

additions considered are the organic arsenicals and quite a number of the synthetic hypnotics and sedatives. Digitalis glucosides have received fuller treatment and a number of unusual toxic substances have received consideration. Thus, referring to the general statements made, it may be informative to mention *materia medica* and other products which in overdose produce toxic effects, as for example: fluorides, iodides, nitrites, salvarsan, propanol, bromural, diogenal, arecoline, johimbine, tucocaine, psicaine, strophanthin, bufotalin, etc.

Certain apparatus and special analytical methods make up the subject matter of the fifth chapter; colorimetric estimation and the usefulness of microsublimation *in vacuo* are given consideration. The sixth chapter has particular interest for pharmacists on account of the assay methods of the German Pharmacopœia for alkaloids, given in full. The Appendix treats of "Meyer-Overton Theory of Narcosis," theory of alcohol narcosis, studies of narcosis, etc., and the investigation of colchicin and colchicein by Windaus and the results of Willstätter's study of the cleavage products of scopolamine.

The behavior of the constituent of poisons and potent drugs during analysis lays the basis for their study and their division into three groups, namely, those that distil with steam from acid aqueous solution are members of Group I, in the next are the non-volatiles in acid aqueous solution and Group III includes the poisonous metals. In the first are phosphorus, chloroform, aniline, alcohols, etc. The second group includes alkaloids, various synthetic compounds, glucosides, bitter principles, etc.

A systematic general procedure for the detection of poisons is given, the methods to be followed and the apparatus which is necessary or helpful.

Except, perhaps, to say that the well and favorably known work has been extended and carefully revised, comment is almost unnecessary; the publishers, also, have upheld their reputation in the production of the book.

*The Theory of Emulsions and Their Technical Treatment.* BY WILLIAM CLAYTON, Hon. Secretary to the British Association Committee on "Colloid Chemistry and Its General and Industrial Applications." F. G. DONNAN, Chairman of the British Association. Committee on "Colloid Chemistry and Its General and Industrial Applications." Second Edition. 300 pages with 42 illustrations. P. Blakiston's

Son & Co., Philadelphia, Pa., Publishers. Price \$4.50.

Professor Donnan, in the "Foreword," refers to the importance of the study of emulsions and emulsification, its theoretical and practical interest. In the industries outside of pharmacy the dairy products constitute a large part of the emulsified products (natural, prepared and manufactured); rubber, if considered as an emulsion, is another item of very great and growing importance. In pharmacy the process is extensively employed for manufacturing a class of preparations known as emulsions, some of the liniments, ointments, etc., and in a related way in the manufacture of certain sprays used as insecticides, other detergents, flotation processes, etc. Deemulsification figures prominently in some of the industrial operations, especially in drilling for petroleum oil—water becomes trapped and to some extent emulsified. Three methods of deemulsification—electrical, chemical and mechanical are employed and described in a general way in this volume.

The bibliography is quite extensive and the list of names and references given include a number who are well known for their contributions to pharmacy; among them, H. Schlenz, L. E. Warren, Charles H. LaWall, J. C. Krantz, Jr., N. E. Gordon, E. V. Kysner, F. C. Vilbrandt, W. G. Crockett, H. E. Oesper and others. Reference is made to a number of papers published in the JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

While of greatest value for libraries and class rooms it will be noted from the comment that the book has more than reference value for pharmacists.

*A Florentine Diary from 1450 to 1516*, by Luca Landucci. Continued by an Anonymous Writer until 1542, with notes by Iodoco Del Badia. Translated from the Italian by Alice De Rosen Jervis. Publishers, E. P. Dutton & Co., New York. Price \$3.00.

The following review is based largely on one by Samuel C. Chew in the *Baltimore Sun*; the greatest part of it is embodied without change and quoted in this review. This diary was kept by an apothecary, Luca Landucci, of Florence. That he was well known in Italy is testified by contemporary manuscripts: "Landucci was not in public life, and he seems to have had no distinguished connections; but from the doorway of his shop he watched the passing pageant of Florentine life and from his customers he obtained an enormous quan-