

Book Reviews

DIGEST OF COMMENTS ON THE PHARMACOPOEIA OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (VIII) AND ON THE NATIONAL FORMULARY (III) for the calendar year ending Dec. 31, 1913 by Murray Galt Motter and Martin I. Wilbert, Bulletin 98, Hygienic Laboratory.

It is with pleasure that we can say in all sincerity that this Manual should be in the hands of every pharmacist who is truly a pharmacist, in this country.

There is not a page in the book but what is of interest to all those actively interested in the drug-business in any department. While there is much in the book that is alien to its title, yet no fault can be found with a line of its contents which are well-selected and well-arranged to impart useful knowledge to druggists regarding many points upon which they may need information.

It is more than its title would signify. It is really a Review of the field of Pharmaceutical literature for the year, which in any way has a bearing on the intent or the contents of the U. S. P. and N. F. Instead of being devoted to the past alone it is of the present that it presents a picture and it contains in its pages a wealth of information which, if utilized, cannot fail to elevate and improve the practice of pharmacy and to furnish valuable information to every pharmacist.

Any one who examines the publication will be surprised at the amount of information it contains upon all subjects connected with the practice of Pharmacy and we urge our readers to secure this book in order that they may be advantaged by the information contained within it.

It would be most regrettable for any druggist not to take advantage of this knowledge, so freely offered. Subjects are treated briefly but the references it contains allow any one to easily consult the source of the knowledge upon which he may desire further information.

The book might very well be termed an Annual of Pharmacy of the United States and merit well the more comprehensive and desirable cognomen.

TESTS FOR VANILLIN.

Vanillin gives with certain classes of organic substances typical color reactions under the influence of hydrochloric or sulphuric acid. The observations made with amines, acid amides, and imines (where the color becomes yellow), and with phenols (where the color becomes red and violet) give hope that with other classes characteristic colors may also be produced. Many of the tests referred to may also be used in cases in which a positive result with phenylendiamin, phloroglucin, or resorcin is reckoned to be insufficient.—E. P. Häussler (*Zscht. Anal. Chem.*, 1914).