

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF PHARMACEUTICAL RESEARCH

Compiled by A. G. DuMez, Reporter on the Progress of Pharmacy.

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Anon

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PHARMACEUTICAL ANALYSIS IN HOSPITAL PHARMACIES OF CHINA.

BY JOHN CAMERON.*

Two recent articles by Wulling¹ and Swain² in the JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION on the results of their analysis of medicinal preparations, purchased in retail drug stores in Minnesota and Maryland, suggested to the writer that there is another avenue of drug supplies which sometimes requires watching. We refer to the wholesale chemical and drug supplies which come to the various pharmacies from their wholesale dealers. Having had many years' experience in retail pharmacy in Great Britain and overseas we realize that it is well nigh impossible in a busy pharmacy to check up the purity and strength of all chemicals and drugs purchased for use in the compounding of prescriptions. It would be interesting to know of retail pharmacies where the majority of the items purchased from the wholesale houses were subjected to analysis to ascertain if they were up to the standard required by the U. S. Pharmacopœia.

It is perhaps different with the hospital pharmacist. He should have time (or take time) to analyze most of the chemicals and drugs which come to his pharmacy from the wholesale houses. During our tour of the United States in 1925 we were certainly impressed with the amount of routine analysis which was carried out in most of the hospital pharmacies visited. Might we suggest that some of these pharmacists should publish their analytical results—in many cases they would be very interesting and instructive.

In China we have for many years systematically checked by analysis most of our shipments of chemicals and drugs.

We say shipments because all of our chemicals and most of our drugs come to us here from abroad. We receive supplies from the world's markets—sometimes purchasing in New York, sometimes in Paris, or again it may be London. Occasionally we have purchased in Tokio.

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¹ *Jour. A. Ph. A.*, August 1927, pp. 722-724.

² *Ibid.*, same issue as foregoing, pp. 724-726.