

information as to how prohibition is working in the United States. He has no official data to furnish them and thinks that a commission could supply that want. Mr. Mellon thinks that everybody knows how prohibition is working. He thinks conditions throughout the country are more or less evident.

Mr. Mellon does agree with General Andrews on one point. They both think that a Congressional investigation would be helpful. Mr. Andrews thinks such a probe would develop facts about prohibition that the Treasury does not have the machinery to uncover. Officials did not make clear exactly why Mr. Mellon thought a Congressional probe would be of value when an investigation by a Presidential prohibition commission would not.

TO PREPARE QUESTIONNAIRE.

Meanwhile the House Committee on Alcoholic Traffic is going ahead with the preliminary moves of an investigation. A sub-committee headed by Representative Upshaw, Democrat, Georgia, has been appointed to prepare a questionnaire.

VIRGINIA LEGISLATION.

Secretary A. L. I. Winne has sent out the circular of advice on Virginia legislation. The cosmetic and soda tax bills have been killed.

The Caustic Alkali Bill is on its second reading on the House Calendar, where it has been for some days.

The Peddlers' Bill has not progressed since last reports. It was then in the hands of a sub-committee for consideration.

The Registered Assistant Bill, introduced by Mrs. Fain of Norfolk, amends several sections of the pharmacy law with reference to the registered pharmacist. Its purpose is to prevent the registering of any more assistant

pharmacists after March 1, 1926, to allow such persons as are registered as assistants now to take the registered pharmacist examination for the purpose of registering as pharmacists if they can pass the examinations. It does not affect the status of those registered as assistant pharmacists, allowing them to continue to practice as such after March 1, 1926, if they do not subsequent to that date become registered as pharmacists.

NEW YORK X-RAY LABORATORY LAW AMENDED.

Commissioner Louis I. Harris reports in the *City of New York Department of Health Bulletin* for February 13, that the regulation anent X-ray laboratories, reading:

"Every X-ray laboratory shall at all times be in charge and under the direction of a duly licensed physician or *other person whose knowledge, experience and qualifications to operate and use an X-ray machine are satisfactory to the Health Department.*"

has been amended to read:

"Every X-ray laboratory shall at all times be in charge of and under the direction of a duly licensed physician or other person *who is licensed under the laws of this state to diagnose and treat disease* and whose knowledge, experience and qualification to use an X-ray machine are satisfactory to the Health Department."

The comment is made that "thus amended, the regulations will entitle all the members of professions licensed under the laws of the state to diagnose and treat disease to maintain and conduct X-ray laboratories and will safeguard the public from errors of omission or commission that might jeopardize life and health."

BOOK NOTICES AND REVIEWS.

Principles of Pharmacy. By Henry V. Arny, Ph.M., Ph.D., F.C.S., Professor of Chemistry in the College of Pharmacy of Columbia University, etc., 3rd Edition, Revised with 289 illustrations, octavo, 1088 pp. Cloth \$8.00—Philadelphia and London, W. B. Saunders Co., 1926.

Just off the press is Prof. Arny's well-known "Principles of Pharmacy" in its third edition. The appearance of the 10th revision of the U. S. P., and the 5th edition of the N. F., at an early date, requires a new edition of the

book with the inclusion of not only the new data of the U. S. P. and N. F. but also of the remarkable discoveries in the field of chemistry, medicine and pharmacy that have been made during the past decade.

The seven Parts of this excellent book deal with the following subjects:

I. Pharmaceutical Operations and Appliances. A striking feature is the inclusion of a chapter on the "Arithmetic of Pharmacy."

II. Galenic Pharmaceutical Preparations. It will be noticed that, whenever possible,

these preparations are grouped around a typical pharmacopœial recipe, thus avoiding repetition. Besides the U. S. P. X and N. F. V preparations, the most important unofficial ones are also given.

III. Inorganic Chemistry. This contains an introductory chapter on chemical theories and discusses chemical arithmetic very fully.

