

Book Reviews

Advances in Colloid Science, Vol. I, by ELMER O. KRAEMER, Ph.D. Biochemical Research Foundation of the Franklin Institute, Newark, Del. Interscience Publishers, Inc., New York, N. Y., 1942. 434 + xii pp., 161 illus. Price, \$6.00.

The purpose of this volume is to provide a medium in which recent significant discoveries in colloid science may be presented in a more comprehensive manner than is possible in regular technical periodicals. In this first volume the following subjects are extensively discussed from the standpoint of modern advances:

1. "Measurement of the Surface Areas of Finely Divided or Porous Materials by Low Temperature Adsorption Isotherms," by P. H. Emmett.
2. "The Permeability Method for Determining Specific Surface of Fibers and Powders," by R. R. Sullivan and K. L. Hertel.
3. "A New Method of Adsorption Analysis and Some of Its Applications," by Arne Tiselius.
4. "Solubilization and Other Factors in Detergent Action," by James W. McBain.
5. "Recent Developments in Starch Chemistry," by Kurt H. Meyer.
6. "Frictional and Thermodynamic Properties of Large Molecules," by R. E. Powell and Henry Eyring.
7. "The Constitution of Inorganic Gels," by Harry B. Weiser and W. O. Milligan.
8. "The Creaming of Rubber Latex," by G. E. Van Gils and G. M. Kraay.
9. "Streaming Birefringence and Its Relation to Particle Size and Shape," by John T. Edsall.
10. "Synthetic-Resin Ion Exchangers," by Robert J. Myers.
11. "The Study of Colloids with the Electron Microscope," by Thomas F. Anderson.
12. "Anomalies in Surface Tension of Solutions," by Ernst A. Hauser.

Each chapter is carefully outlined and accompanied with many tables of data and illustrations of apparatus. The style of all of the writers is lucid and the book appears to be quite free from typographical errors.

The section on starch and its recent chemistry is especially recommended to the readers of *THIS JOURNAL* because of its numerous applications in the field of botanical drugs. The chapter on detergent problems contains valuable information to the pharmacist on bases for ointments and sprays. Of special interest to the medicinal chemist is Dr. Weiser's work on hydrous oxides, particularly that of aluminum which is now official.

The volume should prove interesting and thought-provoking to the investigator in the pharmaceutical sciences and the practical pharmacist.—JOHN C. KRANTZ, JR.

Standardized Plant Names, prepared for the American Joint Committee on Horticultural Nomenclature by the Editorial Committee, HARLAN P. KELSEY and WILLIAM A. DAYTON. Second edition. J. Horace McFarland Co., Harrisburg, Pa. 1942. 675 + xv pp. Price, \$10.50.

The purposes set forth in the preface of the new and greatly enlarged second edition of this well-known work are: (1) to bring intelligent order out of the chaos in the names of plants and plant products; (2) to make buying easy by bringing about, as far as practicable, the consistent use of a single standardized scientific name and a single standardized common name for every tree, shrub and plant in American commerce; (3) to establish a well-organized mechanism for the registration and identification of horticultural varieties; and (4) the adoption of standard rules of nomenclature for the guidance of those naming horticultural varieties.

The book contains about 90,000 names of plants and plant products or more than twice the number that appeared in the first edition. The approved Latin scientific plant names are listed in alphabetical order in bold-face type and the approved English name is opposite each. Long-used scientific name synonyms follow certain Latin names in italics, parenthesized. The variety and class names of important groups of plants appear in small capitals, the class name preceded by the symbol ϵ .

In addition to general list of plant names, there are 62 special plant lists all included in one alphabetical order. Among these are to be noted lists of drug plants, poisonous plants, cereals, lumber plants, range plants, economic plants, state flowers and trees, roses, irises, orchids, chrysanthemums, ferns, peonies, etc.

Several very desirable innovations have been made in the new edition. A most commendable one has been the close adherence of the revisers to most of the rules of the latest International Botanical Congresses. This was not done in the first edition which followed mainly the American Code. Exceptions, however, are made to these rules in the dropping of the final *i* in specific epithet and varietal names ending in *ii* and in the decapitalization of specific epithet names derived from persons. Again, each scientific name is pronounced by placing an acute accent close to the main syllable stressed.

The new group term name "polybrid" and its symbol ∞ have been introduced by the Editorial Committee for hybrids from crosses between two particular species, varieties or genera, in order to serve as a warning to the genetic incoustancy and unreliability of certain group hybrid names from the standpoint of the breeder and grower. This should