
 NEW BOOK

Lehrbuch der physiologischen Chemie. By EMIL ABDERHALDEN, Professor at the University of Zurich, Twenty-third to twenty-fifth newly revised and enlarged edition. Benno Schwabe and Co., Verlag, Klosterberg 27, Basel, Switzerland. 417 pp. 51 illustrations. 17 × 24.5 cm. Price, Gebunden Fr. 26.

In 1906, there appeared the first edition of this valuable textbook by Abderhalden of Berlin, a single volume. Subsequent editions have shown expansion and contraction. The 4th edition (1920) comprised 2 volumes of somewhat over 1500 pages; the 6th (1931) was again a single volume of 852 pages. To find that the editions have gone from the 6th to the 25th in a period of fifteen years, a large number of which were years of conflict, is somewhat startling. This surprising increase is to be explained by a telescoping of editions; edition 16 to 22 appeared in July, 1944, and the present volume modestly includes only 3 "editions," the 23rd to the 25th. The significance of these is not clear.

In the introduction to the present edition (a single volume of 417 pages), the author points out that, "aus politischen Gründen," it was not possible in the preceding (16-22) edition to mention names of workers in the various fields under discussion. Now, however, in his home country, Switzerland, a professor of the University of Basel, he is no longer handicapped by such restrictions. Nevertheless, in the present edition, one looks in vain for names of investigators and for the detailed references to important investigations which were valuable features of the earlier pre-war editions. In the place of the copious bibliographic citations, there appear at the end of the text somewhat less than 9 pages, which are stated to comprise an "Überblick über Forscher, denen die physiologische Chemie Ergebnisse von grundlegender Bedeutung verdankt." These include a catalog of names, discoveries, and dates with no information as to the original sources from which information as to the detailed investigations can be obtained. Since the present volume can hardly be considered as a text for the beginning student, at least in America, and its value must be that of an advanced treatise and reference book, such a treatment greatly limits its usefulness.

Thus, the chemistry of the proteins is discussed in 3 sections which comprise 34 pages; 35 investigators and investigation ranging from Liebig (1829, discovery of hipuric acid) to Dorothy Wrinch (1940, protein structure) are cited. Eight of these are references to the work of the author and his students.

The general character of the text is similar to that of the previous editions with the exceptions noted. The author has been able to include much of the important work done outside of Central Europe in the war years. This was hardly to be expected in view of the circumstances under which the volume must have been prepared (the preface is dated, January 15, 1946). As is the case with previous editions, the volume gives a good survey of the field for advanced students in biological chemistry and physiology and should be valuable. It is to be hoped that the bibliographic shortcomings of the present edition may be remedied in subsequent editions, even though a considerable increase in size may be necessary.

HOWARD B. LEWIS

 BOOKS RECEIVED

December 10, 1946-January 10, 1947

HOMER ADKINS, Editor-in-Chief: "Organic Syntheses." Vol. 26. John Wiley and Sons, Inc., 440 Fourth Avenue, New York 16, N. Y. 124 pp. \$2.25.

M. J. BUEBERGER. "The Photography of the Reciprocal Lattice." (ASXRED Monograph Number 1.) Published by The American Society for X-Ray and Electron Diffraction. Copies of this monograph can be obtained at a cost of \$1.50 each from The Murray Printing Company, 18 Ames Street, Cambridge 42, Mass. 37 pp.

C. JELLEFF CARR. "Intravenous Sucrose Administration in Clinical Practice." Scientific Report Series No. 2. Sugar Research Foundation, Inc., 52 Wall Street, New York 5, N. Y. 31 pp.

LOUIS LONG, JR. "Sugar and Sugar By-products in the Plastics Industry." Scientific Report Series No. 1. Sugar Research Foundation, Inc., 52 Wall Street, New York 5, N. Y. 61 pp.

C. E. KENNETH MEES, with the cooperation of John R. Baker. "The Path of Science." John Wiley and Sons, Inc., 440 Fourth Avenue, New York 16, N. Y. 250 pp. \$3.00.

CARL NEUBERG AND IRENE S. ROBERTS. "Invertase." Scientific Report Series No. 4. Sugar Research Foundation, Inc., 52 Wall Street, New York 5, N. Y. 62 pp.

H. T. PLEDGE. "Science Since 1500." Philosophical Library, Publishers, 15 East 40th St., New York 16, N. Y. 357 pp. \$5.00.

ORSINO C. SMITH. "Identification and Qualitative Chemical Analysis of Minerals." D. Van Nostrand Company, Inc., 250 Fourth Ave., New York, N. Y. 351 pp. \$6.50.

RALPH K. STRONG. "Chemistry for the Executive." Reinhold Publishing Corporation, 330 West 42nd St., New York, N. Y. 445 pp. \$6.00.

W. A. WATERS. "The Chemistry of Free Radicals." Oxford University Press, 114 Fifth Avenue, New York 11, N. Y. 295 pp. \$6.50.

CLARENCE J. WEST. "The Utilization of Sugar Cane Bagasse for Paper, Board, Plastics, and Chemicals." Scientific Report Series No. 3. Sugar Research Foundation, Inc., 52 Wall Street, New York 5, N. Y. 146 pp.

DOROTHY WRINCH. "Fourier Transforms and Structure Factors." (ASXRED Monograph Number 2.) Published by The American Society for X-Ray and Electron Diffraction. Copies of this monograph can be obtained at a cost of \$4.00 each from the Treasurer of the Society, Dr. C. C. Murdock, Department of Physics, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. 96 pp.

"Abstract Bulletin N. S. No. 11. Abstracts of Current Information of Insect and Rodent Control." Insect Control Committee Coördination Center, National Research Council, Washington 25, D. C. 61 pp.

"British Chemicals and their Manufacturers." The Official Directory of the Association of British Chemical Manufacturers (Inc.), 166, Piccadilly, London, W. I., England, 1946. 121 pp. First revision of the Directory since 1939. A copy will be sent *gratis* to any inquirer writing on business paper or giving any other genuine indication of his being likely to put the Directory to good use as a purchaser of chemicals.