In any such compendium much must necessarily be omitted and the material that is included requires careful selection to avoid serious gaps. Dr. Smart has quite consistently passed over all reference to groups that are of zoological interest only, which means, of course, that the greater part of the book deals with the Diptera. Aside from insects, there are several short accounts of some other arthropods, mainly mites and ticks.

Although this book was prepared and printed in England, under the most trying conditions and undoubtedly in considerable haste, the material is singularly well selected, carefully prepared and beautifully printed on first-class paper. It may be heartily recommended, especially to entomologists overseas as a brief, practical aid in the identification of disease-bearing insects. The one really serious defect is the very incomplete and wholly inadequate index.

CHARLES T. BRUES

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CHEMISTRY OF ORGANIC MEDICINAL PRODUCTS

The Chemistry of Organic Medicinal Products. By GLENN L. JENKINS and WALTER H. HARTUNG. Second edition. vi + 675 pp. John Wiley and Sons, Inc., New York; Chapman and Hall, Ltd., London. October, 1943. $5\frac{3}{4} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ in. $6.50. Bound in dark-red cloth.

THAT a second edition of this book should appear only two years after the first one (reviewed in SCIENCE, n.s., 96, 516; December 4, 1942), indicates that there is a considerable demand for a compact yet comprehensive treatment of this exceedingly interesting and rapidly expanding field, and that this particular work has met with favor.

On the material side, the new edition differs from the old in being printed instead of planographed, and bound in cloth in place of stiff paper. To provide space for the supplementary information given, including a wholly new chapter on "Some Physicochemical Properties of Medicinal Products," over 200 pages have been added. The former text has been thoroughly revised and some chapters completely rewritten.

In other respects, the book remains much the same, and should prove helpful to both chemists and medical men who wish to refresh their memories on the older drugs and learn something about the newer ones, for it includes methods of preparation, properties, uses and modes of administration.

MARSTON TAYLOR BOGERT

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ORGANIC CHEMISTRY

Laboratory Practice of Organic Chemistry. By G. ROSS ROBERTSON. x + 369 pp. Illustrated. Macmillan Company. 1943. $2.50.

THE author has presented an excellent laboratory manual for the beginning organic chemistry student. Part I, containing chapters 1–16, introduces the most thorough and clearly organized theoretical development the reviewer has seen in any organic laboratory manual. The thorough drilling in the theory and techniques of the elementary laboratory practice should help to eliminate the "cook-book" chemist in the majority of beginning organic students.

Part II introduces detailed instructions for fifty-nine typical and well-selected experiments in organic chemistry. The experiments are designed to cover both the aliphatic and aromatic series, and experiments may be chosen from both series to be applied to a one-semester course primarily for premedical students.

The reviewer feels this revised edition is one of the best beginning organic laboratory manuals available.

ROBERT G. LINVILLE

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MATHEMATICAL PHYSICS

Methoden der Mathematischen Physik. By R. COURANT and D. HILBERT. 2 volumes. Interscience Press. By permission of the Alien Property Custodian. $8.00 each; $14.00 the pair.

THE two volumes by Courant and Hilbert are already widely known among mathematicians and physicists for their clarity, rigor and breadth of view. They constitute an outstanding source of material on expansion methods and partial differential equations. American mathematical physics will be benefited both during the war and after by having them available at a greatly reduced price.

American mathematics is being further served by the republication, also under authority of the Alien Property Custodian, of such other standard works as Doetsch, "Theorie und Anwendung der Laplace-Transform" (Dover); Frank-von Mises, "Differential und Integralgleichungen der Mechanik und Physik" (Rosenberg); Hilbert-Bernays, "Grundlagen der Mathematik" (Edwards); Jahnke-Emde, "Funktionentafeln mit Formeln und Kurven" (Stechert, Dover); Kellogg, "Potential Theory" (Murray); von Neumann, "Mathematische Grundlagen der Quantenmechanik" (Dover); Peters, "Siebenstellige Werte der Trigonometrischen Funktionen" (Edwards); van der Waerden, "Moderne Algebra" (Ungar).

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