

BILL, IN PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE SEEKS TO DISPLACE BOARDS OF PHARMACY.

House Bill 856 introduced in the Pennsylvania Legislature provides for taking over the Pennsylvania Board of Pharmacy by a Bureau of Professional Education to be created and made part of the Department of Education. It provides that the pharmacy board and all similar boards shall hereafter be under the control of the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the State Board of Education. That all licenses shall be issued by said Bureau and the examinations prepared under its direction.

PURE DRUG BILL, IN MINNESOTA.

S. F. No. 564, by Mr. Swanson, now in the Minnesota Legislature, is a bill having to do with the misbranding and adulteration of drugs. In its general prohibiting and defining provisions, this measure follows closely the Pure Food and Drugs Act, making the same allowance for the sale of officially titled products of unofficial standard, when that standard is stated on the label.

The distinctive point of difference between this proposed measure and existing pure drug statutes is that it defines as prima facie evidence of violation refusal to sell any sample to an agent of the Board of Pharmacy, or the concealing of any drug when sought by such an agent. The enforcement of the act is placed with the Board of Pharmacy.

In both houses of the legislature, the measure has been recommended for passage by the Committee on Public Welfare and Health.

CERTAIN U. S. P. AND N. F. PREPARATIONS CLASSIFIED AS INTOXICATING LIQUOR.

A Treasury Decision (T. D. 3141), signed by Paul F. Myers, Acting Commissioner of Internal Revenue, and approved on March 2nd by D. F. Houston, Secretary of the Treasury, adds several U. S. P. and N. F.

preparations to the list given in Regulations 60 and therein held to be fit for beverage purposes, and after the decision is effective they may be manufactured and sold only in the same manner as intoxicating liquors are handled. The Decision reads:

To Federal prohibition directors and others concerned:

Effective 90 days from the date hereof the preparations named below which are included in the U. S. Pharmacopoeia and the National Formulary are hereby classed as being fit for beverage purposes:

Spirit Ether, or Hoffman's Drops, U. S. P.

Elixir Terpin Hydrate, N. F.

Wine of Pepsin, N. F.

Wine of Beef, N. F.

Distilled spirits and wines may, however, be used in the manufacture of such preparations, but after manufacture they will be regarded as intoxicating liquor and may be sold, purchased, bartered, transported, imported, exported, delivered, furnished, possessed or used only in the manner provided for other similarly classed official preparations listed in Subdivision (b), Section 60 of Regulations 60.

PAUL F. MYERS,

Acting Commissioner of Internal Revenue.

Approved March 2, 1921:

D. F. HOUSTON,

Secretary of the Treasury.

TOBACCO NEXT.

An anti-cigarette bill forbidding the sale of cigarettes in Utah, was signed by Governor Charles R. Masey, March 8. The bill also prohibits other smoking in public places.

PREREQUISITE LAW IN MISSOURI.

Amendments for consideration by the Missouri Legislature provide for the prerequisite of graduation to become effective January 1, 1923.

BOOK NOTICES AND REVIEWS.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Treatise on General and Industrial Organic Chemistry. By Dr. E. Molinari. Translated from the Third Italian Edition by Thomas H. Pope. Published by P. Blakiston's Son & Company, Philadelphia. 1921. Pp. 470. Price, \$8.00.

It is unnecessary to call our readers' atten-

tion to the great popularity and acceptability of this work. The two volumes of Molinari which appeared some years ago, covering organic and inorganic chemistry, have met with great success, because they cover with scientific accuracy the presentation of general chemistry, and at the same time present satisfactorily a large number of the chemical in-

dustries which have been built up on the utilization of many of the chemical substances described.

Molinari's books are, of course, not complete works on chemical technology, but are mainly books on general chemistry to which have been added these sections going into considerable detail on the applications of many of the chemical substances, and the combination of the two has proved to be quite attractive to the chemical student.

The new edition of the organic chemistry is coming out in English form in several parts, and the part before us deals only with the chemistry of aliphatic compounds, and does not take up any of the aromatic, or other cyclic compounds.

We note in the preface to the Third Italian Edition, of which the present book is a translation, the author states that in this edition account is taken of the industrial progress in the various branches of chemistry up to the end of the year 1913, and, for the period of the war, only data referring to Italy can be guaranteed. This must be borne in mind, and allowance must be made, therefore, for the want of later information in certain sections.

