

SEPARATION OF MEDICINES AND PHARMACY IN JAPAN.

The Japan Pharmacy Act provides that no one excepting pharmacists shall be permitted to prepare medicine; this has brought about considerable discussion. Physicians state that loss from such prohibition would seriously affect their income and have recently begun a campaign against the provision.

ANALYSIS OF MEDICINALS IN SWITZERLAND.

The Pharmaceutical Institute at Berne is increasing its field of activity by undertaking the analyses and control of all medicinal preparations to be sold in Switzerland and to supply reports to those affected. The service of this institution will be available to medical practitioners, hospitals, research stations, pharmacists, benefit societies and manufacturers.

CANADA BARS ASPIRIN.

Goods marked with, or in containers which are marked with, the word or trade-mark, "Aspirin," or any palpable imitation thereof are prohibited importation into Canada, according to information sent to the Department of Commerce by the assistant commercial attaché at Ottawa. Acetylsalicylic acid may be imported, provided it is not marked "Aspirin" or any palpable imitation thereof.

SOUTH CAROLINA DRUG STORES.

South Carolina, according to the United States Census Bureau, has 217 drug stores without soda fountains; 319 with soda fountains. The sales of the drug stores without fountains for 1929 amounted to \$4,036,730, \$2.32 per capita. The stores with fountains, \$7,849,138, \$4.51 per capita.

SESSIONS OF LEGISLATURES.

Congress meets early in December; Illinois Legislature met November 5th, Pennsylvania November 9th; Wisconsin will soon meet in called session. The following legislatures will convene in regular session in 1932: Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Virginia, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Jersey and South Carolina.

THE MISSISSIPPI CHAIN STORE TAX.

The Mississippi sales and chain store tax law was made ineffective by an injunction pending litigation regarding its constitutionality, the Supreme Court decided in upholding an injunction against the law granted by the Federal court for the southern district of Mississippi.

The Mississippi law provides a tax of one-fourth of one per cent on retail sales of all dealers in the state and an additional one-fourth of one per cent on sales of chains operating five or more stores.

BOOK NOTICES AND REVIEWS.

The Colorimetric and Potentiometric Determination of p_H. By I. M. KOLTHOFF, PH.D., Professor of Analytical Chemistry in the University of Minnesota. John Wiley & Sons Inc., New York City, 1931. XI + 167 pages, 35 figs., 15 x 23 cm. Price \$2.25.

This book is a treatise from the pen of a capable and prolific author. In it the fundamentals of acid-base equilibria of solutions, and indicators are discussed as Part I of the volume. The second portion of the book deals with the theory of electrode potentials, the technique of potentiometric measurements, the measurement of hydrogen-ion concentration and potentiometric titrations. The last section of the manual treats of conductometric titrations, to which is appended a practical course embracing the contents of the three divisions of the book.

Although the larger well-known treatises on the subject of hydrogen-ion concentration are

well suited for reference purposes, they are not particularly well adapted for use as textbooks for students. Herein this volume fills a very useful requirement. It is a working volume for the student and practical worker in the field. The book serves adequately as guide to lectures and laboratory exercises for a course in this branch of physical chemistry as it is applied to any of the biological sciences. The necessity for such an applied course becomes more cogent each year as a knowledge of the principles of acid-base equilibria places in his hands a most potent tool of investigation. Possibly more applications of the work to specialized fields would increase the interest of the applied student in the text.

The author's style is direct and precise. The student is not inundated by the mathematics. The volume seems to be admirably suited for courses of instruction for advanced students in pharmacy.—JOHN C. KRANTZ, JR.