

## BOOK NOTICES AND REVIEWS.

## PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

"*Traité de Matière Médicale et de Chimie Végétale.*" Par le Dr. L. Reutter, privat-docent à l'Université de Genève. In eight parts of 112 pages each, with 293 figures. Price of each part, 12 fr. Paris, 19 rue Hartfeuille: J. Ballière et Fils, 1923.

Six parts of above-named work has been received, completing 672 pages of the text. Dr. Reutter accepts the subdivisions of the science adopted by Prof. A. Tschirch. In the first fascicle he defines *Materia Medica* and Pharmacognosy and discusses the different modes of preparing drugs, Pharmaco-emporia, Pharmaceutical Botany, Zoölogy, Chemistry, etc. In the arrangement the author has followed Eichler's classification, stating his reasons therefor. An extensive history of the subject is given. A chapter deals with microscopical reagents and methods for identifying cell contents, etc. In another chapter methods for examination of the drugs are considered, and processes whereby the constituents may be separated.

In the consideration of the drugs, the botanical description is first given, followed by geographical distribution, collection, the pharmacognosy in general, macroscopically and microscopically, and characteristics of the powdered drugs are described. The determination of constituents, adulteration, incompatibilities and the pharmacy of the drug are fully considered. Comparisons are made of parts of the plants—fruits, seeds, leaves, roots, etc., with those more or less similar and the dissimilarities shown and explained. The space given to the drugs varies from a few lines to a number of pages, according to their importance.

The list of drugs considered is comprehensive, including many of rather infrequent use in medicine, but this is essential for the completeness of a work of this kind. The illustrations, with very few exceptions, are excellent. The only adverse criticism we can offer is that the type matter is too compact; evidently the author's purpose has been to hold down the number of pages, but this objection is in a degree offset by being printed in double columns.

It is certainly a very valuable addition to treatises on *Materia Medica*. The work evidences not only the scientist, but the presentation of the subjects clearly indicates an acquaint-

tance with the needs of those who require the information for practical application, and instructors in pharmacognosy.

*Proceedings of National Association of Boards of Pharmacy* of the 19th annual convention, held at Cleveland, Ohio, August 14-15, 1922. 168 pages.

A subject of discussion during the Cleveland meeting of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy was that relating to the consolidation of boards of pharmacy. The attitude of the Association is reflected in the article by Secretary H. C. Christensen in the April JOURNAL A. PH. A., pp. 346-349. A synopsis of the proceedings is printed in the September number of the JOURNAL, pp. 747-749, and the address of President L. L. Walton will be found on pp. 741-747 of the same issue.

A discussion of interest is the report on the restriction of ownership of retail pharmacies to licensed pharmacists. All the transactions of the meeting are reported and are of more than ordinary interest to all pharmacists.

The next meeting of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy will be held in Asheville, N. C., during the week of September 3.

*Proceedings of the American Conference of Pharmaceutical Faculties* of the 23rd annual meeting, held at Cleveland, Ohio, August 14-15, 1922. 148 pages, cloth.

A summary of the proceedings of the American Conference of Pharmaceutical Faculties will be found on pp. 815-816 of the October JOURNAL A. PH. A. The Department of the Conference appears in the monthly issues of the JOURNAL and report on the transactions. The report of the Fairchild Scholarship is printed on pp. 750-752 of the September JOURNAL, and in the same issue, pp. 730-740, will be found the address of Prof. C. A. Dye, that of Hon. Newton D. Baker, on pp. 974-978 of the November number, and a list of Standing Committees is printed in the succeeding issue, p. 1026.

A dinner in honor of Dr. H. H. Rusby, his address, and the lantern slides of schools of pharmacy, prepared and shown by Caswell A. Mayo, were features of the meeting.

The next annual meeting will be held in Asheville, during Convention Week, beginning September 3.

*Proceedings of the National Wholesale Druggists' Association* of the 48th Annual Meeting,

held at Colorado Springs, October 2-5, 1922. Cloth, 677 pages.

These proceedings have so frequently been reported in these pages, in general outline, that such reference is omitted at this time.

