

of bringing up to date the various subjects discussed, has in the main been well done.

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Chemical Reagents, their purity and tests; a new and improved test based on and replacing the latest edition of Krauch's "Die Prüfung der chemischen Reagentien auf Reinheit." By E. MERCK. Authorized translation by Henry Schenck, A.B. (Harvard). New York: D. Van Nostrand Company. 1907. vii + 250 pp. Price, \$1.50 net.

It would be superfluous to describe the arrangement and treatment of subjects in Krauch's well-known book. The English translation is from the fourth edition, which was published in 1905, and it is to be noted that no literature references of a later date are given. German idioms are conspicuously absent, and for this novelty (as we may fairly say) as well as for his uniformly clear phraseology, the translator is to be commended. In the main, also, he adheres to the chemical terminology and spelling which are at present, adopted by the leading American and English journals, but which so many chemists still disregard or are ignorant of. We refer more particularly to the endings—in, -ine and -ol. As, hematoxylin, iodeosin (but eosine is given on page 88), hematein and phenolphthalein, all of which are non-basic; but brucine, diphenylamine and aniline which are basic. His usage in regard to -ol, is not quite so uniform. Pyrogallol and resorcinol are correctly given, with the older names in parenthesis, but glycerin is preferred to glycerol (given in parenthesis). So, also, phloroglucin and furfural (furfurol)—for furol—are given. But all these points are, no doubt, of minor importance and detract little from the value of the book. The tests given are certainly delicate enough for all but the most critical work, and with this qualification, the book can be recommended to all chemists. It is not too much to hope that in some future edition of this or of a similar work, even more delicate tests, which will satisfy the demands of the highest accuracy, will be given for at least the commoner reagents.

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