

the Annual Reprint of the Reports of Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry; in addition the book gives the reasons for the omission of certain preparations from "New and Nonofficial Remedies" during the year, and contains several special reports of a general nature authorized by the Council for publication.

The volume also contains the following special reports: A report on the status of *bacillus acidophilus* and *bacillus bulgaricus* therapy, on the basis of which the N. N. R. article on Lactic Acid-Producing Organisms has been revised and rewritten; a preliminary report on the status of the new drug, Ephedrine.

New and Nonofficial Remedies now appear in each issue of the JOURNAL A. PH. A.

New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1927, containing descriptions of the articles which stand accepted by the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry of the American Medical Association on Jan. 1, 1927. Cloth. Price, postpaid, \$1.50. Pp. 473, XLVII. Chicago. American Medical Association.

The appearance of the annual edition of "New and Nonofficial Remedies" is looked upon as an event among all those interested in drugs and their therapeutic use. The text is so carefully scrutinized and revised each year by the various members of the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry that each issue is essentially a new book, a safe guide to the frontier that lies between the official drugs and the latest preparations launched by the pharmaceutical manufacturers.

The mechanism of the book is excellent: each preparation is classified, and each classification is preceded by a general and critical discussion of the group by one who is an authority on the subject; there is an exhaustive index not only to the contents of the book, but also, separately, to the literature concerning the host of preparations that the Council has found unacceptable for inclusion. A glance at the book shows that the most important single revision this year is that of the general article on Lactic Acid-Producing Organisms, which has been radically revised and rewritten to show the present status of therapy in this field. Further perusal shows that many preparations have been omitted. The preface explains that many of these have been omitted because the manufacturers or distributors have not presented evidence to demonstrate their continued eligibility. Some have been omitted because they have become official articles by inclusion

in the tenth edition of the U. S. Pharmacopœia; such articles, when marketed under the pharmacopœial name or synonym, and without special claims, do not require description in "New and Nonofficial Remedies."

Among the preparations newly admitted to the book are: Isacen, a product related to phenolphthalein; Ipral, a barbitol hypnotic; a cod-liver oil concentrate having a definite vitamin-A and vitamin-B potency; and three erysipelas streptococcus antitoxin preparations.

New and Nonofficial Remedies is indispensable to physicians and pharmacists. It contains information about medical products which cannot be found in any other publication.

The Toxic Constituent of Richweed or White Snakeroot (Eupatorium Urticæfolium).—A reprint from *Journal of Agricultural Research*, September 15, 1927. BY JAMES FILTON COUCH, Pathological Division, Bureau of Animal Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Published by authority of the Secretary of Agriculture with the coöperation of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities.

Castile Soap.—A monograph covering the origin, history and significance of the term "Castile Soap" together with a discussion of the properties, uses, etc., based upon over 400 extracts from the literature of 400 years. BY R. W. MITCHELL, chemist to Lockwood Brackett Co., Boston.

CHEMICAL RESEARCH WILL BE EXPANDED.

Chief of the Bureau of Chemistry, C. A. Browne, in his annual report to the Secretary of Agriculture, expresses the hope that the research activities of the Bureau will be expanded and undergo a period of enlargement and growth commensurate with the importance of such investigations.

DEATH OF CASWELL A. MAYO.

Just before completion of this number of the JOURNAL we were advised of the death of former President Caswell A. Mayo, on January 13th. Funeral services were held in Cincinnati on the 15th; the ceremonies in Brooklyn were held on the 17th at Fairchild Chapel, 86 Lefferts Place; interment was made at Evergreen Cemetery. Sketch of the deceased will appear in the February number of the JOURNAL.