Much of that which concerns the wholesale druggist is of importance to the retail pharmacist, hence the reports of this Association, particularly those relating to business affairs and the Legislative Committee, are of interest and value; that of the latter comprises 60 pages, without taking into the count most interesting discussions thereon. All reports are ably presented and most of them have value for the retailer—those on transportation, insurance, etc.

Sketches of deceased members appear in the book together with half-tones of them, and several pages of half-tones of the officers precede the lists of past and present officers in the fore part of the Proceedings. The President of this year is F. E. Bogart, the Secretary, C. H. Waterbury, and F. E. Holliday is General Representative. The next meeting will be held in Cleveland, Ohio, October 8-11.

*Bulletin of the Department of Public Health and Charity*, Havana—December issue in Spanish, and numbers 9, 10, 11 and 12 bound in one volume—have been received.

Last year we reported that an annual prize had been formed by the College of Pharmacy of Havana, consisting of a gold medal and a diploma, to be awarded for the best work on a subject to be assigned by the college. This year the proposed subject related to suggestions for the revision of the United States Pharmacopœia. The discussion is particularly welcome because it evidences the close coöperation of our Cuban pharmacists, their friendly and professional interest, and the timely value of the contribution.

The award for this year was made to Dr. José Agustin Simpson, chief of chemistry of the National Laboratory. How well and comprehensively Dr. Simpson studied his subject is evidenced by 50 pages of the *Bulletin*. While not prepared, at this time, to discuss the criticisms and recommendations of Dr. Simpson we desire to express appreciation of the interest and helpfulness and congratulate him as the recipient of a well-earned award. The contribution referred is printed both in Spanish and English.

*The Wulling Testimonial*, a reprint from the "Proceedings of the Minnesota Pharmaceutical Association, 1917." This reprint con-

tains, besides an account of the Northwestern Branch. A. P. H. A., meeting, a report of the Wulling Testimonial Dinner, addresses delivered on that occasion, letters and messages received and a sketch of the Dean. The latter was elected President of the American Pharmaceutical Association in 1916, and the occasion was to honor him and express appreciation of his services locally, in the State, and nationally. Reference to the event was made in the *JOURNAL A. P. H. A.* for May 1917, page 509.

*Proceedings of New Jersey Pharmaceutical Association* of the 52nd annual session, held at The Hotel Alamac, Lake Hopatcong, N. J., June 13-15, 1922. The book contains also the constitution and by-laws, roll of membership, the Pharmacy Act of New Jersey, other laws, list of registered pharmacists, the Traveling Men's Auxiliary, and the Women's Auxiliary.

*Proceedings of Pennsylvania Pharmaceutical Association* of the 45th annual session, held at Buena Vista Spring Hotel, June 20-22, 1922. Besides the proceedings of the convention this number also contains the constitution, by-laws, roll of members, and the roll of members of the Traveling Men's Auxiliary. It contains also an abstract of the tentative draft of the bill proposed for consolidation of boards in Pennsylvania. An excellent half-tone of President Josiah C. Peacock is the frontispiece, and several pages of half-tones introduce the officers of the present year.

*Plates in Color of Drug and Perfume Plants of France* have been issued by Office National des Matieres Premieres pour la Droguerie, la Pharmacie, la Distillerie et la Parfumerie, 44, Rue de Bellechasse, Paris (VII). The price of a series of eight of these leaflets is 25 cents.

*Green Book Directory for Buyers and Sellers* for 1923. This well and favorably known annual is published by the *Oil, Paint and Drug Reporter*. The present issue contains over 500 pages and the price is \$2.50. The arrangement has been improved and responsive to the growth of the industries more pages have been added.

*Red Book, Part II*, published by the *Druggists' Circular*, follows former editions—Section A lists drugs, chemicals, galenicals, etc.; B, biological products with names and addresses of their manufacturers; C, proprietary preparations, medicinal, toilet and miscellaneous; D is a directory of manufacturers and proprietors of the foregoing.

CONFERENCE BULLETIN NO. 3—BIO-GENESIS OF OIL OF PEPPERMINT.

Since the appearance of the second bulletin,\* the following contributions have been received.

From Dr. C. Kleber, Passaic, N. J., have come two specimens of piperitone.

