

BOOK REVIEW

SUPPLEMENT 1960 TO THE PHARMACOPOEIA OF INDIA. PUBLISHED BY THE
MANAGER OF PUBLICATIONS, CIVIL LINES, DELHI, 1960.
PP. XXIII PLUS 91.

In view of the rapid development and usage of newer and newer drugs, the publication of a supplement to the Indian Pharmacopoeia was a long felt need.

The supplement includes eighty seven new monographs and deletes three monographs, namely, *Chinesis*, *Extractum Chinensis Liquidum* and *Tinct. Chinensi*. Six monographs of the Indian Pharmacopoeia have been amended. They are *Antitoxinum Welchicum*, *Injectio Proteini Hydrolysis*, *MeI*, *Paraffin Liquidum*, *Pyroxilinum* and *Vaccinum Pestis Formolysatum*.

The change in the test for the limit of carbonisable substances is a desired one as it would eliminate the use of coloured glasses, which are sometimes difficult to obtain.

For the first time the classification of drugs on the basis of therapeutic uses has been introduced.

Some of the new monographs on antibiotics are *Benzathine Penicillin*, *Erythromycin*, *Oxytetracycline*, *Tetracycline*; *Antazoline Hydrochloride*, *Diphenhydramine Hydrochloride* belong to antihistamin group; *Chloroquine Phosphate* and *Glycobiarsol* are included under antiprotozoal drugs; hormone preparations are represented by *Hydrocortisone*, *Hydrocortisone Acetate*, *Prednisone*, *Prednisolone*, *Corticotrophin* and three preparations of *Insulin-Insulin Zinc suspension*, *Insulin Zinc Suspension amorphus* and *Insulin Zinc Suspension crystalline*. Amongst the diuretics *Mercaptomerin Sodium* and *Acetazolamide* are mentioned. *Chlorpromazine Hydrochloride* and *Reserpine* belong to tranquilliser group. An additional monograph on cholera vaccine prepared from the organisms grown on liquid medium has also been included.

The appendix on Biological Assays includes *Corticotrophin*, *Erythromycin*, *Formolysed Cholera Vaccine* and *Oxytetracycline*.

The members of the Indian Pharmacopoeia Committee and those of the various sub-committees deserve congratulations for the preparation of this supplement which will be very useful to all those who are concerned with drug control.

R. G. T.