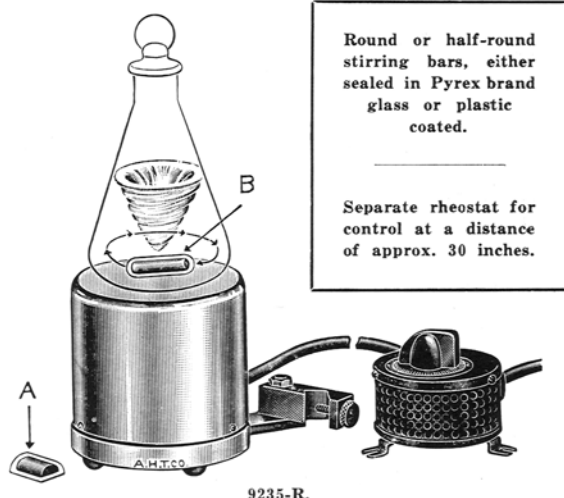


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New Books

MODERN GLASS WORKING AND LABORATORY TECHNIQUE, by M. C. Nokes (The Chemical Publishing Company Inc., 26 Court street, Brooklyn, N. Y., 157 pp., 1950, \$3.75). Although the binding does not appear to be durable and the illustrations could be improved, the table of contents does seem adequate. As compared to the 1938 edition, this third edition of Mr. Nokes' book has few substantial changes. Many of the techniques discussed are outdated and not explicit enough to be of value. His choice of equipment is often that not used in modern glass blowing.

There are books and pamphlets pertaining to glass fabrication which are more complete than Mr. Nokes' book. One book for example, is the following: W. E. Barr and V. J. Anhorn, "Scientific and Industrial Glass Blowing and Laboratory Techniques" (Instruments Publishing Company, Pittsburgh, Pa., 1949). One booklet, for example, is the following: "Laboratory Glass Blowing With Pyrex Brand Glasses," Corning Glass Works, Corning, N. Y.

JAMES FIELD MORRIS
Head of Glass Blowing Department
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OFFICIAL METHODS OF ANALYSIS. Seventh edition. xv + 910 pages. Association of Official Agricultural Chemists Inc., Box 540, Benjamin Franklin Station, Washington 4, D. C. 1950. Every five years since the appearance of the 1st edition of "Methods of Analysis, A.O.A.C." in 1920, the announcement of a new edition has been greeted with considerable interest by all chemists whose work comes within the scope of the activities of this Association. Each succeeding edition has borne testimony to the wisdom of the pioneer workers who produced the 1st edition as to the need for such a volume. The continual acceptance of an ever increasing scope of the methods has placed a stamp of approval on the painstaking manner in which the official procedures have been established. The "Methods of Analysis, A.O.A.C." has become not only the working tool of many chemists engaged in agricultural studies, but many of its procedures have been incorporated as legal standards in the enforcement of our food, feed, drug, fertilizer, insecticide, and fungicide control laws.

The 7th edition follows the general plan of the preceding edition with 40 chapters, each devoted to analytical methods within a specific field, i.e., Oils, Fats, and Waxes, coloring matters, vitamins, etc. The decimal system of subdividing each procedure within a chapter, providing a ready and convenient reference, as adopted in the 6th edition, is continued, as is the practice of including at the end of each chapter a selected list of references designed to show as far as possible the original work on which the methods are based. A 41st chapter contains 82 pages of readily available reference tables.

The change in the title of the 7th edition reflects the action of the Association in deleting the "tentative" classification used in previous editions. In the 7th edition methods are designated "official," indicating final adoption, or "first action," indicating first adoption. First adoption of a method constitutes notice to all interested that the method is well on

its way to final adoption and permits a last chance for critical comment before final approval and official status are granted. This change in no way affects the constitutional requirements of the Association that "before adoption methods be supported by collaborative studies by capable analysts that demonstrate the methods to be accurate and reproducible."

Other changes in the 7th edition include elimination of obsolete procedures, modification and improvement of existing procedures, and inclusion of additional procedures in almost all chapters and especially in the chapter on "Economic Poisons." As formerly, purchasers of the book are provided with the opportunity to purchase reprints of reports of changes in the methods as they are adopted up to the year of the printing of the next edition.

The many workers who have found previous editions of invaluable aid in their work will welcome the appearance of the 7th edition. High praise is due to the Editorial Committee for the present edition and to the hosts of unknown collaborators whose combined efforts have really created this volume of outstanding merit.

ROBERT T. O'CONNOR
Southern Regional Research Laboratory
New Orleans, Louisiana

PHARMACEUTICAL EMULSIONS AND EMULSIFYING AGENTS, by Lawrence M. Spalton, B. Pharm., London (Chemical Publishing Company, Brooklyn, N. Y., 132 pages, 1950, \$3.75). This small and compact volume is an American edition of a publication by an English author. It will be useful primarily as a handbook for pharmacists and others in related fields who are more or less frequently concerned with the formulation and preparation of emulsions for practical purposes. Since the book is frankly designed to consider emulsions almost exclusively from the viewpoint of practical applications, the theory and chemistry of emulsions are given only very brief treatment. The treatment of these phases of the subject is therefore over-simplified; in addition, some inaccuracies which cannot be charged to oversimplification are present, which perhaps do not seriously impair the usefulness of the volume for those who are interested in the art rather than the theory.

A further indication of the nature of the volume is given by the titles and lengths of the chapters, which are as follows:

- I. How emulsions are formed, 6 pages.
- II. Emulsifying agents, 21 pages.
- III. Formulation and preparation of emulsions (including several illustrations), 21 pages.
- IV. Emulsifying agents in practice, 49 pages.
- V. Preparation and storage of emulsions and similar products, 5 pages.
- VI. Is a preservative necessary and what preservative should be used? 4 pages.

In addition, the volume contains a quite complete classified index (23 pages), which alphabetically lists commercial emulsifying agents and other materials used in emulsions, gives their composition, chemical name or formula, indicates their uses, and in some cases gives the name of the manufacturer. Forty-two manufacturers of various materials used in emulsions are listed also in a separate alphabetical index.

W. O. LUNDBERG
Hormel Institute
Austin, Minnesota

To Name Fritzsche Award Winner

Nominations for the Fritzsche Award, administered by the American Chemical Society, are being received by Alden H. Emery, executive secretary. This is given annually for outstanding achievement in the field of essential oils and related products involving analysis, research, or new applications of such materials. Deadline for nominations is June 1. Mr. Emery's address is 1155 16th street N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

Recommend Increase

Vitamin A content of oleomargarine will be increased to 15,000 units per pound if the Food and Drug Administration considers favorably proposals to amend the standard, as suggested by the National Association of Margarine Manufacturers and Best Foods Inc. NAMM has asked to have the word margarine recognized as a legal synonym for oleomargarine. The present minimum content of vitamin A is 9,000 units.

Pan American Gives Fellowships

The Pan American Refining Corporation will continue its policy of granting study fellowships during 1951-52. Selected institutions are University of Illinois, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Rice Institute for chemical engineering, and the University of Texas and University of Oklahoma for chemistry. Information may be obtained from C. B. Gale, PARC, 122 E. 42nd street, New York City 17.

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