

The treatment of the subject is full, clear, systematic, and well up to date. Enough technology is included to show the reader the reason for the methods used in the work; and the author has not lost sight of the fact that he is writing on the principles as well as the practice of agricultural analysis.

The chemist who has been unfortunate enough to buy a number of alleged treatises on agricultural chemical analysis (chiefly of English origin) that have recently appeared will fully appreciate the merits of this work and heartily thank Dr. Wiley for producing a work that is full and reliable. For if the investigator of questions bearing on the analysis of fertilizing material does not find here methods suitable for the purpose he has in view, he may as well resign himself to working the matter out for himself.

To the teacher the book is of very great value, and if used by students they will have the satisfaction of knowing that they are well prepared for technical work in factory or inspection laboratories.

The full citation of authorities and an unusually complete table of contents and index are commendable features of the work.

In the preface, the author regrets "that the contents of the volume have again exceeded all expectations." His readers will not share this regret, for there is nothing here that could have been omitted to advantage.

It is to be hoped that there may be no delay in the appearance of the remaining volumes of a work that is of such high value to those who wish to keep informed on so wide a range of chemical work as is included under the term agricultural analysis.

H. A. HUSTON.

LABORATORY WORK IN CHEMISTRY. A SERIES OF EXPERIMENTS IN GENERAL INORGANIC CHEMISTRY. BY EDWARD H. KEISER. 8 vo. viii, 119 pp. New York: American Book Co.

This little book, in spite of its name, is not exclusively a laboratory guide nor is it exclusively devoted to experiments in inorganic chemistry. Thus, we find (p. 62) a definition of *equivalent*, and a description of the properties of carbon (p. 94). The experiments relating to the organic compounds, marsh gas,

ethylene, and calcium carbide do not strike one as being very instructive or *apropos* of anything in particular.

An excellent feature is the introduction of numerous questions, although these might, perhaps with advantage, have been more closely confined to the subjects of the experiments. It is not easy to see, for example, why such a question as the following should be brought into a laboratory manual: "Which elements make up three-fourths of the solid crust of the earth?"

A number of the more difficult experiments, such as the gravimetric determination of the composition of water are to be performed by a few more advanced students for the benefit of all, a commendable arrangement when the classes are not too large.

The experiments are, in the main, well selected and described in simple and clear English. The use of the term "arseniuretted hydrogen" is a curious anachronism in a book which for the rest adheres to a modern nomenclature.

L. W. ANDREWS.

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#### BOOKS RECEIVED.

Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station, Bulletin No. 56. Analysis of Commercial Fertilizers. Lexington, Ky.

Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station, Bulletin No. 57. (1) Wheat Experiments. (2) Oat Experiments. Lexington, Ky.

Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, Bulletin No. 36. Vegetable Insecticides. College Station, Brazos County, Texas.

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#### NOTE.

*The Banquet to Messrs. Mond and Tyrer.*—Two prominent English chemical manufacturers, Messrs. Ludwig Mond, a member of the well-known firm of Brunner, Mond & Co., and Thomas Tyrer, a manufacturer of pharmaceutical chemicals and now President of the Society of Chemical Industry, have been paying a visit to the United States. There has naturally been considerable desire among American chemists to meet these gentlemen, and they have received many invitations and courtesies. An account of Mr. Tyrer's visit to the meeting of the