

digitalis assay, studies with the electro-cardiograph, Hanzlik's tests on the emetic effect for pigeons and the phytopharmacological methods of Macht and Krantz. Posology, or dosage, is discussed in Chapter X and here again the reader is struck by the author's acquaintance with the most recent views on the subject. Thus, for instance, full information is given in regard to the views of Eggleston, Fraser, Pardee, Mackenzie and de Josué. Chapter XI is devoted to toxicology and includes an exhaustive treatise on the various chemical and pharmacological methods of detection of digitalis in cases of poisoning. A well selected bibliography completes this valuable monograph.

A review of the book would not be complete without a word of unstinted praise for its exceptionally pure, clear and elegant Spanish and the excellent literary style of the work wherein the author reveals not only his familiarity with the subject but also his skill in *belles-lettres*.—DAVID I. MACHT.

Therapeutics, Materia Medica and Pharmacy.

The special therapeutics of diseases and symptoms, the physiological and therapeutical actions of drugs, the modern *materia medica*, official and practical pharmacy, prescription writing and antidotal and antagonistic treatment of poisoning. By SAMUEL O. L. POTTER, A.M., M.D. Fifteenth edition, revised by R. J. E. Scott, M.A., B.C.L., M.D., Editor of Witthaus' Textbook of Chemistry, Witthaus' Essentials of Chemistry and Pharmacology, Hughes' Practice of Medicine, "The Practitioners Medical Dictionary," "Gould's Medical Dictionary," "Gould and Pyle's Cyclopedia of Medicine and Surgery," etc. Published by P. Blakiston's Son & Co., Inc., Philadelphia. About 1000 pages. Price \$8.50.

Former editions of this well and favorably known work have been reviewed in these columns, the last one being the 14th edition and reviewed on page 614 in the July JOURNAL for 1926. The fact that it has been deemed necessary to prepare another revision, speaks for the favorable reception the prior edition has received. In the fifteenth edition no change has been made in the general plan and principles originally adopted by the author, hence the statements made relative thereto in the previous review are applicable. Much new material has been added and some statements have been modified, so that few of the

articles in Parts I and III remain as they were. The official preparations of the *Materia Medica* have been brought into conformity with U. S. P. X and the fifth edition of the National Formulary.

A general idea of the contents is given in the following:

The Introduction deals with drugs in a general way—pharmacology, pharmacy, *materia medica* and therapeutics. The constituents of organic drugs are discussed under respective headings and the classification of medicines is alphabetically arranged. This information is followed by a discussion of the various methods of the administration of medicines, their dosage, accumulative action, and this is followed by memoranda on other effects than those expected by the prescriber.

Part I deals with *materia medica* and therapeutics and the arrangement is alphabetical.

Part II is concerned with pharmacy and prescription writing which deals with pharmacopœias and dispensaries, weights and measures, and how these are used in prescriptions, incompatibilities which may result, extemporaneous and official pharmacy; the various preparations, under respective headings are given in alphabetical arrangement.

Part III is concerned with special therapeutics, including also toxicology. The appendix includes Latin in the designation of preparations and in writing prescriptions, legislation applying to the prescribing and dispensing of narcotics; an alphabetical list of preparations and a series of useful tables.

Drug Store Business Methods. A textbook on commercial pharmacy by CHARLES W. PEARSON, A.B., M.B.A., formerly associate professor of Commercial Pharmacy of the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy, Boston, Mass. Second edition, 12 mo., 298 pages, illustrated. Cloth, \$2.75 net. Published by Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia.

The first edition of this book, published in 1926, was reviewed in the JOURNAL for February 1927. There is very little change in the book, hence an extended review is not called for. One criticism might be offered in that there is not sufficient detail given to the subjects which would add practical information for the student and the same applies to the store owner. The contents of the book is divided into salesmanship, advertising, accounting for retail drug stores, business law and store management.

