

OBITUARY.

RICHARD V. MATTISON.

Richard V. Mattison, retired president of the Keasbey & Mattison Company, member of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, died at his home in Ambler, Pa., November 18th, after an illness of two weeks. He had observed his eighty-fifth birthday just the day before.

Born in Solebury Township, Bucks county, Pa., Dr. Mattison attended public schools, was graduated with honors from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy in 1873, and from the Medical School of the University of Pennsylvania in 1879. Soon after his graduation, he formed a partnership in Philadelphia with his classmate and friend, Dr. Henry G. Keasbey, for the manufacture of pharmaceutical products. This business grew until it was one of the largest in the country, and in 1883 the company moved its plant to Ambler and extended its business to include the manufacture of asbestos products. This enterprise prospered and included allied interests in other parts of the world. In 1929, Dr. Mattison purchased Dr. Keasbey's stock interest and the latter retired from the firm.

John F. Whelan, part owner of Whelan Drug Company, died in Mount Vernon, N. Y., November 14th, aged 75 years.

BOOK NOTICES AND REVIEWS.

A Textbook of Pharmacognosy. By HEBER W. YOUNGKEN, Ph.D., Sc.D., Professor of Pharmacognosy and Materia Medica, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy, Boston. Fourth edition, revised and enlarged with 469 illustrations containing about 1500 figures. Published by P. Blakiston's Son & Company, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 1936. Price \$7.00.

This book is intended for use as a text by students in schools and colleges of Pharmacy. It is also adapted for use by the drug analyst, pharmacognosist, collector of crude drugs and the wholesale and retail pharmacist. In addition, it provides an excellent reference for the physician who may desire information concerning the characteristics and constituents of crude drugs.

In the fourth edition the original plan has been preserved but a number of important changes and additions in keeping with modern advances in pharmacognosy have been intro-

duced. This book represents a thorough revision with considerable new material and 102 new illustrations added. In Part I which deals with "Morphologic Considerations of Drugs" additional information has been included in the sections dealing with "Fundamental Considerations," "Preservation of Drugs" and "Historical."

In Part II which deals with "Taxonomic Considerations of Drugs," additional information concerning the constituents, history, histology and production of crude drugs has been introduced and a large number of figures representing drug sections and powder characteristics have been added. The chapter on animal drugs has been expanded to include a number of new monographs on endocrine gland products together with illustrations showing the microscopical appearances of stained sections and powders. Also in Chapter 2, Part II a section on "Bacterial Biological Products" has been introduced and includes all official products of this class.

Other features of this text worthy of comment are: (1) the enlarged section dealing with cereals and cereal products with their diagnostic elements arranged in tabular form; (2) the complete histological descriptions of glands and gland products; and, (3) the section dealing with the examination of powdered desiccated endocrine glands.

The author has taken cognizance of the numerous researches in the field of Pharmacognosy as well as the many changes which have been incorporated in the latest editions of the U. S. P. and N. F., inasmuch as the many changes and additions are in conformity with these advances.

This book is adequate in scope to serve as a text for a complete course of instruction in Pharmacognosy as outlined in the Syllabus. It provides for sufficient flexibility to be adapted for use in schools and colleges which subdivide instruction in Pharmacognosy into courses dealing separately with Histology, Microscopy, and Sources and Constituents of Crude Drugs, as well as those which include all of the above in a general course. It is written in clear, concise English, adapted to the ability of students of college level, and is systematically arranged and in conformity to the monographs of the United States Pharmacopœia and the National Formulary.—B. V. CHRISTENSEN.

Other Book Notices and Reviews will follow in December and January issues of the JOURNAL.