

arranged according to natural orders beginning with the lower forms of life, the next related following in sequence. The etymology of names employed, descriptions, commercial discussion, adulterations and allied drugs are treated from the standpoint of the pharmacognosist and contribute largely to the practical value of the work. Drugs of animal origin are arranged in accordance with zoölogical sequence and discussed in a like manner. Inorganic drugs and carbon compounds are arranged according to chemical relationship.

This edition has been made to conform to the changes in the ninth revision of the United States Pharmacopoeia and includes most of the drugs and preparations of the National Formulary, fourth edition.

Drugs and preparations of the National Formulary are not accredited to the N. F. drugs being discussed under allied plants, Dulcamara as allied to Capsicum, nor are the definitions and descriptions those of the N. F. Preparations are listed under unofficial preparations, due credit being given to the British Pharmacopoeial preparations only. • Unofficial preparations under Senna are listed as Confection, Extract, Infusum Sennae, (Br.) Aromatic Syrup, Compound Syrup, Tinctura Sennae Composita, (Br.) Species Laxativae. The National Formulary should receive due recognition.

Plant descriptions have been partly rewritten and include added descriptions of powdered drugs. The manufacture of official preparations are given as heretofore but volume quantities are expressed in milliliters, the abbreviation Ml. being used. The same in dosage; e. g., Fluidextract of Ergot, dose m. xv-lx (1-4 Ml. (Cc.)). The use of this abbreviation will be confusing to a degree in that it will not conform in this respect to works on allied subjects. Assay processes have properly been omitted. The list of plant constituents has been revised to conform with recent knowledge of plant composition.

The inorganic and organic carbon compounds have been revised to conform to the U. S. P. and N. F., while a number of non-pharmacopoeal organic compounds have been added.

The chapters devoted to the microscope, and in the appendix the discussion on poisons and the various tables of weights and measures, doses, etc., remain the same as in the previous edition.

In a work of this kind doses should occupy a position of major importance. Unfortunately

they are obscurely placed without having been given due prominence.

Therapeutic properties and uses of drugs have not been revised but have been rewritten. This has not been an improvement as the sentences are longer and more involved, making it difficult for the student to grasp their meaning.

The intent of the author to "bring all subjects within current scientific thought," has not been carried out in respect to the properties of drugs. In the light of modern researches in pharmacodynamics many terms and statements are inaccurately applied or are misleading.

Sanguinaria "in small doses excite the stomach, while large doses nauseate and depress the pulse; full doses vomit actively."

Belladonna "increases peristalsis by paralyzing terminations of involuntary intestinal muscles; dilates pupil, increases pulse and urine by paralysis."

Serpentaria is described as having the following properties: "Stimulant, tonic, diaphoretic, diuretic, emmenagogue, aphrodisiac, antiperiodic, like calumba promotes appetite, digestion, increases bronchial and intestinal secretions, heart action, mental exhilaration."

Such statements are not applicable to a drug that should be classed as an aromatic bitter.

Taraxacum, a drug conceded to be therapeutically useless, is said to be "diuretic, tonic, stomachic, aperient, deobstruent. Uses: Congestion and inflammation of the liver and spleen, dyspepsia, constipation, consumption, skin affections, dropsies, substitute for coffee."

These instances, selected at random, show that this important part of the book did not receive the attention to which it was entitled. This detracts somewhat from the value of an otherwise excellent book.

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#### *Publications Received.*

*Proceedings of the American Association of Pharmaceutical Chemists, Ninth Annual Meeting, held at Cedar Rapids, Ia., May 29 to June 1, 1916.*

*Reports of the Twenty-Sixth Annual Meeting of the South Dakota State Board of Pharmacy, and Thirty-First Annual Convention of the South Dakota State Pharmaceutical Association, held at Mitchell, August 8-11, 1916.*

*Twenty-Eighth Annual Report of the Louisiana State Board of Pharmacy, May 8, 1916.*