

TREATISE ON GENERAL AND INDUSTRIAL ORGANIC CHEMISTRY. By Ettore Molinari, Professor of the Luigi Bocconi Commercial University, Milan. Translated from the second Italian edition by Thomas H. Pope, University of Birmingham. Cloth, 770 + xix pages, 506 illustrations. P. Blakiston's Son & Co., Philadelphia, 1913; \$6.00 net.

This new book is a descriptive organic chemistry, written from the standpoint of the technical chemist, and combining descriptions of the organic compounds themselves with the technical applications of each group.

The author's idea is well expressed in the following quotation from the preface: "It does not suffice that the young chemist, about to begin his industrial or teaching career, should have a thorough knowledge, for instance, of the various syntheses and constitutional formulæ of the sugars. He should also be acquainted with at least the general outlines of the industrial processes and *technique* of the manufacture of sugar, beginning with the slicing of the beets and proceeding to the refining and centrifugation of sugar crystals."

The three divisions of the book are General, Derivatives of Methane, and Cyclic Compounds. Part I discusses the purification and analysis of organic compounds and the general theoretical discussions of organic chemistry.

The principal groups discussed in Part II are the hydrocarbons, alcohols, and derivatives, acids and derivatives, carbohydrates; and in Part III hydrocarbons and their immediate oxygen and nitrogen derivatives, aromatic acids, hydrogenated benzene nuclei, condensed nuclei, heterocyclic compounds, coloring agents and fabrics, proteins, glucosides, and other compounds of uncertain composition.

One thing which will detract from the value of the book to the chemist of America is the fact that methods described, costs quoted, and dimensions given are all or nearly all in terms in vogue in Europe. This is largely excusable in a translation when we think of the secrecy which surrounds so many of our present day works, particularly in this country.

Most industrial chemistries are interesting reading, and this book is no exception. Some particularly interesting descriptions are included, among which might be mentioned explosives, the fermentation industries, sugars, and fabrics. The book will find a place in many libraries and should be read with interest by both the theoretical and the practical chemists, and particularly by the young man just out of college, who is just beginning to realize the necessity for correlating his theoretical and practical training.

GEO. D. BEAL.

ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE CHEMICAL LABORATORY OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION. Vol. VI, Jan.-Dec., 1913. Price 25 cents.

This publication should be in the hands of every pharmacist. It contains data of particular interest to them in regard to the various nostrums which have been discussed in the pages of the Journal of the A. M. A. during the past year. Familiarity with the facts therein stated should be effective evidence to convert many misled physicians from the prescribing of nostrums to the use of official preparations. As the methods of analysis used in the examination of these preparations are stated in detail, the manual is of much value to all druggists and others who are interested in the chemical examination of drugs and chemicals.