

added imports will take. If the sales tax, suggested repeatedly, is to be the lever with which the sagging resources of the Government are to be raised to a normal level, it is certain that the proposal will be opposed bitterly by business in all its branches. Despite the repeated calling up of the sales tax as the way out of the emergency, it is not generally believed that the proposal could survive a vote should it seriously be entered into the business of the House. It is from the House that revenue legislation originates and there appears to be little chance that the sales tax will be included on the program for revision of taxation.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT BOARD.

At a meeting of the board of the Medical Department Officers consideration was given to a study of the Army medical, dental and veterinary schools with a view of having them meet

more fully in the future the needs of postgraduate professional training of officers in the medical department. The report to the Surgeon General must be rendered not later than January 15th.

THE WAINWRIGHT BILL.

The *Army and Navy Register* states that "the War Department will not submit the measure under above caption at this time. There is, however, nothing to prevent its introduction by an individual member of Congress as was done by Mr. Wainwright, who in addition to committee membership had a previous record as assistant secretary of war in which capacity he acquired a full appreciation of the urgent need of maintaining the medical department at a strength adequate for the protection of the life and preservation of the health of the members of the military personnel."—See September JOURNAL, pages 996-998.

BOOK NOTICES AND REVIEWS.

Die Katalyse. Die Rolle der Katalyse in der Analytischen Chemie. (Catalysis, the Rôle of Catalysis in Analytical Chemistry) VON DR. GERTRUD WOKER, Vorstand des Institutes für physikalische-chemische Biologie der Universität Bern. II Spezieller Teil. Zweite Abteilung: Biologische Katalysatoren. 2. Hälfte: Atmungsermente. Verlag von Ferdinand Enke in Stuttgart, 1931. XIX + 592 pages; price unbound Rm. 76, bound Rm. 79.

This book comprises volumes XXVII and XXVIII of the excellent and comprehensive series, "Die chemische Analyse," prepared under the direction of the late Dr. B. M. Margosches. Volumes XI and XII published in 1910, XXI and XXII published in 1915, and XXIII and XXIV published in 1924 in the same series also treated of the rôle of catalysts in analytical chemistry. The combined works, all by Dr. Woker, probably constitute the most complete reference existent on this phase of catalysis.

The book is divided into two parts. Part I deals with the zymases or fermentation enzymes. In this part such subjects are considered as: The chemistry of normal fermentation processes, intermediate and by-products of alcoholic fermentation and the mechanism of their formation, the fermentation of amino-acids, the stimulation of alcoholic fermentation and its mechanism, the analytical utilization

of ferments, the determination of ferments, the application of alcoholic fermentation to the estimation of sugars, survey of the literature treating of fermentation, and the relation between fermentation and oxidation ferments. Part II treats of the oxidizing ferments under such headings as: The history and theory of oxidases, theory of the peroxidase-catalase system, the determination of peroxidases, oxidases, peroxides and catalases and their applications, pyrogallol and other phenols as substrates, phenolphthalein as substrate, the determination of catalase effect, procedure for the quantitative estimation of catalases, the isolation of peroxidase, peroxides, laccase and catalases, determination of the catalase effect, the oxido-reduction enzymes, iron as a ferment model, determination of reductases, determination of oxidases. The treatment of the theory and mechanism of the action of specific enzymes, and the detailed procedures for their estimation and for their use in determining other substances should be welcomed by all persons engaged in biochemical aspects of pharmacy and pharmaceutical analysis to which it applies as well as to all who are engaged in the fermentation industries.

The value of this volume as a reference is enhanced by a very extensive bibliography, an authors' index containing about 2400 names and a subject index well cross-referenced.—GLENN L. JENKINS.