

BOOK NOTICES AND REVIEWS.

Die Fermente und ihre Wirkungen. (Enzymes and Their Action). Supplement. Lieferung 1 (Bd. I, Spezieller Teil, Hauptteil 1 VII-XV). By PROF. CARL OPPENHEIMER, Dr. Phil. et Med. W. Junk Verlag, Scheveningse Weg 74, The Hague, Holland, 1935. 160 pp. 17 figs. 20.5 x 28 cm. Price \$6.80. Lieferung 2 and 3 have recently come to hand, same price.

The author is an outstanding authority on the subject; the work contains correlated information gathered from literature in the field and constitutes valuable sources for references to literature.

Many reviews have appeared in publications largely concerned with the subject and all of them give expression to the work as an international treatise. The *British Medical Journal* states that Professor Oppenheimer is generally recognized as a leading authority; The *Chemical Trade Journal* gives a like credit; *Le Cuir Technique* refers to its comprehensiveness; Swiss, Swedish and German reviews are appreciative of the value of the work rendered by the author.

Magische Gifte (Magic Poisons) Rausch und Betäubungsmittel der Neuen Welt. (*Intoxicants and Narcotics of the New World.*) By PROF. VIKTOR A. REKO, member of the Academy of Sciences, Mexico. 167 pages, cloth, RM. 6.40. (Price outside of Germany and Switzerland 25% additional.) Publishers, Ferdinand Enke Verlag, Stuttgart W, Germany.

The author has presented an interesting book on the use of narcotics, etc., largely by those who use drugs of the kind described, in sections where they have no home ties and are tempted by others who have ventured into wrong-doing. The mystery, secrecy, excitement and surrounding associations, together with a desire to try out the narcotic, leads to a first misstep and to get rid of the effect by the advice of an associate leads to another misuse and brings the person nearer to addiction. Superstition and misinformation are factors. Many of those who go through these experiences follow the sea and become acquainted with life at various ports, and the use of habit formers. The book deals with these subjects interestingly, and local adventures are brought into the chapters.

The subjects are considered under twelve divisions with an introductory in which there is a general discussion. 1. Ololiuqui—Eine Pflanze, die hypnotisieren kann. 2. Peyotl—

Ein Kaktus, der Gespenster sehen lässt. 3. Marihuana—Der mexikanische Haschisch. 4. Toloachi—Ein rauchbares Aphrodisiakum. 5. Ayahuasca—Der Trank der grauenhaften Träume. 6. Colorines—Das Geheimnis der roten Bohnen. 7. Sinicuichi—Der vergeblich machende Zaubertrank. 8. Cotztic-Zapote—Eine taumelnd machende Frucht. 9. Nana-catl—Der Irrsinnspilz. 10. Xomil-Xihuite—Der gläserne Sarg. 11. Camotillo—Eine Knolle, die den Todestag voraussagt. 12. Cohombrillo—Das erlösende Katermittel.

The article by H. H. Rusby on the "The Aboriginal uses of Caapi," *JOURNAL* of December 1923, explains the ceremonials with Ayahuasca. Other names will be recognized and the effects indicated are readily translated.

Prescription Writing and Formulary: The Art of Prescribing. By CHARLES SOLOMON, M.D., Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine, Long Island College of Medicine. With a foreword by Lewellys F. Barker, M.D. Cloth. Price, \$4.00. Pp. 351, with 32 illustrations. Philadelphia; Publishers: J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia.

The knowledge and skill requisite to prescription writing is an important part of any physician's preparation for the practice of medicine. Individualization of treatment can be practiced only by those familiar with it. The author of this book has prepared a treatise that should fulfil the needs of practicing physicians; it is simple and written in a well organized and lucid manner and the data are in accord with accepted medical practice and therapeutics. The book is unusually complete for its size and bears the mark of careful editing. The formulary is refreshing in its simplicity, avoidance of polypharmacy and preference of official (U. S. P. and N. F.) preparations. The medical student and young practitioner of medicine will welcome this book, and all who are charged with the responsibility of prescription writing can glean much from reading it.

Die Harze. A. TSCHIRCH and ERICK STOCK. Third revised edition of A. Tschirch, *Die Harze und die Harzebehälter.* Band II, Hälfte 2, Teil 1. 544 pages, 173 figures. Gebrüder Borntraeger, Berlin, 1935. Price 54 marks; bound 58 marks. This will serve as an announcement of a work which brings up-to-date information on the subject. The senior