

istry discussed. The contributors include members of the staffs of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, U. S. Bureau of Standards, U. S. Geological Survey, U. S. Bureau of Soils, U. S. Bureau of Insecticides and Fungicides, California Institute of Technology and of many leading American universities such as Columbia, Yale, Johns Hopkins, Chicago, Illinois, Princeton, Minnesota, Michigan and Wisconsin, of the Mellon Institute and of a number of prominent industrial organizations.

As might be expected from such a compilation as the one before us, the value of the different chapters varies greatly, the treatment of some topics being very thorough, while that of others is superficial and perfunctory. There are separate chapters devoted to the following subjects: subatomic phenomena, thermodynamics and thermochemistry, colloids, contact catalysis, photochemistry, X-ray determination of crystal structure and examination of materials, electrochemistry, radium and radioactivity, analytical chemistry, properties of compressed gases, non-ferrous metals and ferrous metallurgy, metallo-organic compounds, aliphatic, carbocyclic and heterocyclic organic compounds, foods, water, sewage, soils, fertilizers and numerous departments of chemical industry. Of course, every phase of inorganic and organic chemistry is described either in a separate chapter or in connection with other topics. Biochemistry is discussed in general, and a separate chapter is devoted to vitamins, by H. C. Sherman, a leading authority on the subject. Pharmaceuticals are summarized by C. S. Leonard in a contribution of special interest to readers of THIS JOURNAL as it gives an idea of the large amount of research on medicinal chemistry being carried on in the United States as well as abroad. This chapter, however, is not altogether complete and a number of omissions are to be noted.

Probably the most valuable part of this reference book are the numerous references scattered through its pages. In some chapters the number of these runs into several hundred. Thus, for instance, the chapter on insecticides and fungicides, covering about twenty-five pages, boasts 240 references. Another valuable feature of this volume are the lists of patents appended to various chapters, bearing upon the material treated therein. Again, other contributors, in addition to specific references, have appended to their respective chapters a list of books for general reading on the subject under discussion. Other chapters include a

statement as to problems demanding further research. A complete author's index and a fairly satisfactory subject index are appended to the book.

This work should prove very useful to all students and investigators of chemistry, whatever their special line of interest may be.—
DAVID I. MACHT.

Ubbelohde's Handbuch der Chemie und Technologie der Öle und Fette. Volume II, Part 1. Chemie und Technologie der Pflanzlichen Öle und Fette. Edited by HANS HELLER. 2nd Edition. XII + 824 pages. 114 illustrations. Verlag von S. Hirzel, Leipzig, 1932. Price 73 marks; bound 79 marks.

This volume is the first part of a revision of Volume II of the first edition published in 1920. Due to the increase in size occasioned by the inclusion of new material, the revised Volume II is being published in two parts; the second part will treat of the animal fats and oils. Except for one chapter of 31 pages on the subject of oil cakes, the entire volume is devoted to descriptions of the various vegetable oils. About 750 different oils are considered. This is almost twice the number described in the previous edition and about 400 more than are described in the 1922 edition of Lewkowitsch's Chemical Technology and Analysis of Oils, Fats and Waxes. Because so many of the less common oils are described, the volume should be of more than ordinary interest to those persons interested in the phytochemistry of vegetable drugs. Certain of the oils such as olive, castor and coconut are given rather extensive treatment, while less common oils such as ergot, datura and strophanthus are given less space. In every case, where the information is available the physical and chemical properties of the oil are set forth, usually in tabular form, and very extensive reference is made to the original literature.

The portion of the volume devoted to the vegetable oils and fats is divided into four parts, namely: Drying Oils, Semi-drying Oils, Non-drying Oils and Solid Fats. Under these headings the oils and fats are arranged according to plant families. Plants belonging to the same family may have representatives under more than one heading, but these are thoroughly classified in the table of contents. There are three very complete and well-arranged indexes; author, subject and botanical.

As a reference work treating of the vegetable oils and fats for those engaged in the pharma-

ceutical investigation of crude drugs and for those interested in the use of these products in pharmaceutical technology, the volume is excellent. The numerous excellent illustrations of parts of vegetable drugs should be of special interest to many workers in pharmacy. Thus, there are eight for *Cannabis sativa*, eight for

Papaver somniferum, eleven for linseed, and six for *Claviceps purpurea*.

The editor states in the preface that the literature is practically complete to 1930; for 1931, use has been made of that of greatest value.—GLENN L. JENKINS.

ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE REPORTS.*

REPORT OF A. PH. A. COMMITTEE ON THE U. S. PHARMACOPEIA.

Mr. President and Members of the American Pharmaceutical Association:

Your committee is happy to report that during the past year no special problems have been submitted to our committee and that pharmacopœial matters during this time have progressed in a very satisfactory manner. There is ample evidence that the Committee of Revision is doing its work thoroughly and well, and that we can look forward to an excellent pharmacopœia at an early date—a pharmacopœia that will embody standards of the highest type, and methods of analysis that will reflect the most recent scientific investigations; a pharmacopœia that will stand in the vanguard of all of the pharmacopœias in the world.

Your Committee desires to commend each member of the Committee of Revision and the Committee as a whole, for the self-sacrificing devotion given to the task.

Respectfully submitted,

LYMAN F. KEBLER, *Chairman* E. N. GATHERCOAL
W. BRUCE PHILIP CHAS. J. CLAYTON.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON HORTICULTURAL NOMENCLATURE.

The Chairman and Members of the House of Delegates:

Your committee desires to report that its chairman has recently been in touch with Secretary Kelsey of the American Joint Committee on Horticultural Nomenclature concerning the progress of revision of "Standardized Plant Names." He reports that Dr. Coville and himself are working hard at the new edition and that they hope the financial end will be arranged so it may be published in 1933 or at the 10-year period.

The work seems now to be standard in horticulture in this country and is accepted without question by most authorities.

We recommend an appropriation of \$25.00 be made by this Association toward financing the publication of the second edition of "Standardized Plant Names."

Respectfully submitted,

C. W. BALLARD, E. N. GATHERCOAL, HEBER W. YOUNGKEN, *Chairman*.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON LOCAL BRANCHES.

In spite of the rather adverse economic conditions which seemed to have continued in all areas of our country the local branches of the parent organization are for the most part steadily growing in numbers and influence. As a rule we find that we have successful branches in places where we have enthusiastic members who are willing to do the work necessary in order that the programs may interest the busy practicing pharmacist. A study of the various programs offered in the local branches evidences the universality of the appeal of the A. PH. A. which is neither bounded nor circumscribed by any one particular group in pharmacy. The committee desires to appeal to the members to support their local branches and where there is no local branch to lend their aid in establishing one if, in the opinion of our officers, conditions seem to warrant it.

Another development that should be felt greatly within the next decade is the increase in the number of student branches. In these branches the students are afforded the opportunity to receive some experience in conducting interesting meetings, which, in the opinion of your committee, should prove helpful to them when they become practicing pharmacists. Also it should serve to produce for us many potential workers in the cause of organized pharmacy.

Respectfully submitted,

C. LEONARD O'CONNELL, *Chairman*.

* Toronto meeting; see pages 1084 and 1106.