

BOOK NOTICES AND REVIEWS.

Allen's Commercial Organic Analysis, a treatise on the properties, modes of analysis, and approximate analytical examination of the various organic chemicals and products employed in the arts, manufactures, medicine, etc., with concise methods for the deduction and estimation of their impurities, adulterations and products of decomposition. Volume 9, "The Proteins of Plants, the Proteins of Milk, Milk Products and Meat Products," by the Editor and the following contributors: C. Jordan Lloyd, G. D. Elsdon, H. Leffmann, John Golding, E. R. Zolton, C. Robert Moulton, Editor C. Ainsworth Mitchell, M.A., E.Sc., F.I.C., Editor of the Analyst Consulting Chemist, London. Fifth Edition, revised and partly rewritten. Published by P. Blakiston Sons & Co., 1012 Walnut St., Philadelphia, with an outline of the subjects of the volume. The work is well and favorably known and those who make use of it, freely cite the volume to others engaged in their respective activities. As is the case with all publications that have continued for a long period and, as far as possible, retained the same co-workers, some will be missing from the list of revisers, and that is the case with this volume, possibly more than with the others. There is really only one name which appears in both editions; that is, E. R. Bolton, who has revised the article on "Milk Products," written by him in collaboration with C. Revis for the former edition.

The work of the late Dr. Henry Leffmann, well and favorably known by pharmacists and chemists, was completed by Capt. J. Golding. A part of the former revision on the "Proteins of Milk" was undertaken by G. D. Elsdon. "The Section on Plant Products" was rewritten by Dr. D. Jordan Lloyd and that on "Meat and Meat Products" by Dr. C. R. Moulton.

The present edition of "Allen's Commercial Organic Analysis," will comprise ten volumes; the intention was to complete it in nine, but the additional number of pages would have resulted in a volume less convenient than represented by the present number of pages.

Each volume of "Allen" is sold separately.

Man and Microbes. By STANHOPE BAYNE-JONES, Professor of Bacteriology, School of Medicine and Dentistry, University of Rochester, Rochester, N. Y., published by the Williams and Wilkins Co., and associates in cooperation with the Century of Progress Exposition, 1932. A list of commemorative

publications has been issued and all of these books are to be sold at \$1.00 per volume. They are to be written, as far as possible, in language that will attract the laymen, but the science of the subjects presented in these books will not be academic, as authors have been selected who know their subject and are outstanding in their respective lines. While "Fighting Disease with Drugs" represents pharmacy, it deals with more subjects than pharmacy and it may be that a book on pharmacy, fitting into the series, should be published, not only because it would be of interest but also because pharmacy will be represented at the World's Fair.

The author states that the celebration of a Century of Progress almost coincides with the three hundredth anniversary of the birth of van Leeuwenhoek. Leeuwenhoek saw and pictured bacteria and other germs. Intensive study, however, of the nature and activities of microbes dates only from about 1833. The author has done exceedingly well in picturing such a broad field in a book of about 130 pages.

Anthonius van Leeuwenhoek graces the first page; a drawing of one of his microscopes and a diagram of a modern compound microscope is shown, and a number of other pictures which the author has found useful in illustrating his subject. Dr. Bayne-Jones has set a good example for other authors of the series.

The Registers of Pharmaceutical Chemists and Chemists and Druggists, printed and published under the direction of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. This informative book of 564 pages is issued by the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. While most useful for British pharmacists it has value for those in other countries and, especially, for publication offices. This office, therefore, expresses thanks and appreciation for being remembered in the distribution of the *Register*.

MADRID'S PHARMACIST-FIDDLER.