IV. Organic Chemistry. This Part begins with a Chapter on "Fundamental Principles." The organic chemicals are grouped according to the latest and most modern classification in a very thorough manner, in 18 chapters.

V. Pharmaceutic Testing. The analytical methods of the U. S. P. X are explained and summarized in five chapters.

VI. The Dispensing of Prescriptions. Here the prescription is taken up from the time it is written until the time it is dispensed.

VII. Laboratory Exercises. This part gives the laboratory work which has been followed with much success by students of the author. A notable feature of this section is the exercise in equation writing and in chemical arithmetic that the work affords. This last chapter is cleverly divided into Galenical and Chemical Preparations. The "spreading of a plaster" on p. 1022 should be best transferred to the Galenicals.

In this systematic manner, Army presents the "Principles of Pharmacy" in a clear, concise and excellent manner. The author, and all who know him can testify to this, but the happy faculty of presenting even the driest subject in such a clear and interesting way that even a tyro can readily grasp it. The book contains a wealth of information, not only pharmaceutical and chemical, but also therapeutical and technical. As one example I beg to point out the excellent table "Perfumery Chemicals" on pp. 743 and 744 which can be consulted with profit, not only by the student but also by the pharmacist and chemist.

Notable among the other excellent features of Army's Pharmacy are the following:

1. Tabulated Statements at the end of each Chapter. I want to call attention to the following: Fluidextracts of N. F. V p. 243; Fluidextracts of U. S. P. X assayed chemically, p. 244; Fluidextracts of U. S. P. X assayed biologically, etc.

2. Statement of Doses, arranged as to quantity at the end of each Chapter. This is a great help, especially to the student, in memorizing the doses.

3. Bibliography at the end of each Chapter. The author has rendered here a distinct service to pharmacy, by the compilation of these bibliographic duties. No one appreciates such work if he has not been engaged at it himself. How thoroughly Army has solved this problem can be seen from the following illustrations: The bibliography on Tinctures, Infusions and Decoctions, p. 232, occupies one-half page; the one on Hydrocarbons and Methane Derivatives, pp. 577 to 579, four and a half pages, the one on Glucosides and Glucosidal Drugs on pp. 643 and 644, about two pages, and the bibliography on Volatile Oils and Drugs on pp. 676 to 680, four pages.

That an immense work of this kind contains a few errors, especially in the first printing, is to be expected. Even our legal standard the U. S. P. X in the second printing has perpetuated the mistake on p. 165 that the mentrum for Fluidextract of Cinchona contains 100 cc. of Hydrochloric Acid instead of Diluted HCL. *Sapienti sat!* The referee begs to point out the following errors:

p. 175. Aq. Camphoræ does not contain Alcohol.

p. 176. Aq. Rosæ is diluted with *Distilled* Water and not Water.

p. 189. The formula for Collyrium Adstringens Luteum does not correspond to Ph. Austr.

p. 213. Infusum Digitalis is not made with *bruised* but with finely powdered Digitalis.

p. 282. Aloes should be Aloe.

p. 283. Triturate should be Trituration. pp. 296 and 1022. Resin should be Rosin.

p. 1055. Lotio Calaminæ Compositus should, of course, be Composita.

These few errors and "printer's devils" will certainly be corrected in the next printing.

May the referee suggest that the next edition will explain the letters P. I. and the agreements of the Brussels Protocol? Surely this is a very important subject.

So many authors try to save printer's bills on their index, much to the annoyance and sometimes disgust of the readers. But not Army! This index is quite unusually detailed and complete and shows careful work. It consists of 50 pages in three columns, and bold-face figures indicate the pages on which the drugs are treated *in extenso*.

What more is there to say? The work is a practical text and reference book, in short a masterwork which will surely be welcomed by students, teachers and pharmacists alike.

OTTO RAUBENHEIMER, PH.M.