

## BOOK NOTICES AND REVIEWS.

*United States Dispensatory.* Twenty-first Edition, thoroughly revised, largely rewritten, and based upon the tenth revision of the United States Pharmacopœia, National Formulary Fifth Edition, and the British Pharmacopœia 1914. By Horatio C. Wood, Jr., M.D., Professor of Pharmacology and Therapeutics in the University of Pennsylvania, Professor of Materia Medica in the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, Member of the Committee of Revision of the Pharmacopœia of the United States of America; Charles H. LaWall, Ph.M., D.Sc., Ph.D., Professor of Theory and Practice of Pharmacy in the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, Member of the Committee of Revision of the Pharmacopœia of the United States of America; Heber W. Youngken, Ph.M., Ph.D., Professor of Botany, Pharmacognosy and Materia Medica in the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy, Member of the Committee of Revision of the Pharmacopœia of the United States of America; John F. Anderson, M.D., Member of the Committee of Revision of the Pharmacopœia of the United States of America; Ivor Griffith, Ph.M., Assistant Professor in Pharmacy in the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science. Buckram, 7 by 10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inches; pages xxx, 1792. Philadelphia and London: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1926. Price \$15.00; with Thumb Index, \$15.75.

It is rather difficult to review this comprehensive work, with which all pharmacists are acquainted. It is the only American Dispensatory which has been revised in accordance with the latest issues of the U. S. Pharmacopœia and National Formulary. This edition has been thoroughly revised; much old matter has been condensed so that the new subjects have not increased the number of pages. The authors as well as the publishers are well and favorably known and this work represents the result of earnest efforts in keeping the U. S. Dispensatory up-to-date.

*A Textbook of Pharmacognosy.* Second edition, revised and enlarged; 201 illustrations, containing about 600 figures. By Heber W. Youngken, A.M., Ph.M., Ph.D., professor of Pharmacognosy and Materia Medica in the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy. 700 pages. Price \$6.00.

The author of this book is highly regarded as an authority by pharmacists everywhere; the fact that he served as Secretary of the Section

on Pharmacognosy of the recent International Congress of Plant Sciences speaks for his acquaintance among foreign scientists. It would be an easy matter to outline the activities of Dr. Youngken, for his efforts have been directed to advance the importance of pharmacognosy in colleges of pharmacy and among the sciences. The value of his contributions to pharmaceutical literature and to the proceedings of the sections of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION have received favorable notice, and recognition by the award of the Ebert Prize.

The author was prompted to prepare the first edition of this book by a desire to supply a systematic text which could be used by students of pharmacognosy in colleges and universities where the science of pharmacognosy is taught either from the morphologic or taxonomic viewpoint or from both, hence, that volume was arranged in two parts: "Morphologic Consideration of Crude Drugs" and "Taxonomic Consideration of Crude Drugs." The further aim of the author was to have the book serve the drug analyst, pharmacognosist, retail and wholesale pharmacist and collector of crude drugs.

The present volume was made necessary because of the revisions of the U. S. Pharmacopœia and National Formulary. The chapters of the former edition have been added to by the incorporation of the more important uses of drugs and new data on the drying, sampling and examination of crude drugs. The volume has been made more valuable by more than 150 pages of new subject matter and nearly 100 illustrations. The press work and binding is good and the paper heavy of good finish, whereby the details of the half-tones and drawings are brought out. The text shows careful proofreading.

*Indicators.* Their use in quantitative analysis and in the colorimetric determination of hydrogen-ion concentration. By Dr. I. M. Kolthoff, Conservator of the Pharmaceutical Laboratory of the State University, Utrecht. Authorized translation by N. Howell Furman, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Analytical Chemistry, Princeton University. John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 270 pages, price \$3.50.

Dr. Kolthoff is known to the readers through his contributions to the chemical and pharmaceutical literature, and also through the personal contact with members at the Buffalo meeting of the A. Ph. A.

The volume under review is the second edition; the first was published in 1921. In the Preface of the latter the author points to the fact that the suitability of an indicator is dependent upon the properties of the acids or bases in question, hence, the process of neutralization is discussed at length at the very beginning of the treatise, followed by a consideration of the relation between the color change of an indicator and the hydrogen-ion concentration, and the use of indicators in neutralizations. A brief theoretical résumé is given of the underlying causes of color changes in the last chapter of the book. The author succeeded in his purpose to present a practical manual, the plan of which has been followed in the preparation of the second edition. A new chapter deals with amphoteric compounds from the standpoint of the modern conceptions of Bjerrum. The translator, Dr. N. Howell Furman, names the following among the noteworthy additions: "Data on new sulphone phthalein indicators, further explanation of the behavior of methyl orange and methyl red, description of a new set of buffer mixtures that can be prepared without the use of standard acid or base (weighed salts or acids are used), an improvement of the double-wedge method (instead of standardizing the apparatus for one indicator it is so constructed that the ratio between the acid and alkaline form of an indicator may be read off), extensive new data on the salt error, new material dealing with measurement of  $p_H$  in alcoholic solutions, revision of the section on distilled water." The translator has added author and subject indices, which add to the usefulness of the volume. The name of the well and favorably known author commends his work.

*Gould's Medical Dictionary.* By George M. Gould, A.M., M.D. Edited by R. J. E. Scott, M.A., B.C.L., M.D. P. Blakiston's Son & Co., Philadelphia. Limp leather. Price \$9.00.

The first edition of Gould's Dictionary was published in 1890, successive editions appearing at irregular intervals. The edition under review contains approximately 76,000 words, of which about 5000 are new. The present volume is printed in larger and bolder type than former ones; many illustrations are included and half-tones of medical men of prominence with biographical data have been added; also considerably more tabular matter.

Eponymic terms are placed in alphabetical order; the plan and scope of former editions have been followed, except where a change was deemed an improvement; the spelling conforms to standard requirements; the definitions are as terse as possible and still convey the meaning. The pronunciation is shown by a phonetic arrangement of letters.

The Editor after referring to constant word coinage divides the new words into three classes: those which express new ideas, inventions or discoveries—they represent the smallest number, but most important; they represent new words, in fact. The next class is chiefly composed of eponymics, defining some one's test, operation, etc. The third class is very much larger than the preceding and includes names of new remedies. Dr. Scott makes a weighty statement which should have wide recognition and universal application: "No name should be changed simply because it is inappropriate." This is applicable also to definitions. Greatest care should be exercised in selecting and accepting a new name or definition, for when these are once established a change causes confusion and is a source of possible danger; editorial comment was made in the January number of THIS JOURNAL anent the change of definition for "antiseptic."

Interesting notes concerning the history of lexicography from the Preface to Gould's "A Dictionary of New Medical Terms" are made part of the Preface of this edition. Every revision of this Dictionary has been an improvement on its predecessor and, therefore, the writer takes the liberty of suggesting that consideration be given to the inclusion of a biographical index and more half-tones of men who have contributed to the progress of medicine; it is probably unnecessary to say that the pictures should be of those who have ceased their labors, and American physicians and scientists should not be overlooked.

A pharmacy library is incomplete without a Medical Dictionary.

*Chemical Synonyms and Trade Names.* By William Gardner. Third edition, 10 x 6 1/4 inches. IX + 355 pages. D. Van Nostrand Company, New York. Price \$7.50.

The second edition of this work was reviewed in these columns last year. The appearance of a third edition after the lapse of about two years speaks for the usefulness of the book; while largely an index of chemical