

Washington; additional members of the *Executive Committee*, F. C. Blanck, of the Department of Agriculture, Washington; J. W. Kellogg, of the Pennsylvania Department

of Agriculture, Harrisburg; E. M. Bailey, of the Connecticut Experiment Station, New Haven; and R. Harcourt, of the Experiment Station of Guelph, Ontario.

LEGAL AND LEGISLATIVE.

CENTRAL OPIUM BOARD, COUNCIL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

We are quoting a press dispatch from Geneva of October 18th in the following: "The new report of the Central Opium Board to the Council of the League of Nations, which in broad lines was adopted October 18th, reflects a stronger will to keep a vigilant eye on the narcotic traffic and otherwise get down to grips with the illicit trade than the various League organizations have been accustomed to showing. In general the board clearly is not satisfied with the situation and suspects many discrepancies in the statistics on narcotic production, distribution and consumption which the governments are furnishing it.

"The board's efforts to determine what constitutes the medicinal needs of a country, so as to enable it to determine the sale of codeine, show that French consumption is four times greater than that of the United States, which is considered to represent the world average. On the other hand, the French consumption of cocaine is a trifle less than that of the United States, which is seventeen pounds to 1,000,000 inhabitants.

"The largest consumers of cocaine are Japan's Kwangtung territory in China, fifty pounds to 1,000,000 population; Australia, thirty-two pounds; Japan, thirty-one; Estonia twenty-seven pounds, and Sweden, twenty-six, all the others being below the American average. Australia thus consumes twice as much as any other English-speaking country and Estonia and Sweden twice as much as any of their Baltic neighbors.

"All these figures are supposed to represent legitimate consumption for medicine, but faced with such strange discrepancies the board asks whether the abnormal consumption of some countries is not due partly to narcotic drugs, ostensibly needed for medical purposes, escaping into the illicit traffic, and has begun inquiries.

"Another thing worrying the board is the great increase in the production of narcotics

such as codeine, excluded from the Geneva drug convention, an exclusion which, the board finds, offsets the good effects the convention seems to have had in its restricted field."

HANKOW OPIUM REVENUE.

New York Times, special correspondence, has stated that "open profiteering by the Hankow city government on the opium trade is frankly discussed this week in *New Hankow* and other Chinese newspapers, which reveal that instead of making efforts at suppression of the traffic the city looks to it for an important contribution to revenue.

CAFFEINE IN CEREAL BEVERAGES.

The sale of cereal beverages or similar types of non-alcoholic drinks, which have been doctored or "pepped up" by the addition of caffeine, is prohibited by the state beverage law, according to the Bureau of Foods and Chemistry, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. A cereal beverage containing caffeine is considered under the law as being misbranded and adulterated.

ALCOHOL RULE CHANGES COLLATED BY INDUSTRIES.

Washington representatives of alcohol-using industries, on October 23rd, made up a list of detailed suggested changes in the new industrial alcohol regulations for presentation to the Industrial Advisory Council of the Bureau of Industrial Alcohol.

The meeting was called by H. E. Howe, secretary of the council, and the report of the group will be for the use of the council in preparing comments on the regulations as invited by James M. Doran, Commissioner of Industrial Alcohol.

The group discussed regulations No. 2 and No. 3, covering both medicinal liquor and industrial alcohol, and prepared a long list of detailed changes which the members consider desirable. All were agreed in taking a stand of coöperating with the Bureau of Industrial

Alcohol and adhering firmly to regulations adequate to safeguard legitimate alcohol and liquor. They insisted, however, that the proper functioning of business be not interfered with and that business be not obliged to take over policing activities or the func-

tions considered to be the duty of the Government.

The new regulations will not take effect until January 1st, and it is likely that the draft may be changed somewhat after receipt of the report of the council.

BOOK NOTICES AND REVIEWS.

Die Riechstoffe und ihre Derivate, "Aromatic Bodies and Their Derivatives;" *Die Aldehyde*, Volume I, Part Two, edited by Director Alfred Wagner. A. Hartleben's Verlag, Wien and Leipzig, 1929; 362 pages; price, paper-bound, 25 marks.

The present monograph is one of a series of highly specialized treatises on perfumes and allied bodies, edited under the general directorship of Alfred Wagner, editor of the well-known journal, *Die Riechstoffindustrie*. The complete work is planned to consist of three large volumes, the first volume, in three parts, dealing with aldehydes of various kinds; the second volume dealing with phenols and phenol ethers; and the third dealing with alcohols and ethers. The monograph before us is the second part of the first volume and treats of aldehydes of the alicyclic series. This work has been prepared by three authors, Director Alfred Wagner, Chemist Alfons M. Burger and Professor F. Elze. The present work is one of the best of its kind inasmuch as it deals very extensively and in detail with every phase of perfume chemistry. This volume is devoted to the alicyclic aldehydes, and here we have a discussion not only of the common and well-known aldehydes employed in perfume chemistry, such as benzaldehyde, cuminaldehyde and cinnamic aldehydes, but also many rare ones. Eighty-five pages are devoted to the treatment of cyclic aldehydes with saturated side chains; seventy pages are devoted to aromatic mono-aldehydes with unsaturated side chains. Thirty-two pages are devoted to the heterocyclic mono-aldehydes; and there are separate sections dealing with keto-aldehydes and with higher aromatic aldehydes of the fatty acid series. The more important and widely used chemicals belonging to these groups are described in great detail, and this detailed description includes not only a complete exposition of their chemical structure, their preparation, tests for purity, detection in small quantities, and various reactions employed in studying them, but also gives the history of the com-

pounds and their uses and an exhaustive literature of a highly specialized character bearing on the subject. One of the most interesting and valuable features of this work is numerous tables showing the extensive relationships between the various chemical groups. The value of these can be fully appreciated only by specialists in chemistry and then only by those chemists who specialize in this particular department of organic chemistry.

Among the various subjects treated in this book we have the well-known aldehydes such as perillaaldehyde, myrtenal, phellandral, farnesal, cyclocitral, santalol, benzaldehyde, phenylacetaldehyde, hydrocinnamylaldehyde, cuminaldehyde, cinnamylaldehyde, α -amylaldehyde and α -furfural. Among the less well-known compounds the following may be mentioned: hexahydrobenzaldehyde, suberenaldehyde, suberanaldehyde, cyclohexylacetaldehyde, cyclohexylidenacetaldehyde, cryptal, camphenilaldehyde, noreksantalol, the toluylaldehyde, *p*-tolylacetaldehyde, ethylbenzaldehyde, hydratropaaldehyde, the dimethylbenzaldehyde, the methylhydrocinnamylaldehyde, methylcinnamylaldehyde, etc.

Even a superficial perusal of this work reveals that the writers are experts in their subject and have drawn not only upon their own extensive practical experience with the compounds studied but have also made an exhaustive study of the literature. The text is printed on excellent paper and, in addition to the many tables already referred to, contains a number of valuable illustrations. This work should appeal especially to chemists, perfumers, pharmacists and others interested in aromatic compounds.—DAVID I. MACHT.

Aids to the Mathematics of Pharmacy. By ARTHUR W. LUPTON, M.C., Ph.C., Joint Principal Leeds College of Pharmacy; one time member of the Board of Examiners of the Pharmaceutical Society for England and Wales. Published by William Wood & Company, 156 Fifth Ave., New York. 95 pages. Price