

BOOK NOTICES AND REVIEWS.

Cuz, Iams, Poems and Papers. By W. H. Cousins, editor of the Southern Pharmaceutical Journal, Dallas, Texas. Arthur S. Mathis, Limited Edition. Pp. 191.

Cow puncher, pill roller, pharmacist, poet, philosopher, and pharmaceutical journalist! All these rolled into one is Walter Henry Cousins of Dallas, in the State of Texas, and the volume of his selected essays and rhymes which is published under the name "Cuz" is a unique exhibit of his winning personality.

The world loves a real man and hates a sham, and the man who has the temerity to write his full heart for the world to read is sure to find interested readers. Walter Cousins is above all genuine. He has a fine command of language from cowboy slang to polished poetry, and through it all runs the thread of originality, of humor and of love for pharmacy and his fellow pharmacists who will read "Cuz" with pleasure.

C. A. M.

Applied Pharmacology. By A. J. Clarke, Professor of Pharmacy in University of London. P. Blakiston's Sons & Company, 1923. 390 pages.

In the preface of this interesting book the author says "unfortunately there are at present many reasons why medical students and others often fail to appreciate the connection between the science of pharmacology and the art of therapeutics, one of the chief reasons being that the student is taught pharmacology and therapeutics at different stages of his career and this creates a gap. *** The principal aim of this book is to try and bridge this gap between pharmacology and therapeutics, to demonstrate as clearly as possible the connection between the two subjects." While there is much that is commendable in the work we do not think that the book has met the announced purpose of bridging the gap between pharmacology and therapeutics. The mechanism of the action of drugs is set forth in an interesting and convincing style but the clinical applications of these facts are not sufficiently detailed to serve as a guide for the student to practical therapeutics.

The book is remarkable for the absence of antiquated, traditional pharmacology and for the clear exposition of some of the more recent experimental results and theories of drug actions. One evidence of the ultra-modernism of the author is the extraordinary number of new drugs to which reference is made and the brevity, and sometimes complete absence,

of consideration of old and still-trusted *arma medicamentarium*. For instance, considerable space is given to the recent antiseptic dyes, such as brilliant green, arciflavine, etc.; optochin has 4 references in the index, histamin is considered in 5 places, halogen derivatives of naphthol are described in some detail, although betanaphthol is only incidentally referred to; eucupin has 4 references in the index, eusol 2, and histamin 5. On the other hand aconite, belladonna, asafoetida, bismuth salts, alum, scopolamin, cacodylates, iron, menthol, iodoform, homatropin and a host of other frequently employed drugs are not indexed at all. In this connection, however, it should be stated that the indexing is unsatisfactorily done and several of the drugs whose absence from the index strikes the attention are at least passingly mentioned in the text. Other features unusual in books on pharmacology, which also evidence the interest of the author in present-day problems, is a chapter of 25 pages on the vitamins, one of 11 pages of radium on X-ray, one of 6 pages on the products of protein decomposition and 13 pages devoted to immunity reactions. Considering the relatively small size of the book this seems an unduly large amount of space to be given to a class of subjects which are doubtfully classified as pharmacological.

Although there is so much omitted that the book can scarcely be recommended as a general textbook, as an exegesis of the modern trend of pharmacological investigation it offers much food for thought to those who are curious about the how and the why of drug actions.

H. C. W.

The Microscopical Examination of Foods and Drugs. By Henry G. Greenish. 3rd ed., Philadelphia, P. Blakiston's Son & Co., 1923.

The book purports to be a practical introduction to the methods adopted for the microscopical examination of foods and drugs, in the entire, crushed and powdered state. It is primarily intended for students.

The present (3d) edition is largely a reprint of the second edition, which appeared in 1910. As stated in the preface, the original arrangement of the subject matter has been retained, as it had proven well adapted for its particular purpose.

The contents are discussed in fifteen sections, the first being the starches, the study of which is comparatively simple. In other sections are discussed, (II) hairs and textile fibres (III)