

BOOK NOTICES AND REVIEWS.

Drugs and Galenicals, by D. C. GARRATT, B.Sc., Ph.D. (Lond.), F. I. C., Drug Analyst, London County Council. 400 pages. Publisher: John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 440 Fourth Ave., New York. Printed in Great Britain. Price, \$6.00.

To those who are concerned with the quantitative analysis of drugs and galenicals this book is of unique value. The last decade has brought considerable advancement in the improvement of assay methods of previous years as well as new methods. Satisfactory methods may be found in literature if the chemist wishes to search through a great number of journals.

The author has selected assay methods from some of the leading American, English, German and French journals on Chemistry and Medicine. He has had experience with these methods and found them to be satisfactory for their brevity and accuracy. The scheme of the book follows that of the British Codex. A monograph, in English title only, has been written for each substance where an assay method is available. Very complete references are given at the end of each monograph which should be very useful to any investigator. The book has been condensed to 400 pages without sacrificing clarity and details of any of the assays.

Fixed Oils and Fats, and Essential Oils, have been allotted separate sections. All methods, giving experimental details have been indented for easy reference. General monographs of the substances are alphabetically arranged. They consist of methods for quantitative determination of the substance, its salts and galenicals of which it is a principal constituent.

This book will prove to be a practical handbook to the analyst who lacks time to devote to the search of the literature for satisfactory quantitative methods for drugs and galenicals.—EMERSON C. BEELER.

Outlines of Biochemistry. The Organic Chemistry and the Physicochemical Reactions of Biologically Important Compounds and Systems, by ROSS AIKEN GORTNER. Second Edition, 1017 pages. Published by John Wiley & Sons, New York City. Price, \$6.00.

Die Betriebsbuchhaltung der chemischen Industrie, by PETER SCHLÖSSER. Volume I, 91 pages; volume II, 112 pages. Published by Julius Springer, Berlin. Price, 26.40 marks.

A Brief Introduction to the Use of Beilstein's Handbuch der Organischen Chemie, by ERNEST HAMLIN HUNTRESS, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Second Edition, 44 pages. Published by John Wiley and Sons, Inc., New York City. Price \$1.00.

The purpose of this pamphlet is to briefly explain the method of classifying organic compounds in the Fourth Edition of Beilstein's "Handbuch der Organischen Chemie," developed by Prager and Jacobson. The Handbuch has been found a great asset by many organic chemists but often difficulty is encountered by those who are not familiar enough with German to interpret the explanations which precede the system. The mode of formation of the four divisions, the sub-classification of the divisions, arrangement of derivatives of the individual index compounds and location of compounds of tautomeric structure by this system are briefly and clearly presented in English. The method of finding an organic compound from its structural formula is demonstrated by illustrations with familiar compounds. Problems designed to train in finding simple index compounds, to find simple substitution products, to find functional derivatives and to find miscellaneous items are given at the end of the pamphlet.

This pamphlet can be of great assistance to those who find the Beilstein system of classifying organic compounds difficult to comprehend.—EMERSON C. BEELER.

A Concise Pharmacology of the More Important Drugs, together with an *Outline of Their Therapeutic Applications and Introduction to the Art of Prescribing*, by F. G. HOBART, Ph.C., member of the Pharmaceutical Society, head of the Pharmaceutical Department, Westminster Hospital, lecturer in Pharmaceutics, Westminster Hospital, School of Medicine, member of the B. T. Codex, "Action and Uses" Sub-Committee and of the Pharmacy Sub-Committee, 1934, and G. Melton, M.D., M.R.C.P.—sometime Medical Registrar, Westminster Hospital School of Medicine. 170 pages. Distributed by the Chemical Publishing Co., Inc., 148 LaFayette St., New York City. Price, \$3.00.

