

EDITORIAL NOTES

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THE RECIPE BOOK.

As will be seen from the Council Minutes and the Report of the Publication Committee the "A. PH. A. Recipe Book" is now in the hands of the printer. Pharmacists everywhere will welcome the Book because the formulas are not haphazard, but tried.

On account of ASSOCIATION matter it is necessary to abridge some of the Departments of this issue of the JOURNAL.

NEW AND NONOFFICIAL REMEDIES.

PLASMOCHIN—PRELIMINARY REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON PHARMACY AND CHEMISTRY.

The Council has authorized publication of the following statement.

W. A. PUCKNER, *Secretary*.

Plasmochin is a synthetic quinoline derivative, developed in Germany and proposed for use in the treatment of malaria. For many years attempts have been made to find a substitute for quinine that would be cheaper, less bitter, less toxic and more specific than the natural drug. Plasmochin appears at least to represent a step forward in this search, though it is by no means a full solution of the problem of eradicating malaria. It is said to act by destroying some of the forms of the malarial parasite and by inhibiting the development of others.

Reports have been published on the use of Plasmochin in malaria produced in canaries, and some clinical trials have been reported. All of this work seems honest, efficient and well controlled. No overstatements of over-enthusiasms appear anywhere, except possibly in the papers by Prof. P. Mühlens of Hamburg. Professor Mühlens mentions cyanosis and

gastralgia as toxic symptoms in man when large doses of Plasmochin are used. But Dr. P. Manson-Bahr states (*Brit. M. J.*, March 12, 1927, p. 466) that cyanosis, due apparently to the production of methemoglobin in the blood, may occur less in some sensitive human beings on a dose of the drug less than that necessary to affect the malarial parasites. Manson-Bahr also states that in man the effective dose of Plasmochin causes the appearance of urobilinogen in the urine for several days. All of the observers, both of man and birds, appear to agree that:

1. The new drug is most effective on the quartan forms of malarial parasite.

2. In certain malaria a combination of the new drug with quinine (in dosage of 0.01 Gm. of Plasmochin and 0.125 Gm. of quinine sulphate) is more effective than Plasmochin alone.

3. As shown by Dr. Roehl's work on bird malaria, Plasmochin, in this animal, is sixty times more effective than quinine.

It should be pointed out that results derived from the study of bird malaria have chiefly a suggestive value, and that in view of previous disappointing results from widely heralded new drugs, further clinical study must precede any really optimistic estimate of this drug's therapeutic value in human beings.

Plasmochin is manufactured by the I. G. Farbenindustrie Aktiengesellschaft, Germany. In the German publications, Plasmochin is somewhat indefinitely stated to be an alkyl-amino-6-methoxyquinoline salt. The Winthrop Chemical Company states that it has imported a considerable quantity of the drug in the form of tablets for clinical trial on a large scale by American investigators; the packages

of these tablets bear as a synonym for Plasmochin the somewhat more definite chemical term, ethylaminoquinolinetannate. The Council asked the Winthrop Chemical Company to furnish a supply of the drug itself so that standards which shall assure the identity and uniformity of the product may be established. The firm replied that it would endeavor to secure the requested specimen from the manufacturer in Germany, but that the product when placed on the market in this country will be manufactured here.

The Council has authorized the publication of the preceding statement in response to requests for information regarding Plasmochin, and has postponed further consideration until clinical evidence concerning the efficacy, safety and dosage of the product is available. The Council, however, at this time calls attention to the fact that the name chosen for the compound, Plasmochin, has a certain degree of therapeutic significance instead of indicating, as it properly should, merely the chemical composition of the product. A list of references to Plasmochin is appended.

H. Hoerlein: Ueber die chemischen Grundlagen und die Entwicklungsgeschichte des Plasmochins, *Naturwissenschaften* **14**, 1154-1156 (Nov. 26) 1926.

H. Hoerlein: Plasmochin, *Beihfte zum Arch. f. Schiffs- u. Tropen-Hyg.* **30**, 3, 1926.

W. Roehl: Die Wirkung des Plasmochins auf die Vogelmalária, *Naturwissenschaften* **14**, 1156-1159 (Nov. 26) 1926.

W. Roehl: Die Wirkung des Plasmochins auf die Vogelmalária, *Beihfte zum Arch. f. Schiffs- u. Tropen-Hyg.* **30**, 3, 1926.

P. Mühlens: Die Behandlung der natürlichen menschlichen Malariainfektionen mit Plasmochin, *Naturwissenschaften* **14**, 1162-1166 (Nov. 26) 1926.

P. Mühlens: Die Behandlung der natürlichen menschlichen Malariainfektionen mit Plasmochin, *Beihfte zum Arch. f. Schiffs- u. Tropen-Hyg.* **30**, 3, 1926.

F. Sioli: Prüfung des Plasmochins der Impfmalaria der Paralytiker, *Naturwissenschaften* **14**, 1160-1162 (Nov. 26) 1926.

F. Sioli: Plasmochin, *Beihfte zum Arch. f. Schiffs- u. Tropen-Hyg.* **30**, 3, 1926.

Synthetic Remedy for Malaria, Berlin Letter, *Jour. A. M. A.*, Oct. 23, 1926, p. 1408.

Plasmochin, the Malaria Remedy, Berlin Letter, *Jour. A. M. A.*, Nov. 20, 1926, p. 1758.

Manson-Bahr, Plasmochin and Malaria, Reports, Royal Society of Medicine; *Brit. M. J.* **1**, 466 (March 12) 1927.

The Treatment of Malaria, editorial, *Brit. M. J.* **1**, 484 (March 12) 1927.

Plasmochin, editorial, *Lancet* **1**, 684 (March 26) 1927.

STATE PHARMACY REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS.

A comprehensive report before the recent meeting of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy detailed the registration requirements. Relative to legislation the following is quoted:

"Forty-four (44) States now have high-school graduation in force or to become in

force either by law or ruling of Board or by virtue of requiring graduation from recognized schools or colleges of pharmacy which require high-school graduation for entrance to courses.

"Thirty-five (35) States now have provisions in force or to become in force for college of pharmacy training—all, excepting four, Iowa, Minnesota, Michigan and Nebraska, require graduation. The first three of the exceptions named provide for two years of attendance at a college of pharmacy but not graduation. Under the two-year college course this usually meant graduation, but not so under the present three-year course. Nebraska will require one year of college of pharmacy training beginning January 1, 1930.

"California, District of Columbia, and Wisconsin enacted laws this year—1926-27—requiring graduation. Delaware enacted a law which appears to be inconsistent and discriminatory in that it allows Delaware applicants to take examinations and become registered as pharmacists on four years of drug-store experience, provided they have resided in that State for five years prior to applying for and taking examination, while applicants who have not resided in Delaware for at least five years are required to be college graduates.

"In Colorado, South Dakota and Texas, college prerequisite legislation was defeated."

NATIONAL CERTIFICATE FOR BOARDS OF PHARMACY.

While no definite action was taken relative to a National Certificate, progress has been made by further study of a plan or plans which will eventually lead to a form of certificate which will serve a good purpose for Registered Pharmacists and also help to establish a higher level of professional proficiency in pharmacy.

LIGGETT COMPANY SUIT DISMISSED.

The L. K. Liggett Company began an action in the United States Supreme Court in Philadelphia alleging that the Pennsylvania Ownership Law had abridged the Company's Constitutional rights and should be declared null and void. The Judges held that standing in Court would require violation of some provision of the new law, which would subject the Company to attack by the State of Pennsylvania. On agreement based on this ruling the action of the Liggett Company was thrown out of Court.