Although Spain's historic capital is, at present, mostly given over to doggerel revolutionary ditties, which the mob delights in bellowing, there is an elderly pharmacist whose evenings are devoted to playing good violin music for his friends' delectation. Many years ago the enthusiastic amateur so pleased Sarasate that he contemplated forsaking pharmacy and becoming a fiddler. The eminent violinist, how-

ever, persuaded the young pharmacist to remain among his potions and bolusses, assuring him that few musicians grew rich, and that suffering humanity would always need physicking. The pharmacist (he then was his father's assistant) took Sarasate's advice, eventually becoming proprietor of a flourishing business. But for half a century the violin has been Migel Garcia's delight, and so adroit a performer is he that all Madrid speaks of him as "our pharmacist-fiddler." One result of this devotion to music is that his establishment, in the famous Puerta del Sol, is uncommonly well advertised; he scarcely needs to spend a "peseta" on newspaper space. Each time Migel Garcia plays at a musical party the store is indirectly boomed.

Curiously enough, the pharmacist has not inherited this passion for music. He is no relation to the famous Manuel del Popolo Vicente Garcia,¹ who taught his daughters (Malibrán and Viardot), nor of the second Manuel, the instructor of Jenny Lind. Indeed, the chemist-fiddler's ancestors were mostly in the same line of business as himself and for generations back, while his father and grandfather rather disliked musical performances, having no respect even for celebrated performers. Consequently, Señor Garcia's pronounced talent remains a mystery, baffling every relative.

This superexcellent amateur, though devoted heart and soul to music, is a keen business man. Except for the midday lunch and customary "siesta," which follows the meal, he remains in the shop from nine till six. An hour's violin practice comes next, and the evening is spent playing at home, or elsewhere, to friends.—GEORGE CECIL.—Through *Australasian Pharmacy Journal*.

¹ Manuel del Popolo Vicente Garcia, born at Seville, Spain, January 22, 1775; died at Paris, June 2, 1832. He founded a famous school of singing in London, 1823. (Malibrán and Viardot referred to in the article were his daughters.)

Manuel Garcia was born at Madrid, March 17, 1805. A Spanish teacher of music. His application of the laryngoscope and his *Memoire sur la voix humaine* (1840) may be said to be the foundation of all subsequent investigations of the voice (Grove). He went to London in 1850, and was professor at the Royal Academy of Music.

ADDITIONAL OBITUARY NOTES.

ALFRED WALKER.

Alfred Walker, prominent pharmacist of Sutton, W. Va., died, after protracted illness, on March 21st. The deceased had been prominent in pharmaceutical affairs, not only of his home city and state but also nationally. He held the high regard of his fellows and was a pharmacist of wide information. Appointed member of the West Virginia Board of Pharmacy in 1901, he held the position until the time of his death, and had been secretary of the Board for about thirty years. He was the first president of West Virginia Pharmaceutical Association, and last year was special guest of honor of that organization.

Mr. Walker was born at Bloomville, Ohio, April 12, 1863. Besides his associations in pharmacy he was connected with the bank of Gassaway. He was affiliated with the Masonic bodies and other social and fraternal organizations. He is survived by his widow, son and daughter.

DR. WILHELM OSTWALD.

Wilhelm Ostwald, physicist, who won the Nobel Prize for chemistry in 1919, died at his home in Grossbothen (near Leipzig), April 4th, aged 78 years. Dr. Ostwald was the first German Exchange Professor at Harvard, called in 1905. At least two of his discoveries are notable—his process of photographic printing and of obtaining nitrogen direct from the air.

Dr. Ostwald was a guest lecturer in a symposium of celebrated scientists at the St. Louis World's Fair; the author of several textbooks; editor for a time of "Physikalische Chemie" and "Annalen der Naturphilosophie." He was educated at the University of Dorpat (where Dragendorff taught); he held professorship at the Polytechnic School in Riga, at the University of Leipzig and later, director of the Physico-Chemical Institute.

Charles F. Nixon, Leominster, Mass., who formerly conducted a drug store in that city for a number of years and was afterwards city bacteriologist, died there March 10th. He was a former member of the Massachusetts State Board of Pharmacy; the Leominster School Committee; the Boston Druggists' Association, and a past-president of the Massachusetts State Pharmaceutical Association. He was active in revision work for many years and a member of the A. PH. A.