

of approximately 11 cents per gallon, or the equivalent of 15 or 16 cents per gallon in the price to be paid by consuming manufacturers.

"All our members *should immediately address telegrams to Hon. Reed Smoot, Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, and to their own Senators protesting urgently against the proposed increase in the duty on blackstrap molasses intended for the distillation of alcohol.* The Broussard amendment will be strongly urged in the alleged interest of the farming community on the ground that it would compel the distillers to use corn instead of molasses in the production of alcohol. Such a substitution is wholly impracticable and even if it were possible it would involve the scrapping of many million dollars of alcohol plants and the removal of all distilleries from the seaboard to the corn-growing regions. Incidentally it would so increase the cost of alcohol as to make its use prohibitory for many purposes, including the manufacture of anti-freeze mixtures for automobiles."

REVISION OF LAWS ON NARCOTICS PLANNED.

Representative Porter, of Pittsburgh, Pa., Chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, conferred at the Department of Justice July 13th regarding details of a new proposed law covering narcotics which Mr. Porter is drafting for consideration by Congress. Mr. Porter stated that there are several problems involved in the drafting of such a law, including the rights of states in connection with the enforcement of narcotic laws.

Mr. Porter is also conferring with representatives of the Departments of State and Treasury.

One feature of the new measure, Representative Porter said, will be the separation of the work of enforcing the law regarding narcotics from the Bureau of Prohibition.

"It is a matter of sufficient importance now, this question of narcotics enforcement," he continued, "that it should no longer be a subordinate branch and should not be tied up with the enforcement of prohibition. It should be a separate and distinct bureau."

He said that the measure now in course of drafting is a revision of the narcotic laws to be introduced at the regular session of Congress. "I have been working on it," he said, "for two months with a view to making the narcotic laws of the country more efficient and to overcome difficulties that have developed during the last eight or ten years.

"I will have the bill ready for action by Congress when the House meets in December and the committees are organized for that regular session," he said.

The foregoing interview reported in the Press has interest for pharmacists, all of whom are desirous of aiding narcotic control, and always have; in fact, they have been leaders in such movements, and will doubtless, be consulted by Mr. Porter.

"PHARMACY" DESIGNATES STORE IN WHICH A REGISTERED PHARMACIST IS EMPLOYED.

The new Texas pharmacy law requires that the word "pharmacy" be displayed in or on the front of a drug store in which a registered pharmacist is regularly employed. It is unlawful to display the sign in which no registered pharmacist is regularly employed; towns of less than 500 population are exempted.

BOOK REVIEW.

Industrial Carbon. C. L. MANTELL, Ph.D., Pratt Institute. pp. vii + 410. D. Van Nostrand Co., Inc., N. Y., 1928. \$4.50. One of the publishers' additions to their series of Industrial Chemical Monographs, edited by H. E. Howe.

The author has contributed a noteworthy addition to the technical literature on carbon and carbon products, having incorporated valuable data otherwise accessible only from diversified sources. Among the twenty-nine chapters devoted to the industrial uses, manufacture and specific applications of carbon, there is considerable material of practical value to the pharmaceutical chemist.

The writer, starting with the subject of Diamonds, continues down through Natural Graphites, Lubricating Graphites, Manufacture of Lampblack, Decolorizing Carbon, Pharmaceutical Charcoal, Carbon Specialties, Gas Absorbent Charcoal, etc., and concludes with a chapter on the making of "Lead" Pencils. Historical details are presented in an interesting manner and numerous half-tones have been included.

The chapter dealing with Artificial Graphite contains several erroneous conclusions in view of recent X-ray researches concerning the physical constitution of graphite. The book as a whole well merits its position in the forthcoming Monographs on Industrial Chemistry.

SIMON MENDELSSOHN.