

column pages and contains a novel feature, namely short biographies of the most noted scientists, a welcome feature to the historically inclined. The Subject Index is very complete, consisting of 41 pages in double columns.

We wish the work the best of success.

Allgemeine Bakteriologie und Sterilisationslehre Für Aertzte und Pharmazeuten. Von Dr. Med. K. Laubenheimer, Privatdozent für Hygiene und Bakteriologie, Univ. Heidelberg. Lex. 220 pp. Mk. 9.

From his lectures on Bacteriology to the medical students and on Sterilization to the pharmaceutical students at the University of Heidelberg, the book before us arose. It consists of the following 3 Parts: I, General Morphology and Biology of Microorganisms, including chapters on Immunity; II, Bacteriology and III, Sterilization.

Each part is carefully prepared and the subdivisions have been handled in an original manner. The book is full of information which usually is not easily accessible, being scattered throughout the literature. The 61 illustrations greatly enhance the value of the work. I must not forget to mention the 5 colored plates containing a total of 27 colored illustrations, real works of art, together with explanations. We can highly recommend this excellent book to pharmacists and laboratory workers.

Die Rezeptsammlung des Scribonius Largus. Eine Kritische Studie von Dr. Phil. Wilhelm Schonack. Octavo 95 pp. Mk. 3.

The Romans captured the Greek, but Greek culture captured the Romans. This is especially true as to Roman medicine. The Greek physicians Asclepiades and Damocrates, as early as 100 B. C. to 26 A. D. tried to make the status of medicine in Rome respectable and the later Greek physicians in Rome, as Menecrates, Soranus and quite especially Galenos exercised still greater influence.

Scribonius Largus was of Roman birth and an adherent to the Pneumatic School of Medicine which taught that health depended on a normal condition of the pneuma or vital spirit and is promoted by its tension, which was estimated by the pulse. Sickness was the result of disorder of the vital spirits. It is said that Scribonius Largus was physician to Emperor Claudius and came with him to Britain in 43 A. D.

Credit belongs to Scribonius Largus for writing the first or most important dispensa-

tory, his "Compositiones Medicorum" (47 A. D.), a medical formulary, a compilation of drugs and prescriptions of his time. The author of the treatise before us, Dr. Wilhelm Schonack, with the usual German thoroughness and endurance goes deeply into this subject and shatters many fallacies. The 3 chapters deal with: The Author, the Work and the Prints.

Students of the History of Pharmacy and Medicine here have a chance to acquire authentic knowledge of old Roman pharmacy and medicine.

The History of a Science is Science itself.—
OTTO RAUBENHEIMER, Ph.M.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

The Proceedings of the 51st Regular Meeting of the National Wholesale Druggists' Association, held at Detroit, Mich., is a book of some 550 pages, containing a complete record of all business meetings of the Convention, committee reports in full, discussion on each and action taken, as well as the personnel of all committees for the current year and membership lists revised to January 1926. Also a list of committees, arranged alphabetically, together with the names and addresses of members of each committee; a geographical list of active members (by States and cities) including the officers of each company, a similar list of associate members and alphabetical list of members, both active and associate. The book is fully indexed.

The foregoing is useful and essential information for the members of the organization. The reports of the committees are carefully prepared and of general interest; all of them reflect credit on the members of the respective committees and most of them may be studied with profit by the members of other drug trade organizations, because in all divisions there are common interests. The thought is applicable to the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION which can be made more and more the forum for the discussion of problems in which all the divisions are concerned and may come to an understanding and profit thereby.

Report of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, 1925. The book of nearly 500 pages contains a list of officers, reports of the committees and addresses of the sectional presidents, papers, etc., list of research committees and the subjects under investigation. Prof. Horace Lamb in his presi-

dential address points out the purposes of the organization which is similar to that of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, in which the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION is represented—To promote interaction between different branches of science.

Year Book of Pharmacy of the British Pharmaceutical Conference, 1925. The Year Book contains Abstracts relating to Pharmacy, Materia Medica, and Chemistry, which occupy nearly 300 pages. The Editor of the Abstracts is J. O. Braithwaite, Ph.C., and the Honorary General Editor of the volume is C. H. Hampshire, B.Sc., F.I.C., Ph.C. The Divisions are in alphabetical sequence, and the items under each division are also in alphabetical order, closing with "Pharmacopœia Revision Notes" and "Notes and Formulae." As the YEAR BOOK OF THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, the abstracts are prepared from articles appearing in pharmaceutical and related publications; the JOURNAL A. PH. A. is credited as the source of quite a number of these abstracts.

The transactions of the British Pharmaceutical Conference are fully reported, together with the papers presented at its sessions. The volume also contains lists of officers, members, branches of the Society, laws relating to pharmacy in Great Britain, scholarships and prizes under supervision of the Society, an index of subjects and of authors.

Report on the Fifth National Congress on the Cultivation of Medicinal Plants. By G. Blaque, Secretary-General de l'office National des Matières Premières pour la Drougerie et la Parfumerie. Pp. 54. Price 10 francs. The report may be obtained from the Ministère du Commerce et de l'Industrie, Paris. The efforts of Dr. Blaque and Prof. Perrot for extending the culture and collection of medicinal plants in France and French colonies have met with success, so that the importation of medicinal plants has been materially reduced. These reports go into the details of plant collection and cultivation, and their value and application. The production of iodine from sea-weeds is described; the report also contains illustrations of plants in the fields, drying and storage houses, etc.

Chaulmoogra et autres Graines utilisables contra la Lèpre. By Prof. Em. Perrot. The report may be obtained from the same source as the preceding; the cost is 15 francs. The

first chapter deals with the history of Chaulmoogra and illustrations of the tree; branches and fruit of several varieties are shown and described. The methods employed in preparing the oil, products, etc., are explained.

Culture de la Menthe Franco-Mitcham. By Dr. J. Ripert. This report may also be obtained from the Ministère du Commerce et de l'Industrie. Illustrations of mint-growing are shown and the report is replete with information relative to the culture, production and valuation of the oils in different localities, also tabulation of costs connected therewith.

Relative Toxicity of the Lupine Alkaloids. By James Fitton Couch. A contribution from the Bureau of Animal Industry and reprinted from the *Journal of Agricultural Research*. The results show that the most toxic of the lupine alkaloids is *d*-lupanine; in the order of toxicity sparteine comes next, then lupinine, spathulatine; hydroxylupanine is only one-tenth as toxic as *d*-lupanine. It was found that the minimal lethal dose by subcutaneous injection is nearly twice that by intraperitoneal administration.

An Investigation of the American Wormseed, as Grown in South Dakota. By Prof. Anton Hogstad, Jr. This comprehensive report contains illustrations of the still used for the production of the oils, six tinted photomicrographs, showing localization of the oils in the glandular hairs, changes involved in the development of the glandular hairs and a corresponding formation of the essential oil; the other illustrations represent continued studies up to the fully developed glandular hairs filled with the essential oil.

The investigations presented are most interesting and comprehensive. Among the conclusions reached by Prof. Hogstad are that the essential oil serves as a protection by lowering of transpiration and also as an attraction to insects for pollination purposes. Further investigation is necessary to confirm the importance of ascaridol as standard. Yields of oil and content, of different years, are reported on.

"It is true that these economic things are not the objective of life itself. If by their steady improvement we shall yet further reduce poverty, shall create and secure more happy homes, we shall have served under God to make better men and women."—
SECRETARY HOOVER.