

REVIEWS

Tablet Making. Second Edition. By ARTHUR LITTLE and K. A. MITCHELL. The Northern Publishing Co., Ltd., 37 Victoria St.; Liverpool 1, England, 1963. 115 pp. 14 X 22 cm. Price 25/- net.

In terms of both unit and dollar volume tablets represent the most important of all dosage forms. Nevertheless, efforts to remove the art and provide a solid scientific base for the various processes making up tablet technology have met with considerable resistance. The second edition of this book, one of the few dealing with the subject, contributes little to the critical approach needed in this field.

Emphasis is placed upon the practical or vocational aspects of tablet making with brief discussions of mixing, drying, compressing, and coating. The chapter dealing with compressing equipment and mechanical trouble shooting should be useful to beginners. The authors statement that "the operation of the DryCota should present no serious problems to any tablet maker who remembers, the principles of his trade (sic!) and considers logically the method of operation of the machine" is open to question.

Aside from a reference to a published bibliography on tableting, the only specific reference in the entire book is to a paper on film coating and there is no further discussion of this important development. Also missing is a discussion of the factors controlling intertablet weight and potency variation.

Particularly unfortunate is the verbal and photographic exclusivity afforded a single manufacturer of tableting and associated equipment. Under such circumstances the book approaches the appearance and concept of promotional literature. The definitive textbook on tablet technology remains to be written.

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Pediatric Therapy. Edited by HARRY C. SHIRKEY, B.S. (Pharm.), M.D. The C. V. Mosby Co., 3207 Washington Blvd., St. Louis 3, Missouri, 1964. 1144 pp. Price \$16.50.

This book, although intended primarily for physicians specializing in pediatrics, will be of interest to pharmacists because of its over-all emphasis on therapy rather than diagnosis, and its sections on drug treatment and on poisoning and specific antidotes.

Part I, Drug Treatment, consists of twelve chapters on such subjects as "The Placebo—Its Clinical Significance," "Reactions to Drugs," "Principles in Choice of Drugs," and "Physical and Chemical Considerations in Choice of Drugs for Pediatric Use." There are eighteen additional parts concluding with a 48-page table of pediatric dosages.

The Editor, himself a distinguished practitioner and teacher, is to be commended for compiling

chapters from 72 contributors into such a comprehensive, readable, and well-illustrated text.

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Accepted Dental Remedies 1964. American Dental Association, 222 E. Superior St., Chicago 11, Ill., 1963. xiv + 220 pp. 15 X 22.5 cm. Price \$3. Paperbound.

The twenty-ninth edition of the widely recognized handbook of dental therapeutics is presented. Attention is given to recent reports of liver necrosis in a few individuals administered halothane for general anesthesia. The discoloration of teeth that may follow administration of some of the tetracyclines in late pregnancy, infancy, and early childhood is noted and precautions in providing closed chest cardiac massage are noted. The section on mouth-washes has been completely rewritten. Monographs are presented for drugs having recognized value in dentistry, drugs of uncertain status more recently proposed for dental uses, and some drugs once employed extensively but generally regarded as obsolete. Only brands which the ADA Council on Dental Therapeutics has accepted as having demonstrated value in dentistry are listed.

NOTICES

Kirk-Othmer Encyclopedia of Chemical Technology. 2nd Ed. Aluminum Compounds to Azo Dyes. Vol. 2. Executive Editor ANTHONY STANDEN. Interscience Publishers, Inc., 605 Third Ave., New York 16, N. Y., 1963. xv + 910 pp. 19 X 27 cm. Price: \$45 single copy, \$35 subscription.

Psychopharmacology Handbook, Vol. II, Animal Research in Psychopharmacology, Central Nervous System Effects. Edited and compiled by the Psychopharmacology Service Center, Research Grants and Fellowships Branch, National Institute of Mental Health, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland. Available from Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Govt. Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 20402. xvi + 529 pp. 20 X 26 cm. Price \$3. Paperbound.

Handbook of Cosmetic Science. An Introduction to Principles and Applications. Edited by H. W. HIBBOT. The Macmillan Company, 60 Fifth Ave., New York 11, N. Y., 1963. xi + 556 pp. 15.5 X 23 cm.

Chemical Constitution and Biological Activity. 3rd Ed. By W. A. SEXTON. D. Van Nostrand Co., Inc., 120 Alexander St., Princeton, N. J., 1963. xxviii + 517 pp. 16 X 25 cm. Price \$19.75.

Experimental Pharmacogenetics. By HANS MEIER. Academic Press Inc., 111 Fifth Ave., New York 3, N. Y., 1963. xi + 213 pp. 15.5 X 23.5 cm. Price \$7.50.