

"Oils, Fats and Waxes," "Perfumes and Essential Oils," "Dyestuffs and Coal Tar Products," etc., "Salt and Alkali Industry," etc., etc.

The book under consideration is Volume II of the author's treatise under the title above given, published in three volumes. It treats of the manufacture of special soaps and detergent compositions, including—Toilet soaps, shaving soaps and creams, tooth-cleaning compositions, pharmaceutical, medicated and disinfecting soaps, textile soaps, chipped and flake soaps, abrasive and polishing preparations, soft soaps, hydrocarbon and protein soaps, soap substitutes, leather and furniture polishes; also full methods of analysis and statistics of the detergent industry. The outline given indicates the sections into which the book is divided, and each section is subdivided into chapters in which consideration is given to specialties and items that properly are included under the heading given. For example, under "Soaps and Soap Preparations Used in Pharmacy" the following divisions are subjects of discussion: "Soaps and Soap Preparations Used in Pharmacy," "Theory of Disinfecting and Medicated Soaps," "Carbolic, Cresolic and Tar Disinfecting Soaps," "Miscellaneous Medicated Soaps, and Other Special Soaps," arranged alphabetically. Under "Miscellaneous Methods of Saponification" there is a chapter under the same heading, "Saponification of Fats under Increased or Diminished Temperatures and Pressures," "Manufacture of Sodium Soaps by Saponifying Fat with Caustic Potash and Then Treating with Salt," "Manufacture of Sodium Salts by the Double Decomposition of Calcium (or Lime) Soaps, Lead Soaps, Zinc Soaps, and Ammonium Soaps," "The Production of Soap from Oxidized Mineral Oils and Hydrocarbons," "Soaps from Hydrogenated Phenols and Similar Derivatives," "Miscellaneous Processes of Saponification Not Previously Classified," "Miscellaneous Methods of Bleaching and Deodorizing and Otherwise Improving Soap."

In this way we might go through the various sections and point out how completely the soaps have been studied and presented in this book. The reader may be surprised at the ingenuity and variety of the different methods and materials used in the manufacture of some of the special soaps; however, the manufacture of soaps dates back many centuries and, quite naturally, the methods to a large extent rest on an empirical basis. The unworkable

processes of one generation often become the technical advances of the next. It may be said that the treatise is complete as far as work of this kind is possible. It is illustrated throughout, and the processes of soap manufacture have been brought up to the methods of the present day. It is also safe to say that there is no work in print which treats the subject so thoroughly as this publication, and with the unquestioned ability and experience of the author the book can be recommended to the manufacturer, and as far as the pharmacist is concerned there is much in it which he can make use of to his advantage; certainly it is a subject relative to which he should be informed. The author has turned out an excellent work, and the publishers have issued a volume which reflects credit. E. G. E.

Lehrbuch der Pflanzenkunde. Von Dr. F. Höck, Professor an Realgymnasium in Perleberg. \$1.50. Verlag von J. F. Schreiber, Esslingen, a. N.

This book is divided into two parts, I consisting of 112 pages, and II of 220 pages. The illustrations number 221 and are excellent, some of them occupying an entire page. They are a great help in the classification of the text. There are also 29 full page illustrations printed in natural colors, real works of art. I will mention a few of the medicinal plants: *Coffea arabica*, *Olea europea*, *Juniperus communis*, *Ergota* (*claviceps purpurea*), *Capsicum annum*, *Solanum dulcamara* and *Aloe socotrina*. Besides the book contains two double page colored charts on the Vegetation of the World and the German Flora.

The book is well printed on good paper, the illustrations are excellent and last, but not least, the binding is very durable, a great advantage to a book which is much used and sometimes misused.

Die Chemie und das Moderne Leben. Von Svante Arrhenius. Autorisierte deutsche Ausgabe von Dr. B. Finkelstein. Mit 20 Abbildungen. Octavo, 373 pp. Cloth. Mk. 9. Akadem. Verlagsgesellschaft, Markgrafenstr. 4, Leipzig.

From the pen of an authority with a worldwide reputation, the book before us treats "Chemistry and Our Modern Life." The subject is well chosen and, needless to say, well written as can be expected. Among the 15 chapters we want to call special attention to the following: Fire, Oxidation and Reduction; Chemistry of the Earthcrust; Chemistry of Water and Air; Electricity and Chemistry;