Coming now to some closer examination of the new edition, we find that in the discussion of illuminating gas manufacture, the presentation here is rather one-sided, as coal distillation in retorts is alone discussed, water-gas having been covered in the inorganic volume. From the point of view of the reader, this is unfortunate, especially because of the American practice which involves mixed methods. It is true that the author describes and illustrates, on page 44, a modern vertical retort distillation equipment as manufactured and largely used on the continent at the present time. One would have to turn over, as before stated, to the inorganic volume to get any proper information as to present-day American methods.

The petroleum industry is referred to at considerable length, but with what to an American seems to be a disproportionately large mention of the older Russian operations, American conditions are correspondingly scantily considered and Mexican production hardly at all. Yet, in 1919 the United States produced 69 per cent and Mexico 16 per cent of the world's petroleum, while Russia produced 5 percent of the same. More specifically, the whole question of gasoline production, as we know it in the United States, is treated in a totally inadequate manner. No

mention is made of its extraction from natural gas, and the reference to "cracking" gives no idea of its importance as a source of gasoline. The large use of fuel oil as a source of motive power, and its use in modern ships is not anywhere mentioned.

The discussion of acetylene is very satisfactory. Both its chemical relationships and its industrial applications are well stated.

The whole subject of ethyl alcohol is handled with great completeness, particularly the question of fermentation, and the part played therein by enzyme action. In fact, the whole matter of enzymes as catalytic agents in the processes of life is given attention and a quite full presentation. The *amylo* process of alcoholic production from starchy materials is fully described and illustrated. The production of alcohol from waste wood and waste sulphite liquors is also described.

Mention is made of the production in Germany during the recent war of glycerin by biological processes in connection with alcoholic fermentation, a process which promises considerable future value.

The industrial manufacture of ether, as carried out with the continuous rectifying column of Barbet, is also illustrated on page 230.

Incident to the description of nitroglycerine, the whole subject of explosives is taken up, including nitrocellulose and smokeless powder, and various classes of detonating substances. As the author says, this is done so as to enable one to study and classify explosives, even though differently constituted. The section on this subject is very complete, and much valuable information is found therein.

Bearing in mind the statement of the Italian author that it has been impossible to bring down industrial applications in most cases beyond the year 1913, the book is quite satisfactory. Of course, it does not present, as before mentioned, a very complete showing of many lines of industrial chemistry with which we are particularly familiar in this country, and for them we will have to turn to distinctly American works on industrial subjects.

With the issue of the other parts of the organic volume of Molinari, the chemical student will certainly have a most valuable book of reference.

SAMUEL P. SADTLER.

Creative Chemistry. By Edwin E. Slosson. Published by The Century Co., New York. A book on chemistry written especially for

the layman, which assumes no previous knowledge of the science from the reader. Dr. E. E. Slosson is the Literary Editor of the *Independent*. The Chemical Foundation is distributing a limited number of copies of above-named book in an educational campaign in the interests of American chemical industries, present and future. The importance of chemistry and its products was realized during the war. If the United States desires that the chemical industries develop, then the people must be educated to take a livelier interest in the related studies and activities. This is the object of the Chemical Foundation, a quasi-public corporation, formed at the suggestion of the Government to purchase the seized German chemical patents, and license them to American citizens; also to aid in every possible way the development of these industries, as such, and in protective and destructive warfare. Sent out with this book is a copy of the report of U. S. Tariff Commission, showing the progress of the American Coal Tar Industry up to June 30, 1920, and a pamphlet explaining the organization of the Chemical Foundation.

Hendricks' Commercial Register. Published by A. E. Hendricks Co., New York. More than 2,500 pages. An annual register of producers, manufacturers, dealers and consumers, in various industries, including the chemical. It contains a classified trade section with over 18,000 headings, also a trade name section listing more than 21,000 trade marks and trade names, and an alphabetical section in which all names appearing in the classified section are arranged alphabetically with particulars regarding their main industry and address.

