

ment mean this or does it mean that the drug is cultivated only in the localities in parenthesis?

4. Pharmacopœial definitions are included even to rubrics and ash standards, but no effort is made to separate or emphasize pharmacopœial synonyms from a host of unofficial ones given under each drug.

5. Constituents include a great deal of extraneous and puzzling information. For example, starch, sugar and fat in such drugs as hydrastis and aconite certainly have no therapeutic value, mean nothing and their addition to the list of constituents only causes confusion.

6. Properties and Uses again suffer from a hypersufficiency of information. Undoubtedly vegetable drugs do give several and variable pharmacological reactions but for the student of pharmacy only those of importance should be stated or if all are stated those of importance should be stressed. As it is, often as many as eight or ten are given and the student is at loss to make a selection of the important ones, the multiplicity of terms leaving him confused. Under drugs having their constituents also official the properties and uses of both drug and constituents are given in one paragraph and in some cases the student is unable to differentiate between these reactions.

7. Information relative to preparations and their manufacture is given briefly in the monographs. The student gets all of this information a great deal more completely from his textbooks and courses in pharmacy.

8. Doses are given in "range form." Range doses may be of value to the physician but to teach a pharmacy student range doses is not only confusing and impractical but often dangerous. To him the official dose is important and is the one he should know.

9. Included in the monographs on chemicals are paragraphs as to their manufacture, impurities, tests, etc., which the student certainly obtains more logically and more completely from his courses in chemistry, their presence here only obscuring the specific materia medica information.

10. While many illustrations are given few are of value to the student, as for example those illustrating the botany of the plant. Of what use is a cut of the twig of *Toluifera Balsamum*, (page 304) to the student? In a text of this kind the illustrations which are of value are those impressing upon the student the characteristics of the drug.

The book lays no claim to being a text or

reference book of pharmacognosy and so does not open itself to criticism from a pharmacognostical viewpoint. It is, however, occasionally used as a text in pharmacognosy. What pharmacognostical information is given is wedged in between other information and consists largely of macroscopic drug descriptions and adulterations. Macroscopic descriptions are brief but adequate enough for materia medica. No structure descriptions are given but powders are sometimes described. These descriptions are of doubtful value. Illustrative of this point is the description of powdered rhubarb. Here the size of the starch grain is stated (a relatively unimportant feature) while the size of the calcium oxalate rosettes, (the most important identity characteristic of the powder) is omitted.

It should be noted that the above criticisms are from the viewpoint of the use of this volume as a textbook in *Materia Medica* for pharmacy students. The book, however, is also designed for other purposes to which these criticisms may not apply so acutely. There is, for example, no question as to its value as a compendium for which its form is excellent and its information complete and concise.

ELMER H. WIRTH.

*Annual Survey of American Chemistry*. Volume 2, edited by CLARENCE J. WEST, National Research Council. 415 pages, small 8 vo. New York, The Chemical Catalog Company, Inc., 1927. Price \$3.00.

We are taking the liberty of reprinting a review of the foregoing, prepared by Dr. Henry Leffmann and published in the *Journal of the Franklin Institute*.

"It is gratifying to see how wide is the interest in chemical research in this country, and how active it has become. The present work reports American investigations carried out for one year from July 1, 1926. Forty-nine articles have been contributed, covering both theoretical and practical topics. Very thorough use has been made of the periodical literature and as each article has been prepared by an author especially interested, the usefulness of the book is assured. It will be found very serviceable to all chemists.

"The reviewer suggests that in future volumes, the locality of every author should be noted. In many instances in the present issue merely a corporation with which the author is connected is indicated. Some interest is now manifested in the geographical distribution of

intellectual activity in the United States, and an indication of locality would be of some value. So far as locality assignments are in the list, twenty-one contributors hail from four centers, New York, Washington, Baltimore and New Haven, seven being credited to each of the first two. Philadelphia has one contributor. It is also worth noting that notwithstanding the large opportunity given to women for instruction in the practical sciences, almost no part has yet been played by them.

"There is a curious, though not infrequent, error on page 289, in which 'apparati' is used as a plural. The plural of 'apparatus' is 'apparatus.' It is a masculine noun of the fourth declension, not of the second. 'Persicos apparatus, odi puer.' There are other indications of defective proof reading on the part of authors. It is suggested that in future a classification be made of the papers which are now in rather confused mixture.

