

any manufactured narcotics. The crude opium and coca leaves which may be brought into those possessions will not be of any benefit, says the letter, as there are no facilities there for manufacturing.

There is already a tendency on the part of foreign druggists, according to the section, to place their orders for narcotics where they may purchase them without the trouble and expense incident to procuring the evidence

required by the U. S. Government regulations. If the foreign customer is compelled to buy from European houses his supplies of medicines containing narcotics, the inevitable result will be the entire loss of American general export drug trade.

The section points out that it has never opposed reasonable Federal control of narcotics, and has always supported the government's efforts to that end.

## BOOK NOTICES AND REVIEWS.

*Soap-Making Manual.* A practical handbook on the raw materials, their manipulation, analysis and control in the modern soap plant. By E. G. Thomssen, Ph.D. Illus.  $6 \times 4\frac{1}{2}$  inches, 243 pages. Price \$4.00. New York, D. Van Nostrand Company.

This book contains a comprehensive account of soap manufacture. In the first and second chapters are outlined the origin and selection of raw materials used in the manufacture, and also details of the construction and equipment of a plant. The succeeding chapters deal with the manufacturing processes. The author treats of the various soaps ranging from the cheap laundry soaps to the expensive variety of toilet products. Descriptions of the manufacture of scouring powders, chip soaps and the three varieties of shaving soaps are very well given. The subject of liquid soaps is taken up in an understandable way, giving each detail regarding the clarification of same.

A good description is contained of the medication of soaps and their value in relation to the various uses. A chapter is devoted to the analytical methods used for testing the raw materials as well as the finished products, and the last chapter gives in detail the standard methods of sampling the raw material used, with illustrations of the machinery and plant layouts. The tables contained in the appendix add greatly to its practical value.

The work in a word, is a very complete detailed account of soap manufacture. The information it contains makes it valuable not only to the manufacturer but equally so to the analytical chemist. The clarity of thought shows the thorough knowledge which the author possesses concerning the subject. The table of contents indicates the scope of the book: I. Raw materials used in soap-making, including definitions of soaps, oils, fats, saponification; methods of bleaching and

treatment of oils and fats; rancidity and its prevention, chemical constants, oil hardening, alkalis, etc.; II. Construction and equipment of a soap plant; III. Classification of methods of soapmaking; IV. Classifications of soaps, *i. e.*, laundry, cold made, toilet, medicinal, transparent, shaving, liquid, textile, etc.; V. Glycerin recovery; VI. Analytical methods, and VII. Standard methods for the sampling and analysis of commercial fats and oils.

K. J. EHMANN.

## PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

*Proceedings of the National Wholesale Druggists' Association.* Forty-seventh annual meeting held at Atlantic City, September 26 to 29, 1921.

The usual addresses and reports in these proceedings contain much useful information relating to the problems of the wholesale druggist and the wide scope of his field of operations are reflected in the many discussions on the reports submitted, these ranging from salesmanship and credits and collections to employers' liability and workmen's compensation, merchandising methods of retail druggists, proprietary goods, quality of medical products, etc. It will readily be seen that the reports have value to the retailer because of the close relation of these two divisions of the drug trade. An interesting account of the entertainment features is also given, and lists of committees, members, etc. The volume is a cloth bound book of 650 pages.

## NEW PUBLICATIONS.

*The Chemistry of the Garden.*—By Herbert H. Cousins, M.A., F.C.S. Revised edition. Pp. xx + 147. Price 2s. net. London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd. 1920.

*Chemistry: Lehrbuch der Chemie. Vol. I. Stoffe.* Max Trautz. 534 pp. Price, 22s. 6d. Vereinigung Wissenschaftlicher, Berlin and Leipzig.