

SALE OF ACETYLSALICYLIC ACID TABLETS.

The Federal Trade Commission has issued an order to the Bayer Company, Inc., New York, to cease and desist from using unfair competitive practices in the sale of its acetylsalicylic acid tablets. The company is directed to cease using language in its printed advertising or radio broadcasting stating or giving the impression that "aspirin" is a trade-mark of the Bayer Company, however; this order does not apply to advertising on packages to be sold in foreign countries in which the word "aspirin" has been held to be the Bayer Company's valid trade-mark. A list of seventeen representations are given in the commission's order, which the company is not to use unless properly qualified, limited or explained.

Among them are such expressions as "It cannot harm the heart," "Bayer aspirin is always safe," "Take Bayer aspirin for any ache or pain, and take enough to end it. There is no harm in its free use," "Genuine Bayer Aspirin tablets promptly relieve headaches, neuritis, colds, toothache, neuralgia, sore throat, lumbago, rheumatism." The order is not to be construed as preventing the company from making proper therapeutic claims or recommendations based on reputable medical opinion or pharmaceutical literature, it was stated. The third prohibition in the order is one providing that the company shall not in any way represent that acetylsalicylic acid tablets manufactured by other firms are counterfeit or spurious. The company waived a hearing and did not contest the proceeding of the commission.—*From Jour. A. M. A., 10/13/34.*

BOOK NOTICES AND REVIEWS.

Organic Chemistry or Chemistry of the Carbon Compounds. By VICTOR VON RICHTER. Volume 1: Third English Edition, 1934. 790 pages. Published by P. Blakiston's Sons & Company, Philadelphia, Pa.

This is the sixth edition in the English language, being the third American edition. The system of presentation followed in the previous German, English and American editions has been retained. The first volume of this series deals with the aliphatic series only. The order of presentation moves progressively from the hydrocarbons (1) to the halogen derivatives (2), the monohydric alcohols, aldehydes, ketones and carboxylic acids (3), the dihydric alcohols and their oxidation products, (4), to the trihydric, tetrahydric, pentahydric, hexa- and polyhydric alcohols, each group being considered with its oxidation product. Short chapters then follow, dealing with the carbohydrates, protein, chlorophyll, bile pigments, sterols and enzymes.

It has been interesting to compare this 1934 publication with the third American translation of the eighth German edition published in 1913. The same encyclopedic arrangement of products is observed. The same presentation of material believed to be more important in large print, and material believed to be of lesser importance in finer print has been followed. Many paragraphs of the 1913 publication have been reprinted without change in 1934. The information presented has been brought up to

1932 on some subjects, but on others most recent references are to publications in the nineteenth Century. Many references are to German or French articles which are not readily available. Some specific developments have been stressed, such as the electronic theory of valency, and the parachor.

The book will still prove useful in the orderly presentation of organic chemistry. However, it needs to be supplemented in many points in order to harmonize with teachings on polar molecules, etc. This book fills an intermediate rôle between the elementary texts and the encyclopedias, such as Beilstein.—JAMES C. MUNCH.

Bacteriology and Sanitary Science. By LOUIS GERSHENFELD, Ph.M., B.Sc., P.D., Professor of Bacteriology and Hygiene and Director of the Bacteriological and Clinical Chemistry Laboratories in the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, Philadelphia. Price, Limp Leather Binding, \$4.50. Publishers, Lea & Febiger.

Gershenfeld's second edition of Bacteriology and Sanitary Science is an interesting and authoritative treatise which covers both the technical and practical aspects of many of the important subjects on which the pharmacist has opportunity of offering sound advice. In addition it contains a concise statement of many techniques which are useful to the up-to-date pharmacist in his own work.

Obviously, a book devoted to such a large field of knowledge and practice cannot deal with each of the basic sanitary sciences—bacteriology, immunology, parasitology, sanitary engineering and the production of biological products—in complete detail. Therein lies its virtue. The author has accomplished the very difficult task of separating the specialist's chaff from the pharmacist's wheat. The book is recommended to students and to registered pharmacists.—JOHN M. HANKS.

New and Nonofficial Remedies.—The American Medical Association has issued a supplement to *New and Nonofficial Remedies* for 1934. This supplement contains descriptions of the articles which have been accepted by the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry of the American Medical Association since January and do not appear in the volume prepared for 1934. The Council states that the acceptance of an article does not necessarily mean a recommendation, but as far as it is known, the preparation complies with the rules adopted by the Council. Criticisms and corrections to aid in the revision of the next volume, before publication, are asked for.

Burroughs Wellcome Research Institution and Affiliated Research Laboratories and Museums have issued a beautiful bound illustrated booklet of the exhibits at the Chicago Exposition. Excellent half-tones of the ceremonies at the Corner Stone Laying of the Wellcome Research Institution grace the introductory pages. Lists of guests and press reports follow.

Whitla's Pharmacy, Materia Medica and Therapeutics. William Wood & Company, Baltimore (Bailliere, Tindell & Cox, London, England). 645 pages. Price \$4.25. Sir William Whitla, in the preface to the first edition (1881), stated that the aim of the work was to give to the student of medicine such information in a concise form, as he generally has to sift out of two or more of the larger manuals. The author was actuated by the feeling that pharmacy is one of the most important sections of *Materia Medica*; he believed that a knowledge of it should be an essential accomplishment of every educated physician. It is evident that the author prepared the treatise, primarily, for physicians.

Dr. J. A. Gunn, reviser of this edition, 12th,

states that an effort has been to retain observations made by the original author which were based upon his own clinical experience, and the actual text has been preserved wherever possible; extensive alterations have been necessary by the appearance of the new *British Pharmacopœia*. Dr. Gunn is professor of Pharmacology in the University of Oxford and his assistants in the revision, H. Berry, is head of the Department of Pharmacy, Birmingham Central Technical College and member of the Board of Examiners of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, and J. Clifford Hoyle, M.D., of the London Hospital, is Examiner in Pharmacology of the University of Cambridge.

The authors apply the term "*Materia Medica*" to the description of the physical characters of remedies, their origin, source, distribution, chemical composition and the methods by which they are obtained, collected, preserved, etc.; "*Pharmacy*" to the methods by which they are prepared and made ready for administration; "*Pharmacology*" to the science of their action on a healthy organism and "*Therapeutics*" to their application in the treatment of disease.

Eight pages are given to Treatment in Cases of Poisoning; the other divisions of the Book are: Part 1, Pharmacy; 2, Prescription Writing; 3, *Materia Medica* of the *British Pharmacopœia*; 4, Therapeutics; 5, Non-Official Remedies. Conciseness features the work and serves its purpose; without adverse criticism it may be said that other works on pharmacy are better adapted to the needs of pharmacists, but the text is well arranged and the matter well presented for the needs of physicians, and it may be said that if the volume was part of more libraries prescription writing would be improved.

The *British Pharmacopœia* under "authorized contractions" uses gram and then states that in order to avoid confusion the symbol "G" should be used as the contraction for "gramme." In Whitla, no attention is given to either contraction, "gm." is used; these variations are apt to confuse physicians in writing prescriptions.

Considering the work as a whole, it serves a useful purpose for British physicians and pharmacists; for the American profession it has value as a reference book; more extended references could have been made to both professions and to legal phases applying to the practice of the professions.