

bership. A textbook on Pharmacy must, to be of value, have an informative background; "Fundamentals on Pharmacy" is based on the latest revised edition of the U. S. Pharmacopœia, U. S. P. XI. A treatise, aside from conciseness should present the subject in a way which distinguishes it from other works on the subject and thereby establishes a reason for its production and acceptance. The authors and co-workers are well and favorably known and this gives the book an introduction; it is hoped that it will prove its value and will establish a worthwhile reason for its creation and continuance over long periods of successive revisions.—E. G. EBERLE.

*Neues Manual für die Praktische Pharmazie* (New Manual for Practical Pharmacy, Second Edition), by DR. MAX SIDO, druggist. Publisher, Julius Springer, Berlin, Germany, 1938. Bound, 274 pages. Price, R.M. 15.

The Table of Contents shows the extensive study of the author, who is a practical druggist and pharmacist of high standing; for some time associated with the "Pharmazeutische Zeitung," discontinued with number 104 of the year 1937, and he has brought into the Manual the formulas of that publication and preserved them in that way. The Manual contains a wide variety of formulas and indicates that the druggist has demands which may enlarge the volume of sales; evidently these possibilities are not very different from those in this country, but depend on the individuals. The titles listed in the Table of Contents indicate the variety of formulas; among them are, formulas of Face Preparations, perfumed cosmetics and other complexion preparations for hands, lips, nails, mouth, shaving, massages, teeth, household remedies, confections, antiseptics, veterinary remedies, moth destroyers, inks, dyes, cleaning preparations. The author has been associated with a druggist's publication and is well and favorably known in German pharmacy.—E. G. EBERLE.

*Die Tablettenfabrikation und ihre maschinellen Hilfsmittel* (Tablet Manufacture and the Machine), by DR. GEORGE ARENDS and DR. J. ARENDS. Fourth revised Edition, 1938. 53 illustrations. 220 pages. Publisher, Julius Springer, Berlin, W. 9, Linkstrasse. Price, R.M. 12,

While the references given are of value it cannot be stated that they are complete. Tablet making in Germany seems to have had its beginning in 1872, when Professor Rosenthal, of Erlangen, described his tablet compressor. Tablet manufacture began somewhat earlier in the United States (See JOUR. A. PH. A., 1914, page 820) and many articles on the subject have been published in this country which are not referred to in the book. The authors have prepared a valuable publication and drawn upon their experience in its preparation.—E. G. EBERLE.

*What's Your Allergy?* by DR. LAURENCE FARMER and GEORGE HEAXER. 230 pages. Publisher,

Random House, 20 E. 57th St., N. Y. Published, October 24, 1939. Price, \$2.00.

Allergy is a word given to the American speaking people within this twentieth century but its definition embodies maladies which are centuries old. Such familiar afflictions as hay fever, asthma, eczema, hives and catarrh are a few of the maladies classified under the definition of allergy. "What's Your Allergy?" tells what allergies are and how they may be combatted. The authors have written for the patient and the layman for clear and concise reading in a manner novel to a book of this kind. It is all told in six chapters. Idiosyncrasy was long accepted as an explanation for provocations of hay fever and others. But with Professor Richets' work a new theory was given for these maladies known as anaphylaxis, also a word only slightly older than the word allergy itself. Allergy emerges with the provocations conceived after years of extensive research. Diagnosis and treatment of the provocations are expounded only as a possible means of cure. This book is recommended as an interesting presentation of such allergies as hay fever, eczema, hives, catarrh, etc., to patient and layman.—EMERSON C. BEELER.

*Merck's Index*, Fifth Edition. Published by Merck & Co., Inc., Rahway, N. J. Price, \$3.00.

The First American Edition of Merck's Index was published in 1889; to some extent it had the character of a price-list and it was explained that the prices were given as a guide. The nomenclature and orthography were those followed by the Chemical Society of England; it is stated that this issue is a guide for the physician, apothecary, chemist and dealer. The Second Edition is designated an encyclopædia for the physician and pharmacist; more attention is given to definitions, physiological effects and therapeutic uses and description; the information given is for the pharmaceutical dispenser. Omitting reference to intervening editions, the Fifth is an encyclopædia of a thousand pages and contains useful information on chemicals and drugs, antidotes and poisons. These data are well arranged and carefully studied by professional workers, qualified for the work, prepared by D. W. Cutlee, Joseph Rosin, C. R. Addinall, Alfred I. Cone. The Index contains also records of 4500 Chemical, Clinico-Chemical Reactions, tests; formulas of culture media, fixatives, staining solutions, etc. In the Section on Coal-Tar Colors for use in Foods, Drugs and Cosmetics, 113 colors are described. The information given makes this volume of value to pharmacists, physicians, dentists, veterinarians, chemists and manufacturers. The character of the Index has changed with each issue, and its appeal has likewise changed. The book is well-bound, the paper and typography good and will be found a useful reference book for the libraries of those mentioned in the preceding lines and of others, and in fact, there is a rightful place for it in most libraries.—E. G. EBERLE.