

Since the book concerns **medicinals in the broad sense**, it takes up not only true curative agents, but also those compounds which stimulate or check the activity of various organs. Naturally, the chief aim of the synthesist is the preparation of healing drugs, but he must often content himself, at least temporarily, with those which merely cause the disappearance of the symptoms. General anesthetics are necessary for the performance of operations. In diseases of the nervous system, sleep is often one of the best healing agencies. Such indirect remedies as general anesthetics, hypnotics, etc., therefore are included. Other maladies may be alleviated by the introduction of synthetics which the body itself either ceases to generate or no longer produces in sufficient amount, as, for example, adrenaline or thyroxine.

The chapter on "antiseptics and chemotherapeutics" is devoted to a consideration of those synthetics which act either to destroy pathogenic organisms or at least to arrest their growth, and which are therefore true remedies in that they remove the cause of the disease.

The book is as nearly up to date as reasonably can be expected. The subject matter is presented clearly and compactly, with ample references to the original literature, and the reviewer is of opinion that the work will be found useful to all interested in this exceedingly important branch of Organic Chemistry.

Of course, no two chemists would agree exactly on the list of synthetics which should be presented in such an outline, and it is inevitable that there will be those who will criticize it on that score, but it seems to the reviewer that on the whole the list has been chosen wisely and with reasonable conservatism, and that the author has kept constantly in mind that the guiding star in all such investigations is the desirability of learning more about the connection between chemical constitution and physiological action.

MARSTON TAYLOR BOGERT

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## BOOKS RECEIVED

November 15, 1931-December 15, 1931

GUIDO BARGELLINI. "Esercizi Numerici di Chimica Organica." Editrice Studium, Piazza S. Agostino 20-a, Roma, Italy. 242 pp.

GEORGE BARGER. "Ergot and Ergotism." A Monograph Based on the Dohme Lectures Delivered in Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore. Gurney and Jackson, 33 Paternoster Row, E. C., London, England. 279 pp. 15s net.

FRANK CLOWES AND J. BERNARD COLEMAN. "Quantitative Chemical Analysis. An Intermediate Text-book." Thirteenth edition. Revised by D. Stockdale and J. Dexter. P. Blakiston's Sons Co., Inc., 1012 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 605 pp.

- RONALD G. J. FRASER. "Molecular Rays." The Macmillan Company, 60 Fifth Ave., New York. 204 pp. \$3.75.
- O. A. HOUGEN AND K. M. WATSON. "Industrial Chemical Calculations." John Wiley and Sons, Inc., 440 Fourth Ave., New York. 502 pp. \$4.50.
- FRANZ KNOOP. "Oxydationen im Tierkörper. Ein Bild von den Hauptwegen physiologischen Verbrennung." Verlag von Ferdinand Enke, Stuttgart, Germany. 37 pp. RM. 3.60.
- OTTO LIESCHE. "Rechnenverfahren und Rechenhilfsmittel mit Anwendungen auf die analytische Chemie." Ferdinand Enke Verlag, Stuttgart, Germany. 201 pp. RM. 20, unbound; RM. 22, bound.
- J. F. McCLENDON. "Handbook of Chemistry in Biology and Medicine." Published in mimeograph form by Pearl Olson, 212 Millard Hall, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minn. 462 pp. \$3.00.
- JULIUS SCHMIDT. "Jahrbuch der organischen Chemie." Vol. XVII, 1930. Verlagsbuchhandlung von Franz Deuticke, Wien, Austria. 300 pp. M. 30; bound, M. 33.
- PAUL WALDEN. "Mass, Zahl und Gewicht in der Vergangenheit." Verlag von Ferdinand Enke, Stuttgart, Germany. 106 pp. RM. 10.
- W. WEIZEL. "Bandenspektren." Akademische Verlagsgesellschaft m. b. H., Leipzig C 1, Germany. 461 pp. M. 43, unbound; M. 45, bound.
- ALEXANDER NEWTON WINCHELL. "The Microscopic Characters of Artificial Inorganic Solid Substances or Artificial Minerals." With a Chapter on the Universal Stage, by Richard Conrad Emmons. Second edition. John Wiley and Sons, Inc., 440 Fourth Ave., New York. 403 pp. \$5.00.
- "Abridged Scientific Publications from the Kodak Research Laboratories." Volume XIV. Published by the Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester, New York. 302 pp.
- "Ausgewählte Methoden für Schiedsanalysen und kontradiktorisches Arbeiten bei der Untersuchung von Erzen, Metallen und sonstigen Hüttenprodukten." Second edition. Selbstverlag der Gesellschaft Deutsche Metallhütten- und Bergleute e. V., Lützowstrasse 89-90, Berlin W 35, Germany. 457 pp. RM. 20.
- "Gmelins Handbuch der anorganischen Chemie." Edited by R. J. Meyer. System-Number 29, Strontium. Verlag Chemie, G. m. b. H., Berlin W 10, Germany. 239 pp. Mk. 41, singly; Mk. 36 to subscribers.
- "Probenahme von Erzen und anderen metallhaltigen Verhüttungsmaterialien sowie von Metallen und Legierungen mit einen Anhang." Selbstverlag der Gesellschaft Deutsche Metallhütten- und Bergleute e. V., Lützowstrasse 89-90, Berlin W 35, Germany. 108 pp. RM. 4.