

BOOK REVIEWS

inositol whose vitamin-like functions have been recognised since their chemical nature became well known, are not discussed. Each chapter is a compilation of published information on the vitamin concerned from the time its existence was first recognised up to the time of writing. Much of this is interesting from an historical point of view; e.g., Rosenheim's first use of arsenic trichloride as a colour test for vitamin A, but there is a complete lack of discrimination between good and bad methods. All the "Units" of vitamin A which have ever been used are given and their relationships one with another as claimed by various workers, but there is no indication of the fact that most of these relationships do not (in fact cannot) hold, and a good opportunity of explaining why this is so has been missed. For the discriminating reader this should be a valuable book of reference.

K. H. COWARD.

BOOKS RECEIVED

MINOR SURGERY edited by Sir Heneage Ogilvie and W. A. R. Thompson. Pp. 176 and Index, Eyre and Spottiswoode Ltd., London, 1949, 2nd edition, 14s.

THE CHEMISTRY OF PENICILLIN edited by H. T. Clarke, J. R. Johnson and Sir Robert Robinson. Pp. 1042 plus Index and Appendix, Princeton University Press (London : Geoffrey Cumberlege), 1949, £9 9s.

AIDS TO FORENSIC PHARMACY by M. S. Bolton. Pp. 226 and Index, Bailliere, Tindall and Cox, London, 1949, 4th edition, 6s.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE HOSPITAL PHARMACOPŒIA, 1949, edited by T. D. Whittet.

PHARMAKOLOGIE DES DEUTSCHEN ARZNEIBUCHS 6. UND DES ERGANZUNGSBUCHES 6 by H. Braun. Pp. 344 and Index, Wissenschaftliche Verlagsgesellschaft mbH., Stuttgart, 1949, 3rd edition.

'ANALAR' *STANDARDS FOR LABORATORY CHEMICALS* formulated and issued jointly by The British Drug Houses Ltd. and Hopkins and Williams Ltd., London, 1949, 4th edition, 10s. 6d.