

attention to questions as to just when a particular principle is to be introduced so that it may stimulate the reasoning powers and be an effective tool in the further study. The compact statements in which the principles of chemistry are expressed afford rather poor material for a memory exercise. It would seem, therefore, to be desirable to develop the principles and theories, at least during the whole course of undergraduate chemistry, rather than in a single course of lectures. G. A. HULETT.

Elements of Mineralogy, Crystallography and Blowpipe Analysis, from a practical standpoint including a description of all common or useful minerals, the tests necessary for their identification, the recognition and measurements of their crystals, and a concise statement of their uses in the arts. By ALFRED J. MOSES and CHARLES LATHROP PARSONS. Fourth edition, vii + 444 pages, 580 figures and three double pages of tables for determinative mineralogy. New York: D. Van Nostrand Company. Price, \$2.50.

The fourth edition of this well-known book differs but very slightly from the third edition (1904). Some changes in the introductory chapter, a few paragraphs added, and the statistics of production and value revised are the only changes noted. The main body of the text, descriptive of the mineral species, has not been changed. For instance, molybdenite is still stated to be MoO_3 (page 277), and thorianite is not mentioned at all. While it is always difficult to decide on what to include and what to exclude from "all common or useful minerals," it would seem more desirable to include a mineral like dumortierite which has been found in this country in five different states, rather than such rare ones as aikinite, apthitalite, etc. It must be somewhat confusing, particularly to a student, for whom the book is specially adapted, to find under pyroxene, crystal drawings of "fassaite" and "leucaugite" (Figs. 518 and 519), neither of which is mentioned in the text or in the index. The brief mention of many of the not very common yet still not very rare minerals would be a slight improvement on this otherwise excellent book, which gives, as the extended sub-title briefly indicates, about all the essential facts of mineralogy. W. T. SCHALLER.

Annuaire pour l'An 1910. Published by the Bureau des Longitudes. 16 mo., 820 pages. Paris: Gauthier-Villars, 1910. Price, 1.50 francs.

As cheap as before, as full of inaccuracies as usual. In the immense amount of information given upon astronomical, geographic, physical and chemical phenomena, the larger part is of course correct, but a short search brings to light so many inaccuracies that the work as a whole must bear the stigma of being unreliable, at least as regards physical and chemical data. In one place, a column of chemical equivalents of the elements is headed "electrochemical equivalents." In a table of atomic weights and chemical equivalents, antimony, arsenic, nitrogen,

bismuth, boron, phosphorus and silicon are considered as *monovalent* elements, aluminium is bivalent (!), while vanadium with an atomic weight of 51.2 has an equivalent weight of 68.5 (!!). Inaccurate values determined by French experimenters are frequently given to the exclusion of greatly more accurate ones by non-Gallic scientists. As a scientific compilation, in the proper sense of the term *scientific*, it is discreditable to the authors and to France.

JOSEPH W. RICHARDS.

A System of Diet and Dietetics. Edited by G. A. SUTHERLAND. London, 1908. xiii + 893 pp. Price, \$7.50.

This volume, which is one of the series entitled Oxford Medical Publications, contains a number of papers by different authors on food and nutrition in health and disease. Among the papers of special interest to students of nutrition may be mentioned: "A Discussion of General Principles," by Sir Lauder Brunton; "The Evolution of Man's Diet," by Dr. Harry Campbell; "The Physiology of Digestion, Absorption, and Nutrition," by Dr. E. I. Spriggs; "The Results of Experimental Work on Diet," by Dr. E. I. Spriggs; "Diet Cures and Special Diets," by Dr. Edmund Cautley; "Patent and Proprietary Foods," by Dr. Edmund Cautley; "Diet in Old Age," by Dr. Harry Campbell; and "The Feeding of Infants and Children in Health," by Dr. G. A. Sutherland.

In the chapter on the Evolution of Man's Diet, the epochs which the discussion treats are: The simian period, the homo-simian period, the early hunting period, the pre-cibicultural cookery period, and the cibicultural period, or the period in which man has depended upon cultivated crops for food. Dr. Campbell has brought together a large amount of information not generally accessible and has rendered a service to all students of dietetics by the clear and systematic way in which the evolution of man's diet is discussed.

All the sections are of decided interest and value as they represent the views of men of wide experience in the subjects treated as well as summaries of data fundamental to adequate discussion of such questions. The chapters on diet in disease are of unusual interest to the medical practitioner. As stated in the editor's preface "this book is not a reflection of the fancies of the public on the subject of their food, or of the methods of the individual who believes in an infallible system for dieting of his patients. Until our knowledge of physiology is more perfect than at present the scientific basis of dietetics must be an unstable one. Nevertheless patients must be dieted, and the physician must be guided by the teaching of history, by experimental physiology, and by clinical experience in the proper regulation of their diet. All that has been attempted in this book is to set down the principles and practice of men who have had special experience in the subjects on which they write."

C. F. LANGWORTHY,