

The only tables appearing in the book are the following: (1) A list of the common official medicines which should always be kept in a dispensary. (2) A list of official medicines, which belong to the class of poisonous medicines, and which should be preserved with special care, separate from the others, in a cabinet or cupboard that can be closed. (3) A list of official medicines, which belong to the class of strong or powerful medicines, and which should be preserved with care, separated from the others. (4) A table of maximum adult doses. (5) A table giving the names, synonyms and atomic weights of the more important elements. (6) A comparative table of the official and popular names of the newer remedies.

Leipzig is the "book center" of the entire world. The Bibliographisches Institut (Bibliographic Institute) in Leipzig is one of the foremost publishers who specialize in high class books. The firm favored us with the following two works for review:

*Die Pflanzendecke der Erde.* Eine allgemeine Pflanzengeographie von Dr. Adolph Hansen. 276 pp. 1 map and 24 illustrations.

It is a credit to pharmacy that the author of this work was an apotheker, who became professor of botany at the University of Giessen where he died on June 24, 1920. Plant geography is that branch of botany which deals with the distribution of the various plants in different parts of the world and its underlying causes. After his travels in the tropics (1799-1804) Alexander von Humboldt became the father of this special field of botany, as laid down in his book, "Ideas to a Plant Geography" (Stuttgart 1807).

The first part of the book, the Introduction, deals with the flora in general, its history, development and the changes caused by the influence of man.

The second part comprises the Vegetation of the Earth, divided into the following parts: Arctic Zone, Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia and the Islands in the Pacific Ocean, America and the Antarctic Zone.

The author points out that the present plant population of the different parts of the world have arisen from various sources, undergoing different processes of development in the course of ages. Even though physical conditions be equivalent at the present time on two points of the world, the plant materials which had to change and adjust themselves to these new identical environments may have been originally different. Even in nature evolution is constantly progressing!

The referee begs to call special attention to the historical part of the book to which 10 pages are devoted, beginning with the works of Theophrastus about 305 B. C. who can be rightly called the father of botany. The history

of that 15 folio volumes master work, "Flora Brasiliensis" (1840-1905), is also given in detail.

A large map in colors shows at a glance the distribution of the different forms of vegetation over the world. Six plates contain 24 excellent illustrations of plants from all parts of the world and help to illustrate the book and elucidate its contents. Thanks are due to the publishers for this part of the work.

The book is a work of art and should become better known among teachers, pharmacists and the public in the United States, quite specially as books on plant geography are not too abundant.

*Weltgeschichte*, 9. Band: Amerika und Australien. Lex. 464 pp.

The classic work "Helmolt's History of the World" is now complete in its second edition after 12 years of hard work. Volume 9 before us treats America and Australia together with an index for the entire set. The history of America has been written by Prof. Dr. Konrad Haeblerland, and Dr. Johannes Hohlfeld, both expert historians.

How broad and thorough the subject is treated can be seen from the following chapters: Aborigines of South, Central and North America, Central American Culture, South American Culture, Discoveries and Conquests. Spanish Colonies, British Colonies, War of Independence of North America and South America, United States since 1820, Antilles, Canada, Independent South America, Central America and Brazil. Richly illustrated with 2 maps, 3 colored plates, 8 printed plates and 68 illustrations in the text, the book before us is a work of art.

It is the pride of Americans that our hemisphere has contributed its share and over, to the sum total accomplished by the entire world. For that reason it is well to learn that two outsiders, two German professors, hold that very same opinion. We can recommend this book very highly.

OTTO RAUBENHEIMER, PH.M.