

some 2300 compounds containing carbon, hydrogen and oxygen. As a preparatory piece of work, methods are given for the qualitative detection of the various elements which may be contained in organic compounds. Some of these methods are novel and may be useful in general analysis, for example, the use of fluorescein paper to detect bromine. By these tests the compound is referred to its proper general group or order, each of which is to be treated in a separate volume. The substances treated in this volume are under Order I. They are divided into two sub-orders, colorless and colored substances. The first sub-order is divided into several genera, *viz.*, aldehydes, carbohydrates, acids, phenolic compounds, esters, acid anhydrides and lactones, ketones, alcohols, hydrocarbons. A substance is placed under one of these generic heads by chemical tests, which are systematically applied in a fixed order. The species in these genera are fixed approximately by melting- and boiling-points, and particular substances identified, in many cases, by special tests. Color reactions are made definite by color charts appended.

While the practicability of any such analytical scheme can only be decided by use in the laboratory, the apparent care with which every detail has been worked out lead to confidence in the method. The book will certainly be a valuable one for any chemist to have, both for its analytical uses and for the classified knowledge it contains. It would seem that it might well have an important place in long courses of organic chemistry. Inorganic qualitative analysis serves a good purpose in general training by giving students, who have had elementary and theoretical chemistry, a basis of experience which leads to definite results and consequent trust in themselves and in chemistry. In the same way such a course of organic qualitative analysis may serve to crystallize the general ideas previously obtained, and stimulate to further study by suggesting knowledge which the student may find in detail by reading the original literature.

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ERRATA.

In the paper by F. P. Veitch on "Soil Acidity," in the June number:

On page 661, last paragraph, third line, *for* milligrams, *read* tenths milligram.

On page 662, first line, *strike out* " of 10 grams each."