

instructions, including such topics as calibration of thermometers, distillation, crystallization, and qualitative analysis of organic compounds. There are 92 experiments which are well distributed over the whole field of organic chemistry. In each experiment reference is made to the "Outlines" and each is followed by a number of questions.

Prominence is given, both in the introduction and also throughout the book to precautions against fire and personal injury. For its size the book contains much chemistry, clearly and attractively presented. It is admirably adapted to the purpose for which it is intended.

In the preface there is a fine tribute from the junior author to the achievements and character of Professor Moore who was loved by his students and admired by a wide circle of readers.

E. EMMET REID

**Pharmaceutical and Medical Chemistry.**

SAMUEL P. SADTLER, PH.D., LL.D., VIRGIL COBLENTZ, PH.D., F.C.S. and JEANNOT HOSTMANN, PH.G. J. P. Lippincot Company, Philadelphia and London, 1927. Sixth edition, revised and rewritten by Freeman P. Stroup, PH.M. xv + 748 pp. 15 X 23 cm. \$7.00.

The book opens with fifty pages of theoretical introduction in which most of the definitions and principles of general chemistry are given in a strictly didactic way. This method is not the one generally followed in modern texts and in the judgment of the reviewer is not sound pedagogically, although for certain practical ends it has some advantages.

The author states that "while intended primarily as a textbook for the use of students in pharmaceutical chemistry, previous editions have had considerable value as reference books by pharmacists, students in medical colleges, physicians and others." Altogether we believe the book to be much better as a reference work than as a text, especially that part covering the fundamental principles of

chemistry now generally recognized as part of the course in general chemistry. Presentation of facts in great detail overshadows to a considerable extent the orderly development of the science.

An idea of the great mass of facts presented in the book may be gotten from the statement that more than four hundred acids are named and most of them discussed at least briefly.

The book is well prepared mechanically and the index is quite complete, although such terms as atomic number, amphoteric and solubility product are omitted from it.

As a handy book for the desk of the busy pharmacist, physician, dentist or nurse, it will serve a most useful purpose.

WORTLEY F. RUDD

**The Romance of the Atom.** BENJAMIN HARROW. Boni and Liveright, New York City, First edition, 1927. iv + 157 pp. 12.2 X 18.4 cm., eight photographs, twelve figures. \$1.50.

It is the purpose of this book to give in popular language the history of our knowledge of atoms and of atomic structure. This occupies the first eleven chapters. This much of the book is exceedingly well done for it gives a very good account of the historical development of modern ideas of atoms and ends with a very clear statement of Langmuir's static-atom picture. If the author had stopped at the end of the eleventh chapter, the book would have been smaller by 25 pages, but it would have been incomparably more coherent. The three remaining chapters, entitled Science and Life: The Origin of Life; Science and Life: The Application of Science; and Science and Life: The Scientist as Citizen, have nothing whatever to do with the subject matter of the rest of the book. Irrespective of how well these three chapters may have been written, the reviewer cannot see any excuse for incorporating them in the book. The style of the book is especially clear and interesting, and the author has successfully