Bulletin of the University of Wisconsin, Serial No. 1072; General Series No. 856. "The Redistillation of Aqueous Distillates Resulting from the Production of Volatile Oils. II." By Roland E. Kremers. The University of Wisconsin Pharmaceutical Experiment Station, October 1920. Quoting the Prefatory Note: "The cultivation of aromatic plants on a larger scale made it possible to attack the study of the aqueous distillates in a more satisfactory manner than heretofore. Whatever the economic significance of these results may prove to be, their biochemical significance cannot be questioned." The distillates of four oils are reported on, Wormwood, Tansy, Milfoil and Peppermint. We quote the summary:

"From the physical and chemical data gathered, it will be seen that in all four oils, methyl alcohol is the largest single constituent. Apparently as minor constituents, formaldehyde, acetone, ethyl alcohol, and furfural have been indicated. There is, therefore, a general similarity between the results obtained and yet there are noteworthy differences as well. The most noticeable are those of the peppermint fractions which yielded both sulfur and nitrogen containing compounds in addition to the oxygenated derivatives. The tansy distillate contained isovaleric acid, and the milfoil fraction separated a small quantity of borneol."

Standards of Pine Oil for Medicinal Use. By Hilda Wiese. Same as foregoing, Serial 1070; General Series No. 854. The conclusions reached from the preliminary experiments reported are, "that shaking commercial pine oil with 35 p. c. sulphuric acid gives the largest yield of terpin hydrate, but there are other factors, such as temperature and rate of shaking, whether constantly or intermittently, which influence the formation of terpin hydrate." * * * "Time and experience must show whether standards based on the data here submitted will prove generally satisfactory. But temporary standards based on rational experimentation must prove more satisfactory than no standards at all."

The Effect of Shaking Alkalinized Aqueous Solutions of Arsphenamine and Aqueous Solutions of Neoarsphenamine in the Presence of Air. By George B. Roth, Pharmacologist, Hygienic Laboratory, U. S. Public Health Service. Reprint from the *Public Health Reports*, September 17, 1920. Pages 2205-2210.

"Summary.—Shaking alkalinized aqueous solutions of arsphenamine or aqueous solutions of neoarsphenamine in the presence of air renders them highly toxic, as shown by intravenous administration to white rats. The increase in toxicity caused by such shaking is presumably due to the oxidation of these compounds to *p*-oxyphenylarsenoxide, commonly called 'arsenoxide,' inasmuch as shaking a solution of neoarsphenamine in the absence of air does not increase the toxicity of such a solution."

"Conclusion.—The toxicity of alkalinized aqueous solutions of arsphenamine or aqueous solutions of neoarsphenamine is greatly influenced by the manner in which they are prepared for administration."

Red Book Price List. Druggists' Circular, New York, 1921. The value of this annual is evidenced by the index to contents:

Section A.—Pages 4 to 37: Drugs, Chemicals, Galenicals, etc.

Section B.—Pages 38 to 60: Vaccines, Serums, and other Biologicals.

Section C.—Pages 61 to 206: Proprietary Preparations, Medicinal, Toilet and Domestic.

Section D.—Pages 207 to 230: Directory of Manufacturers and Proprietors of the Preparations in Sections B and C.

Section E.—Pages 231 to 243: Complete Price Lists of Individual Proprietors—A Buyers' Directory.

Grundlagen der analytischen Chemie. By W. Ostwald. Seventh edition. Dresden and

Leipzig: Theodor Steinkopff. M. 20. For review see *Z. angew. Chem.*, 33, II, 464, 1920.

Elementary Practical Biochemistry. By W. A. Osborne. Melbourne: W. Ramsay. 184 pp. For review see *Nature*, 106, 403, 1920.

Principles of Biochemistry for Students of Medicine, Agriculture and Related Sciences. By T. Brailsford Robinson. Philadelphia: Lea & Febiger. 633 pp. \$8.00.

A Practical Medical Dictionary of Words Used in Medicine with Their Derivation and Pronunciation, Including Dental, Veterinary, Chemical, Botanical, Electrical, Life Insurance and Other Special Terms. By Thomas L. Stedman. Sixth edition. New York: William, Wood & Co. 1144 pp. \$6.50. For review see *J. Am. Med. Assoc.*, 75, 1739, 1920.

FRENCH MARKET—NEW ORLEANS.

The French Market in New Orleans, one of the famous market places of the world, stretching for four blocks along Decatur Street in the very heart of the densely settled community, was founded more than two centuries ago.

This market place affords to the visitor one of his most interesting studies of life in the Crescent City. In the old days, the French Market daily witnessed the gathering of a real congress of nations. Here came the Spanish, the French, the Italians, the Portuguese, even the Indian vendors and traders in merchandise of a variety scarcely to be found in any other place in the country.



One end of the Old French Market, New Orleans. Here each morning housewives from every walk of life gather, basket in hand, to select the delicacies which have made New Orleans famous for her cuisine throughout the world.