*A Compend of Pharmacy*, by F. E. STEWART, Ph.M.; M.D.; Phar.D.; F.A.P.C. Revised and enlarged by HEBER W. YOUNGKEN, Ph.G.; Ph.M.; Ph.D. 10th edition, 199 pp. P. Blakiston's Son & Co., Philadelphia, Pa. The text is very conveniently divided into five parts. Introductory, which comprises theoretical and practical pharmacy, pharmacopœias and National Formulary, nomenclature and dispensatories; Part I, physics and pharmaceutical operations; Part II, the forms of pharmaceutical preparations; Part III, preparations of the inorganic materia medica; Part IV, preparations of the organic materia medica. The fact that this book has been before the public for forty-two years and is now in its tenth edition, speaks volumes for its value and popularity.

It is an ideal syllabus for the student in pharmacy who has access to a more complete textbook and to the person who is preparing for examination, it is particularly valuable. Since Dr. Youngken has undertaken the editorship, the organic material has been largely extended and improved.—CLYDE M. SNOW.

## NEW AND NONOFFICIAL REMEDIES.

(Continued from p. 939.)

### PROTEIN EXTRACTS DIAGNOSTIC-P. D. & CO. (See New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1928, p. 42).

The following products have been accepted:

*Cotton Protein Extract Diagnostic-P. D. & Co.*; § *Cotton Seed (Cake) Protein Extract Diagnostic-P. D. & Co.*; \* *Goat Hair Protein Extract Diagnostic-P. D. & Co.*; § *Human Hair Protein Extract Diagnostic-P. D. & Co.*; § *Kapok Protein Extract Diagnostic-P. D. & Co.*; § *Peplone Protein Extract Diagnostic-P. D. & Co.*; \* *Poplar-Pollen Protein Extract Diagnostic-P. D. & Co.*; † *Sunflower Pollen Protein Extract Diagnostic-P. D. & Co.*; † *Sweet Vernal Grass Pollen Protein Extract Diagnostic-P. D. & Co.* †

Prepared by the method given in New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1928, p. 42.

From *Jour. A. M. A.*, August 11, 1928.

### EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE (See New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1928, p. 175).

**Ephedrine Hydrochloride-Squibb.**—A brand of ephedrine hydrochloride-N. N. R.

Manufactured by E. R. Squibb & Sons, New York. No U. S. patent or trademark.

### Ephedrine Hydrochloride-Swan-Myers (See New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1928, p. 176).

The following dosage form has been accepted:

*Syrup Ephedrine Hydrochloride-Swan-Myers*: Containing ephedrine hydrochloride-Swan-Myers, 0.2195 Gm., in 100 cc. (1/8 grain per fluidrachm) and alcohol 12 per cent.

### POTASSIUM BISMUTH TARTRATE-D. R. L. (See New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1928, p. 110).

The following dosage form has been accepted:

*Potassium Bismuth Tartrate with Butyn-D. R. L.*, 20 cc.: Each cc. contains potassium bismuth tartrate-D. R. L., 0.1 Gm.; butyn, 0.6 per cent; and metaphen 0.01 per cent suspended in expressed oil of almonds.

### SCARLET FEVER IMMUNITY TEST (See New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1928, p. 392).

Parke Davis & Company, Detroit.

*Scarlet Fever Streptococcus Toxin for Skin Test-P. D. & Co.*—Prepared by the method of Drs. Dick under U. S. patent 1,547,369 (July 28, 1925; expires 1942) by license of the Scarlet Fever Committee, Inc. Marketed in single 1-cc. vial packages (Bio. 154) containing sufficient toxin for ten tests.

From *Jour. A. M. A.*, September 1, 1928

## PHARMACY WEEK—OCTOBER 14TH TO 20TH.

The Committee on Education and Research, N. W. D. A., 51 Maiden Lane, New York, N. Y., is prepared to supply you with window displays through your Wholesale Druggist. Pharmacy Week Cards will appear in street cars throughout the country. Help the cause of pharmacy by publicity which will carry the message of professional pharmacy. Assist also the work of the Red Cross.