Wu and McLean, the theory of membrane equilibria developed by F. G. Donnan and finally the application of the newer theories of oxidation and reduction to this field of work.

The little volume is both interesting and instructive and deserves to be widely read.—A. G. DUMÉZ.

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