

"*Druggists*.—The druggist who fills a prescription must preserve the prescription for a period of two years from the date indicated thereon. (See Art. 124.)"

3. Article 148, Regulations 35, Revised, is amended by striking out the word "signature" and substituting therefore the word "name" both in the fourth sentence thereof and in the heading of the second column of the form therein prescribed of record to be kept by retail dealers.

#### PHILADELPHIA DRUG EXCHANGE FAVORS OFFICIAL RECOGNITION OF BRANDY AND WHISKY.

The following quotations are from a report of a Committee of the Philadelphia Drug Exchange:

"At present, the U. S. Pharmacopœia and National Formulary provide no standards for the identity, purity, quality and strength of medicinal liquors, and in consequence thereof the market is flooded with liquors of the most

variable strength and grossest impurity, or worse, with factitious products that cause disease, paralysis, blindness and death.

"If there were official standards for medicinal liquors under the law, the quality of such liquors could be legally controlled by the Internal Revenue Department acting in coöperation with the Bureau of Chemistry of the Department of Agriculture under the Federal Food and Drugs Act. . . ."

"Recently a regulation has been issued by the Treasury Department that whisky shall be sold for medicinal purposes in bottles of pint and half pint sizes, "bottled in bond" and put out under the seal of the government, so as to ensure purity. This is a distinct step forward, but it does not go far enough; it should be coupled with the official recognition of brandy and whisky and the label of the packages should state that the product meets with all the requirements of the U. S. Pharmacopœia. Then there would be 'teeth' in the label. . . ."

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### BOOK NOTICES AND REVIEWS.

*Year Book of Pharmacy with Transactions of the British Pharmaceutical Conference* held in Nottingham, July 24 to 28, 1922. J. O. Braithwaite, Editor of the Abstracts, Thomas Stephenson, Compiler of New Remedies Section, C. E. Hampshire, Editor of the Transactions. 2 mo. 546 pages. Cloth. London, J. & A. Churchill, 1922.

This exponent of British scientific pharmacy resembles the old "Proceedings" of the American Pharmaceutical Association. Even as the old "Proceedings" covered the transactions of our Association and abstracts from pharmaceutical and other journals of the year, so the "Year Book" covers the transactions of the 1922 meeting of the British Pharmaceutical Conference and also abstracts of the year.

In the 1922 "Year Book" 339 pages are given to abstracts; 133 pages to the minutes of the Nottingham meeting, 23 pages to the membership list and 47 pages to indices; general and authors. The minutes are made interesting by the admirable address of President Greenish and by 14 original papers. As to the abstract portion, we find therein 698 condensed reviews of journal articles and a list of 65 new remedies described in some detail. This portion is admirably and judiciously edited although not as comprehensively as the A. Ph. A. YEAR BOOK, the last volume of which covered 692

pages and included 1630 abstracts and notes on 600 new remedies. Of the abstracts in the British "Year Book" 61 were of American origin, most of these being from our own JOURNAL.

This "Year Book" is a worthy companion in any pharmaceutical library to our own A. Ph. A. YEAR BOOK and in scanning the well-edited pages of its abstract portion, one feels the desirability of friendly coöperation between the two publications. This idea of coöperation, similar to that now existing between *Chemical Abstracts* in America and the *Journal of the Society of Chemical Industry* and the *Journal of the Chemical Society* in England has been broached and it is hoped that future years may bring about its fruition. H. V. A.

*The Eclectic Materia Medica, Pharmacology and Therapeutics*. By Harvey Wickes Felter, M.D., Professor of Materia Medica and Therapeutics, and of the History of Medicine in the Eclectic Medical College of Cincinnati, Ohio; Ex-President and Member of the National Eclectic Medical Association; Ex-President and Member of the Ohio State Eclectic Medical Association, etc. Forty-eight full page halftone plates. 702 pp. Cincinnati, Ohio, John K. Scudder.

This volume represents a great deal of original research and presents in a very clear and easily comprehended manner the attitude of

the eclectic physician toward therapeutics. All this is set forth in the introduction, and a study of this part of the work will help the reader to understand the attitude of the eclectic physician to what he terms "specific" medication. Its study will well repay the pharmacist, for the eclectic school has been grossly misrepresented at times and is but little understood except by those who follow its teachings.

The major portion of the book, something like six hundred pages, is devoted to a study of individual drugs, the botanical sources, habitat, constituents, indications and uses being treated quite fully. One of the most interesting features of the work is the historical data regarding the indigenous materia medica which is presented in the course of these monographs on the individual drugs.

While the subject matter is presented from the eclectic point of view, the facts are set forth clearly and the author presents a very interesting accumulation of data regarding the uses of these drugs. Dr. Felter brings to this task a long experience as a teacher, as an editor and as a practicing physician, and the volume is one which reflects credit upon himself, upon the school which he represents and upon the publisher who has put it out in a very attractive form.

C. A. M.

*Pharmaceutical and Food Analysis.* By Azor Thurston. 409 pp., and index. Price, \$4.50. D. Van Nostrand and Company, New York City.

This work, as the title indicates, was originally intended to cover all phases of Food and Drug Analysis but, after assembling part of the data, the author restricted it entirely to the analysis of oils, fats, waxes and allied substances. Much of the data presented was assembled during his seventeen years of service as chemist for the Ohio Dairy and Food Department.

Due to the death of the author, final preparation of the work was carried on by B. L. Murray, chemist for Merck and Company.

In the two introductory chapters various types of polariscopes and refractometers are discussed—their use and application in analytical procedure; another chapter considers specific gravity and the methods of determining the gravity of various types of substances.

The chapters following are devoted to General Methods of Analysis: Oils, Fats and Waxes; Dairy Products; Flesh Foods; Eggs and Egg Substitutes and Volatile Oils. Each

substance is found under its own heading in English; French, German and Italian names are appended. The source of the article, method of manufacture and purification and its physical characteristics are given, and also its chemical constants. Special methods of analyses are included wherever these are deemed necessary, and also tests for well-known adulterants.

The author has covered all of the oils, fats and waxes official in the Pharmacopœia, and many others of commercial value. While each substance is quite extensively considered, there is an occasional exclusion or omission of important data, and a few typographical errors have been overlooked.

Note should be made of the misplacement of several paragraphs under Milk Serum, page 184. Paragraphs four and six on page 185 should immediately follow the paragraph carried over from the preceding page; the table which appears at the top of page 186 should then be included.

On page 228 under Lactose the word sucrose is inadvertently inserted instead of lactose; the method for determining the solids in sweetened condensed milk on page 229 should be changed to read—proceed as under Milk—*dry-ing on either sand or asbestos fiber.*

Under the method for determining by the Reichert Meissl on page 242, no mention is made of the Lefmann-Beam Method of saponification, although it is referred to on page 254 under the Polenske number.

When discussing the refractive index of oleomargarine and butter, on page 244, mention should be made of the refractive index of the so-called "nut-butters" which read below that of butter, namely, from 1.4500 to 1.4525.

The statement of the average weight of an egg, on page 289, is undoubtedly a typographical error; it should read 57 grams, or 680 grams to the dozen.

On pages 350 and 362 an incorrect factor is given for determining the amount of menthol in oil of peppermint, and borneol in oil of rosemary. The factor given was evidently obtained from an early edition of the U. S. P. IX which was later corrected to read as follows:

$$\frac{A \times 7.808}{B - (A \times 0.021)} \times [1 - (E \times 0.0021)].$$

E is the per cent. of esters as menthyl acetate or bornyl acetate.

While the work covers practically all the important fats, oils and waxes it of course is