

pharmacopœia such medicines shall be ordered under their principal pharmacopœial titles according to which they are arranged alphabetically in the body of that book.

So important is this phase of that question that everything within reason should be done to promote a favorable attitude toward the pharmacopœia among the physicians, and we should avoid doing anything that may operate against it.

There are already in our pharmacopœia some titles which have had an unfavorable effect in the direction referred to.

A number of physicians of the highest standing declare that they have not found it difficult to master the long titles recently introduced and that they are pleased with them. Others use them under protest. Still others, of equally high professional standing, say that they are too busy to seriously consider any proposition that they learn and use a new style of prescription writing different from that to which they are accustomed. They will not lay aside their present way of writing until after it shall have been demonstrated that the public welfare, medical science, and the welfare of their patients will be promoted by the change proposed.

There are countries in which the government can introduce mandatory regulations which will be at once obeyed without question; but in America an order to the physicians that they must use one name but not another in writing their prescriptions would meet with derision.

If we have done aught to hinder a more free use of the pharmacopœia by the doctors let us by all means seek to mend the damage by henceforth pursuing an opposite course.

The pharmacopœia and its full and free recognition and use are so important to the American Pharmaceutical Association and to all pharmacists that a special section to be called THE SECTION ON THE PHARMACOPOEIA should be at once created. Such a section is of greater importance than any other and we should have started it earlier. I wish to freely confess my share of responsibility for the strange omission.

The Pharmacopœia should no longer be a side issue of some other Section.

CHOCOLATE CHACHETS.

FRANKLIN M. APPLE, PH. G.

Every pharmacist who has a clientèle of prescribing physicians, undoubtedly has been called upon at times to devise ways and means whereby the physician could administer medicaments in a diplomatic manner, so as to overcome the objections of the patient to the older forms of medication, and at the same time give to the patient the full dose of remedial agents indicated. This trouble is usually encountered in children, who are petted by their parents, making it necessary for the physician to resort to unsuspected forms of medication.

A modern motto reads as follows: "A diplomat is one who conceals a lump of sugar in each lemon he hands out," but in the form of medication to be de-

scribed the above motto should be reversed for the sweetening portion of it is on the outside—in fact constitutes the greater percentage of the finished product.

Having encountered an exceptionally obstinate child, who was in need of a hepatic stimulant, a physician appealed to us for assistance in devising a pleasing form of medicine to meet the case. The first resort was to chocolate marshmallow drops into which the drugs were carefully introduced, taking care to leave no traces of the work done upon the confection, but this did not appeal very greatly to the patient, hence we were compelled to search further for our diplomatic ally. The reward for our experiments and trials was discovered in the form of what are known to the confectionery trade as Ceylon Wafers. These are small discs, flat upon one side, and rounded upon the other side, made of sweetened, flavored chocolate.

The discs were carefully hollowed out into a cachet-like container, into one of which the drugs were carefully placed. Another disc was then coated with heated chocolate syrup or Mucilage of Acacia and placed upon the drug-laden disc, when they were sealed together smoothly—the finished product showing no evidences of the deception to be played upon the unsuspecting objectors to medication for their ills.

These cachets were readily taken by the patients to whom they were administered, with the desired results. Certainly this form of administering drugs will not permit of bulky doses or unpleasant tasting drugs, but from our experience, it offers a method of combating unruly patients, who have a fondness for chocolate sweets.

The neatest products will result if the discs are carefully selected, so that they are of one size, and in warm weather, if rubber finger tips are worn so as not to dim the luster of the exterior of the cachets.

A FEW PRACTICAL HINTS.

LOUIS SCHULZE.

SOL. MAGNESIUM CITRATE.—Having strong faith in sterilization as a preventative of the formation of fungus growths in solutions of chemicals, for somewhat over a year we have prepared this solution by heating the distilled water to the boiling point for about half an hour, then adding the magnesium carbonate and citric acid; after the reaction has ceased, bottle while still hot, add the potassium carbonate and cork securely.

Thus we have been able to obtain a perfectly clear solution which remains so until the lot prepared at one time (usually one dozen) has been dispensed; since using this method we have found our sales of this popular remedy have increased, hence have come to the conclusion that there must be some improvement in the method that makes the final product more acceptable to the trade.

CHALK MIXTURE.—Time being a valuable consideration to the busy pharmacist, some few years ago we conceived the idea of adding to the Compound Chalk Powder an amount of oil of cinnamon equivalent to the amount contained