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**Physical Chemistry for Premedical Students.** *John Page Amsden.* McGraw-Hill Book Co., New York. Second Edition. 1950. 317 pp. \$4.25.

This publication is the second edition of a text prepared for use in a one semester physical chemistry course for premedical students. It includes a very brief and simplified presentation of only those phases of physical chemistry which the author believes are most valuable to the medical student: the states of matter (including colloids) and their properties, solutions and their properties, chemical equilibrium and speed of reaction, thermodynamics, and oxidation and reduction. The content of the book is too limited to provide a satisfactory training in physical chemistry for students preparing for research in biological fields. However, the material which has been included should provide instructive and most interesting reading for the average premedical student.

The major changes made in the preparation of the second edition are the inclusion of a brief chapter on thermodynamics and a complete revision of the discussion of protolytic equilibrium. The book is well organized and written. Sample problems with detailed solutions illustrate each new concept introduced in the text. Each chapter is followed by additional problems suitable for homework assignments. Demonstration and instruction aids for the teacher are given throughout the book. The author presents many desirable examples of the application of physical chemical principles in the explanation of physiological processes which clearly indicate the importance of a working knowledge of physical chemistry to the premedical student.

The reviewer agrees with the author in his claim that a course in physical chemistry belongs in the program of the premedical student. Realizing that the program is already crowded with required courses, the author therefore limited the material as much as was consistent with an adequate presentation of the elementary principles of the subject.

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