

and it appears applicable to the determination of phenylpropanolamine, phenylramidol, and phenylephrine.

The limitations in selectivity of the periodate procedure and interferences in the method are discussed.

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## Book Notices

*Annual Review of Pharmacology.* Edited by WINDSOR C. CUTTING, ROBERT H. DREISHBACH, and HENRY W. ELLIOTT. Annual Reviews, Inc., Palo Alto, Calif., 1963. vi + 486 pp. 22 × 14½ cm. Price \$8.50.

The 1963 edition of this respected series presents sections entitled enzymes as primary targets of drugs, metabolic fate, drugs in lipid metabolism, interactions of drugs with endocrines, drugs and nerve conduction, effects of drugs on behavior, electrolyte and mineral metabolism, cellular effects of anticancer drugs, as well as others. Also included is a prefatory chapter by Henry H. Dale on pharmacology during the past 60 years. Cumulative indexes of authors and chapter titles for volumes 1 through 3 are appended.

*British Pharmacopoeia.* General Medical Council. Pharmaceutical Press, 17 Bloomsbury Square, London, 1963. xxviii + 1210 pp. 13½ × 22 cm. Price \$22.50.

The General Medical Council of England has released the tenth edition of the British Pharmacopoeia which contains nearly 1000 monographs—some 211 of which did not appear in the previous edition. Additionally, the monographs for this edition employ the metric system throughout. This edition also includes 278 pages of appendices which give reagent specifications and information on nonaqueous titration, the oxygen flask method, chromatographic analysis, infrared absorption spectra, biological assays, and other useful information and procedures. The edition will become official on January 1, 1964.

*Biochemical Systematics.* By R. E. ALSTON and B. L. TURNER. Prentice-Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, N. J., 1963. xii + 404 pp. 14½ × 22½ cm. Price \$13.25.

By integrating data from biochemistry, plant chemistry, plant genetics, and systematics, the authors present a work oriented towards botanical

systematics in what appears to be an unprecedented effort. The book is organized around major groups of chemical constituents rather than taxonomic systems of categories and the authors indicate that they do not now feel that available chemical correlations justify the construction of a phylogenetic tree. The main body of the book is devoted to the examination of the chemical nature of specific groups of plant constituents with a view to their actual and potential contributions to systematics.

*Essentials of Biological Chemistry.* By JAMES L. FAIRLEY and GORDON L. KILGOUR. Reinhold Publishing Corp., 430 Park Ave., New York 22, N. Y., 1963. xiii + 287 pp. 14½ × 22¼ cm. Price \$7.50.

An undergraduate text book designed for an introductory course in biochemistry is presented for students who require some familiarity with biochemical principles in their chosen fields. Emphasis is placed on relating chemical structure to biological function. The volume pares the basics to a minimum and builds this foundation with materials in considerable depth. The volume gets progressively more complex beginning with the organic chemistry of the cellular constituents and working towards basic metabolic reaction sequences.

*The Dictionary of Chemical Names.* By W. E. FLOOD. Philosophical Library, Inc., 15 East 40th St., New York 16, N. Y., 1963. xxi + 238 pp. 13 × 20 cm. Price \$7.50.

A glossary of the origin and history of chemical names is presented. An introductory section describes the development of the main branches of chemistry and the evolution of systematic nomenclature. The principal glossary is composed of two parts—one dealing with the chemical elements and the other dealing with chemical compounds, minerals, and other substances of chemical interest. An appendix provides brief biographical notes on about 50 of the more prominent chemists referred to in the glossary's text.