The book is prepared for those who are associated with the prescribing and dispensing of drugs, and the drugs are classified under

the various headings of Pharmacology. Conciseness has its advantages, the selection for this volume has been successful and the experience of the authors and compilers has been well presented, however, we are of the opinion that a more extended presentation would have made this useful book more valuable.—E. G. EBERLE.

Pharmaceutical Latin, by JACOB S. DORFMAN, assistant professor of Pharmacy, Columbia University, sometime instructor in Latin at the Harbin Gymnasium (China). Second Edition, revised. Published by Lea and Febiger, 1938. Price, \$2.00.

The material embodied in this edition was used previously in mimeographed form and the author has applied his experience as teacher in this volume, successfully, and made it applicable in prescription writing.

The *Pharmaceutical Latin* is presented so that it may be correctly applied and adapted by usage of the Latin alphabet—the vowels, consonants, diphthongs, syllables, accents, nouns and pronouns, use of numeral adjectives, declensions, conjugations. Proper use of Latin is explained by words that are found in pharmaceutical literature and prescriptions and the application by examples in several pages of Latin-English and English-Latin.

This volume has been donated and inscribed by the author on April 13, 1938, to his fraters of the Alpha Zeta Omega and bears the names of forty-four members.—E. G. EBERLE.

Gould's Medical Dictionary, Fourth Edition. Thoroughly revised, many new words with pronunciation. 273 illustrations, of which 48 are portraits, 175 tables. By GEORGE M. GOULD, A.M., M.D., edited by R. J. E. Scott, M.A., B.C.L., M.D., and C. V. Brownlow. There are included 1538 pages, bound in fabricoid cover. Price, \$7.00, with Thumb Index \$7.50. Publishers P. Blakiston's Son & Co., Inc., Philadelphia, Pa.

Medical terms require change, the definitions in this edition have been thoroughly revised. The illustrations show types of sources of drugs and of individuals who have contributed to the progress of Medicine, to a better understanding of Pharmacy and Medicine.

Dr. David H. Bergey has prepared a table of bacteria pathogenic to man, lists of diseases caused by metazoa, alphabetically arranged; there are tables of weights and measures, muscles, nerves, bones, arteries, etc.; tables

of breath-sounds in health and disease, diet lists, dose lists for physicians and veterinarians and according to the latest pharmacological and medical research.

The Dictionary is a guide to pronunciation, definition, established usage and scientific accuracy. Pronunciation is represented by simple English phonetics, Greek and Latin derivations of terms are given, the important Prefixes, Suffixes and Radicals are explained in their alphabetical order. A list of tables is published on page XIII. Signs and abbreviations are found in their alphabetical order and a list of them on page XIV. Prefixes and suffixes used in medical terms are separated from those of Chemistry. We are of the opinion that it would serve a useful purpose if Pharmacy were likewise treated.

Arteries are tabulated on twenty-four pages; information is given concisely in four or five columns and serves as a quick reference; other tabulations are made in similar manner.

The table of microorganisms by Bergey covers 68 pages, under several divisions and are listed under "the original," "where found," "the character," "original names," "new classifications;" these constitute a source of ready information. The nerves are shown in drawings and in tables.

Operations and Diseases are considered under their respective titles. Weights and Measures are given useful consideration and conversion methods applied. Physicians' Dose Methods, with incompatibilities of the various types of activities, combinations and preparations, and followed by a Veterinary Dose Table.

The tabulations bring a large amount of information into compact form. This idea is considered throughout. The definitions are enlarged in related groups to the terminology including the specialties and applications of terminations from other sciences and the tabulations hold the number of pages to a limit and extend the field of information to a maximum.—E. G. EBERLE.

Pharmacognosy Workbook, by RALPH BIENFANG, Associate Professor of Pharmacognosy, University of Oklahoma. Ninth Edition, revised. Published by the Transcript Press, Norman, Oklahoma.

The 1937 Year Book of General Therapeutics, BERNARD FANTUS and C. J. NICHAMIN. 496 pages. Published by the Year Book Publishers, Chicago, Ill. Price, \$2.50.