On February 2nd there were received from A. M. Todd & Co., 120 lbs. of forerunnings representing 12,000 lbs. of peppermint oil. We sincerely appreciate the efforts of Mr. N. R. Mueller, chemist for Todd & Co., who arranged to place this material at our disposal.

On February 26 we received from Dr. A. R. Penfold, F.C.S., Sidney, N. S. W., both purified and commercial samples of piperitone, and oil of *Eucalyptus dives*.

We feel greatly indebted to those who have so generously contributed to the progress of our researches.

At the conference of February 23, Dr. R. E. Kremers reported on the biochemical significance of experimental results recently obtained. Special attention is being given to the occurrence of isomeric menthenones in various oils. In the cohobated (water-soluble) oil of peppermint, a menthenone had been previously found which was identified with pulegone; semicarbazone m. p. 169-70°. A repetition of this work with the 1922 oil yielded a ketone whose semicarbazone melted at 215°. So far it has been impossible to differentiate it from piperitone semicarbazone, although its identity therewith is perhaps not fully established. The much larger amount of 1922 original oil is being examined by a somewhat different technique and the presence of a menthenone has been indicated. The arvensis mint oil investigated some time ago was at first thought to contain only pulegone, but a very careful fractionation of a large amount of semicarbazone revealed a second compound melting at 136-40° C. This agrees most nearly with the semicarbazone of menthene-1, one-3. Experiments are in progress to prepare the latter and thus prove the identity.

Taking into consideration the frequent occurrence of pulegone or its isomers in the *Mentha* species and the fact that an unsaturated ketone accompanied the menthene and menthol in peppermint oil, it seems likely that the latter are derived from the former. This supposition is supported by the fact that pulegone and menthol are the only compounds attaining a preponderant per-

centage. The former forms 80-90 per cent of *M. arvensis* var. *canadensis*, for example, and the latter 80 or more per cent. of the Japanese peppermint oil, said to be derived from an *arvensis* type.

BOOK REVIEWS.

*Lehrbuch der Bakteriologie.* Von Dr. Ludwig Heim, Prof. und Direktor des hygienisch-bakteriologischen Instituts der Universität Erlangen. 6. und 7. neu bearbeitete und erweiterte Auflage. Mit 240 Abbildungen und 106 Lichtbildern auf 16 Tafeln. Lex. Octavo, 726 pp. \$3.60.

This excellent text is divided into five chapters as follows:

I, General Methods; II, Determination of Bacteria; III, Bacteriological Diagnostic; IV, Microphotography; V, Bacteriological Laboratory.

An appendix brings the sixteen plates containing 106 microphotographs of different bacteria with full explanations. Prof. Heim's book is truly a masterpiece!

*Anleitung zum Studium der Chemischen Reaktionen und der qualitativen Analyse.* Von Dr. Fr. Fichter, Prof. Univ. Basel. 3 Auflage. Octavo, 120 pp. 66 cents.

The two parts of this book treat the Qualitative Reactions of the most important cations and anions and Tables for Quantitative Analysis. The book is interleaved and is well suited for pharmaceutical students.

*Qualitative Pharmazeutische Analyse. Eine Anleitung für Studierende der Pharmazie und Apotheker.* Von Dr. I. Rosenthaler, Prof. Univ. Bern. 41 Abbildungen. Octavo, 192 pp. \$1.20.

The preface of the book begins with the following words: "The pharmacist should be able to recognize simple medicaments and to determine the chief constituents in mixtures." Truly a sign of the high standard in German-speaking countries from which we can take a lesson.

The author, Prof. Dr. Rosenthaler of the University of Bern, is well known in pharmacy, owing to his many valuable contributions to pharmaceutical literature. The methods employed are not only chemical but also micro-chemical and physical, as, f. i., flame test. The 41 illustrations show excellent photographs of crystals. The subject of micro-chemistry seems to gain in importance and deserves attention. The book is a "multum in parvo," a true qualitative pharmaceutical analysis which we can highly recommend to students and pharmacists. This book in the laboratory will be a quick and ready reference on many occasions.

OTTO RAUBENHEIMER, PH. M.

\* JOURNAL A. PH. A., March 1923, p. 285. See also December number, 1922, p. 1080.