

theory on the reactivation of inhibited acetylcholinesterase advanced by Wilson (8) may be examined more easily.

Clearly, the photolysis procedure described in this communication may be applicable to the isomerization of other heterocyclic aldoximes and their quaternary derivatives.

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Books

REVIEW

The National Formulary. 12th ed. Prepared by the Committee on National Formulary under the supervision of the Council, by the authority of the American Pharmaceutical Association. Published by the American Pharmaceutical Association, 1965. Distributed by Mack Publishing Co., Easton, Pa. xlv + 618 pp. 15 × 23 cm. Price \$10 (Domestic and Foreign).

The twelfth edition of the "National Formulary" represents an innovation in the history of the N.F. For the first time, inclusion of drugs and medicinal chemicals is based solely upon therapeutic merit. Formerly, the extent of use of a particular item was the primary basis of acceptance.

The 783 monographs, 248 of which are new admissions, cover a wide range of therapeutic classifications, and include many new drug entities as well as those whose value has been recognized for some time. In addition, the monographs, including many of those retained from previous editions, incorporate the latest improvements in analytical procedures which utilize recent technical and instrumental developments. These newer techniques make possible an important addition to the official specifications of certain tablets—a test for the uniformity of composition between individual units of the prepared dosage form. This new standard of formulation requires that assays be run on single tablets.

The value of N.F. XII as a reference is enhanced by the inclusion of tables of approximate and exact apothecary and metric equivalents, the latest (1961) table of atomic weights, thermometric equivalents in centigrade (Celsius) and Fahrenheit degrees, an alcoholometric table, a comprehensive synopsis of the federal regulations governing narcotic drugs, and a thorough index.

N.F. XII will be official from September 1, 1965.

NOTICES

Cellular Injury. Ciba Foundation Symposium. Edited by A. V. S. DERUECK and JULIE KNIGHT. Little, Brown and Company, Boston 6, Mass., 1964. xi + 403 pp. 13.5 × 21 cm. Price \$12.

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