Synopsis of the U. S. P. and N. F. Preparations—giving Latin and English titles, synonyms, composition, method of preparation, strength and dose. By H. J. FULLER, Ph.C., Phm.B., Assistant Professor of Pharmacy at the Connecticut College of Pharmacy, formerly instructor in pharmacy, College of Pharmacy of Ferris Institute, and Professor of *Materia Medica*, Instructor in Commercial Pharmacy, and director of the Pharmacy and Dispensing Laboratories, Highland Park College of Pharmacy, Des Moines. Publishers, P. Blakiston's Sons & Co., Inc., Philadelphia. Price \$2.00.

The author states that the purpose of this book is to supply a treatise on the official preparations of the Pharmacopœia and National Formulary in a convenient form for the study of Latin titles, English titles, synonyms, composition, methods of preparations, strength and dosage, arranged as to class of preparations. Information relative to pharmacy and pharmaceutical manufacture is given in a very brief way, but as the writer indicates, this publication is not intended for a textbook on pharmacy, but for supplementing other works on pharmacy and to that end serves a useful purpose. The preparations are also arranged in tabulated form which gives a number of the important facts relating to them. The book is convenient as a reference when brief general information only is desired. Care of the author and of the publishers is evidenced in the preparation and production of the book.

COURSE IN ESPERANTO.

Wisconsin Senate has refused by a vote of 20 to 12 to kill a bill providing that "Esperanto" be made an entrance requirement at the University of Wisconsin and that courses in the so-called international language be offered at the University. The bill later was advanced toward final passage by the Senate.

Senator Walter H. Hunt, a professor in the River Falls Normal School, spoke in favor of the measure; he said, "I had no trouble learning sentences of Esperanto and I have no grounding in foreign languages. I believe the emphasis on Latin, for example, is ridiculous. It is a dead language. I believe the University should have a course available in Esperanto for those students who want to study the language."

SOLUTION OF MAGNESIUM CITRATE.

"The Federal Food and Drugs Act specifically designates the U. S. Pharmacopœia as

the legal standard for drug products sold in this country—" W. G. Campbell, director of Regulatory Work, U. S. Department of Agriculture, said, March 25th, in commenting on "a fine of \$500.00 recently imposed on certain manufacturers for shipping sub-standard, adulterated and mislabeled solution citrate of magnesia in interstate commerce:" "Standards set forth in the Pharmacopœia are definite and precise and well understood by operators in the drug trade. Taking the Pharmacopœia as the measure of quality and purity of drugs, the consumer, protected by the enforcement of the food and drugs act, is assured of uniform products."

"The defendants claimed that their adulterated laxative was more palatable than the standard U. S. Pharmacopœial product," Mr. Campbell stated, "and that the shortage in contents of bottles shipped, constituting misbranding under the law, was accidental and due to inequalities in the bottles themselves. The department explained to the court that it does not make the standards for the Pharmacopœia, but is charged by the law to require compliance with them on the part of the drug trade. Marketing citrate of magnesia having a citric-acid content below that prescribed, without label designation to show that the product is not up to standard, constitutes a violation of the National pure food and drug law. Although this concern's product was labeled 'approximately 11½ fluid ounces,' (instead of 12 fluid ounces, 350 cc., the Pharmacopœial dosage), the bottles were found to contain less than 11½ fluid ounces."

"A buyer deserves to get a standard medical preparation for the price commonly paid for such an article," Mr. Campbell added. "He has the right to know the quality and character of all drugs purchased in order to be reliably governed in their use."

NEW MEXICO DRUGGISTS LOSE INSPECTOR'S BILL THROUGH VETO.

A satisfactory inspector's bill for the dentists, doctors and druggists of New Mexico was drawn up by Bernard Ruppe and E. C. Welch of Albuquerque and was passed by the Lower House and Senate through the efforts of Major Ruppe, but was pocket-vetoed by the Governor. The loss of this bill is a serious disappointment among the ranks of allied medical professions in New Mexico.