

## BOOK NOTICES AND REVIEWS.

*The Propaganda for Reform in Proprietary Medicines*, Vol. 2, 1922. Containing Reports of the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry and contributions from the A. M. A. Chemical Laboratory and from *The Journal of the American Medical Association*. Cloth. Price, \$2.00. Pp. 603 with illustrations. Chicago: American Medical Association, 1922.

The first volume of "Propaganda for Reform in Proprietary Medicines" ran through nine editions, covering a period prior to 1917. The material of the second volume covers the period to April 1922, inclusive. The matter is presented in four parts:

*Reports of the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry*.—This section presents the principles and rules which govern the Council in the examination of medicaments, contains articles and reports bearing on the work of the Council as well as the most important reports of the Council from 1917 to April 1922, inclusive.

*Reports of the A. M. A. Chemical Laboratory*.—This, besides presenting the aims and objects of the Association's Chemical Laboratory, also outlines some of the Laboratory's work which is of special interest to physicians.

*Contributions from The Journal: Proprietary Products*.—This contains articles which have appeared in *The Journal A. M. A.* on proprietary preparations and their methods of exploitation.

*Contributions from The Journal: Miscellany*.—In this section are articles dealing with matters of interest to the medical profession but not coming strictly under the classification of proprietary medicinal preparations.

A double-column index in small type, of about 30 pages, indicates the large amount of information contained in the pages of this volume. The table of contents is given in 6 pages. The book is valuable for the information it contains and makes clear the work of the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry and the A. M. A. Chemical Laboratory. The information contained in the volume is of value to pharmacists and is not to be had in such convenient arrangement in any other publication, hence a useful reference which should be part of the pharmacist's library.

*Digest of Comments on the Pharmacopœia of the United States of America and on the National Formulary* for the calendar year ending December 31, 1920.—Bulletin No. 131, Hygienic Laboratory—Treasury Department, U. S. Public

Health Service, September 1922; by A. G. DuMez. This is the sixteenth bulletin in the series of Hygienic Laboratory publications known as the "Digest of Comments on the Pharmacopœia and the National Formulary." Most, if not all, of these editions have received notices or more extended reviews in the pages of the *JOURNAL A. PH. A.* As these publications are formulated along the same lines there is perhaps nothing more to be said, except that this bulletin evidences the same painstaking care given to the work of former editions. The editor and compiler of earlier volumes was the late Martin I. Wilbert; later numbers and the present one have been prepared by Dr. A. G. DuMez.

The Digests have great value in the revision of the Standards, and the references are convenient for pharmacists and laboratory workers, very frequently making search in the libraries unnecessary, because the statements, though concise, are sufficient for the purpose. Instead of a review we offer these words of commendation for the work and the compilers.

The following book reviews have been prepared and contributed by Otto Raubenheimer, Ph.M.

*A Pocket Book for Chemists*. By Thomas Bayley, Assoc. R. C. Sc. I. Edited by Robert Ensoll, Fellow C. S., Assistant Chemist to the British Dyes Ltd., 8th edition, 425 pp. London, E and F. N. Spon Ltd., London and New York, 1922.

A very handy and useful book of pocket size, combining much valuable information; a true *multum in parvo*. Being now in its eighth edition proves its popularity. Much obsolete matter has been omitted in this edition and many new tables have been added.

The book is divided as follows: I. Mathematical; II. Weights and Measures; III. Physical; IV. General Analysis; V. Gravimetric Analysis; VI. Volumetric Analysis; VII. Miscellaneous. The latter part also contains three chapters which are of special value to pharmacists; *i. e.*, characters of certain B. P. chemicals, definition of various chemical and physical laws and units, and an excellent monograph on photography.

This handy book is not only very useful to chemists, chemical manufacturers, metallurgists, dyers, distillers, brewers, sugar re-