

William Gardner. D. Van Nostrand Company, 8 Warren St., New York City, publishers. Price \$8.00.

This dictionary contains approximately 17,000 definitions and cross-references—since the first edition 2700 definitions have been added. Of necessity the definitions are brief and further information must be sought elsewhere. It serves a very useful purpose for pharmacist, chemist, druggist, retailer, wholesaler and manufacturer. Several examples will probably show the value of the dictionary, rather unusual terms having been selected.

"Abus Ha Heree. An inferior kind of Asafetida in the Bombay market. It is derived from *Ferula alliacea*.

"A. B. C. Liniment. Compound liniment of aconite (*Linimentum aconiti compositum* B. P. C.).

"Abisol. A 40 per cent solution of sodium hydrogen sulphite, NaHSO_2 . A disinfectant and preservative.

"Izal. A distillate from coke residues. It is a proprietary disinfectant.

"Etard's Reagent. Anhydrous chromium oxychloride, an oxidizing agent.

"Salol Camphor. A mixture of 3 parts of salol and 2 parts of camphor. An antiseptic for boils."

It is difficult to review a dictionary; examples answer the purpose better. It should be stated that many of the terms have British application; however, an unfamiliar term is the one most difficult to find and, hence, there is value in that very fact. Considering that sometimes the finding of a name or definition has considerable value to the searcher it is reasonable to assume that this book will repay the purchaser.

Materia Medica and Therapeutics, including Pharmacy and Pharmacology. By Reynold Webb Wilcox, M.A., M.D., L.L., D.C.L. Eleventh edition. P. Blakiston's Son & Co., Philadelphia. Price \$5.00.

Prior editions of this work have been reviewed in these columns. This edition has been revised in accordance with U. S. Pharmacopœia X; because the volume was completed before the appearance of the National Formulary V, the drugs and preparations of that Standard are not discussed. Quite naturally the inclusion would, to that extent, have an added value.

The text is presented in two general divisions—"Materia Medica and Pharmacy" and "Pharmacology and Therapeutics." In the former

attention is given to pharmaceutical processes, preparations, dosage and their prescribing. The therapeutic agents are grouped according to the chemical or physiological divisions to which they belong. The classification of the second division is in accordance with the particular physiological system upon which the various agents principally act and each agent is fully considered in relation to its pharmacological action and therapeutic uses. In these presentations an effort has been made to embody the latest views of authorities and, in greater detail, the results in actual practice by the author, who also acknowledges the efficient assistance of Dr. Henry Hubbard Pelton in the revision of this work.

About 25 pages of the book are given over to a classification and description of preparations, prescription-writing and Latin terms more or less frequently employed; also dosage and equivalents in weights and measures. In an appendix the organic drugs are listed according to their natural orders. While the text is based on an alphabetical arrangement of the drugs the index may be consulted for the diseases in which they are employed. Various methods of administration and application are fully described. The organic extracts, antitoxins and vaccines are given consideration, but nothing is said about insulin. Perhaps the latter does not fit in with the general scheme of the work; however, the statement is made in the preface that "this volume offers to the medical student and to the practitioner, it is believed, a very complete presentation of the resources at our command (*Materia Medica*), how they act (*Pharmacology*), and, finally, how to employ them (*Therapeutics*)."

This revision of "Wilcox" is fully up to the standard of excellence which has contributed to the popularity of previous editions.

The Book of Prescriptions. By E. W. Lucas, C.B.E. and H. B. Stevens, O.B.E. Eleventh edition. Pp. +382. Price \$4.00. P. Blakiston's Son & Co., 1926.

As stated, this is the eleventh edition of this well- and favorably known book of which 35,000 copies have been printed; all of this speaks for its popularity. The book has been thoroughly revised and is a most useful reference for the prescriptionist as well as practitioner of medicine.

The alphabetical arrangement according to the active constituents serves the doctor best, and with the general index is just as convenient for the pharmacist. While prepared, pri-