

BOOK NOTICES AND REVIEWS.

Die Fabrikation Pharmazeutischer und Chemisch-technischer Produkte. By DR. J. SCHWYZER, published by Julius Springer, Berlin, Germany. Price RM. 42.

The author is known to pharmacists by his work on the alkaloids. He states that the book is not an encyclopedia of chemical technique, but a large number of manufacturing processes are thoroughly discussed.

The book is divided into six parts; namely, Inorganic Products, Aliphatic Products, Aromatics, Alkaloids, Miscellaneous Products, and a division dealing largely with methods and apparatus. The work of the author on alkaloids has been embodied in this volume.

In the first chapter a number of pages are devoted to bismuth and its preparations, the bromides, iodine, iron and mercury compounds; preparations of silver require a number of pages of the second chapter. The details of the manufacture of such chemicals as sulphonal and related chemicals are discussed. The chapter on aromatics requires nearly forty pages, of which ten pages are given to vanillin. Other items in the chapter are, acetanilid, anesthesin, benzaldehyde, salicylic and tannin compounds.

The chapters on alkaloids is an important one; about 130 pages are given to this. Under caffeine some attention is given to caffeine-free coffee.

Under miscellaneous subjects manufacture and properties of charcoal are considered, and distillation receives considerable attention.

Under general subjects various methods of manufacture and apparatus are considered.

The work, of course, has greatest value for the manufacturer, and as a book of reference has value in the libraries. The author has drawn on his experience and information in the preparation of the book; it evidences care and knowledge of the subjects, and the makeup, binding, etc., of the volume are very good.

Textbook of Pharmacy. By I. V. STANLEY STANISLAUS, B.Sc., Ph.G., Ph.D., Pharm. D. Of the Faculty of Brooklyn College of Pharmacy of Long Island University, Special Lecturer on Drug Chemistry, Temple University School of Pharmacy. D. Van Nostrand Company, Inc., New York, N. Y., 1931. xii + 736 pages. Illustrated. 6 x 9 in. Price \$7.00.

This book is intended as a textbook on the principles of pharmacy (no attempt being made

to cover commercial pharmacy or to outline a definite laboratory course) and as a reference book for the pharmacist and physician. The illustrations are grouped at the back of the book.

The book is divided into six parts. Part I, General Considerations of Pharmacy, included definitions, weights and measures, the balance, pharmaceutical arithmetic and thermometry. Part II, Theoretic Pharmacy, deals chiefly with the fundamental operations of pharmacy, such as comminution, solution, clarification, evaporation, distillation, sublimation, extraction, expression, etc., and includes also a discussion of the chemical constituents of plant drugs. Part III, Official Preparations, covers the various types of pharmaceutical preparations. Each type of preparation, such as elixirs, syrups, etc., is described and tables are given showing the Latin title, English title and synonyms, amounts of principal ingredients in 100 cc. or Gm., and usually some comments as to uses and dose. Part IV, Pharmacology, opens with the therapeutic classification of drugs, and definitions of chemical terms followed by syllabic tables of drugs official in the U. S. P. X and N. F. V and the newer remedies, including "most of the items passed upon by the Council of Pharmacy and Chemistry of the American Medical Association." Biologicals, organic drug assays and toxicology are also discussed. Part V, Magistral or Dispensing Pharmacy, includes chapters on The Art of Dispensing; Examples of Prescriptions with Incompatible Ingredients, Including "Types" of Pharmaceutical Preparations; Homeopathic Pharmacy; Hydrogen-Ion Concentration; Outline of the General Methods for Preparing Salts; Methods of Preservation; Relationship between Chemical Structure and Physiological Action; Pharmacal Problems and Exercises. Part VI includes a general summary of state pharmacy laws, with a more detailed discussion of the New York laws. The federal laws and regulations concerning narcotics and alcohol are summarized.

One of the strong points of the book is the effort which has been made to present pharmacy from the standpoint of modern science, as evidenced by the discussion of colloids, hydrogen-ion concentration, relationship between chemical structure and physiological action, etc. The chapter on extraction of vegetable drugs is particularly well presented. Among the features especially helpful to the practicing