

during the last two years, and lately Mr. Roon has taken up the study. We see the results of it at this moment. Our old fashioned notions about emulsions are bound to be revised, and one of the most interesting things in that connection is that I have been teaching for years that carron oil is an insoluble soap. It never occurred to me to figure out the proportions. I just took the statement of other people.

C. P. WIMMER.—Some years ago I happened to come across an address given before a society of German apothecaries, the Charlottenburg Institute of Pharmacy, by Prof. Thoms, who pointed out some of the practical applications of colloid chemistry to pharmacy. I then started to study colloid chemistry, and found it a field of tremendous possibilities for the practical pharmacist. You have simply to scratch the surface, and there opens a door of new possibilities that are simply unlimited. The trouble is that you must know higher mathematics, which pharmacists, as a rule, do not know. You also must know physiological chemistry well, if you want to do the work thoroughly. Nevertheless, there is no reason why, as we progress, we should not take up this kind of work. Mr. Roon has taken up the manufacture of emulsions. I have been studying viscosity. When I am through with my work, I hope to bring some new facts before you. This work of Mr. Roon shows what can be done. Such work will do more to elevate us in the eyes of scientists, than anything else we could undertake.

L. F. KEBLER.—Some years ago, there was brought before me a product which was sold as lanolin hydrate. The belief being that it was not lanolin, but a mixture of lanolin and petrolatum, I examined it, and could not satisfy myself that it was not pure lanolin; but I referred it back to the chemist, and we finally found that it was a mixture of petrolatum and lanolin. It would mix in all proportions with water, just as the ordinary lanolin does. It is important that the chemist be well qualified to meet extraordinary conditions. In this case, all pharmacopeial methods for identifying the product were unsatisfactory, and it was necessary to establish new methods by which the presence of the adulterant could be established. That required much investigation relative to saponification, emulsification and solubility, as well as all the conditions under which they occur. We finally did establish the presence of the adulterant.

J. U. LLOYD.—Except in eclectic literature, I have made no publications on these lines since 1885. I have been constantly at work since then, however, and have never been discouraged. I agree with our young friend that we have in this field of pharmacy the greatest opportunity that has come to us within the century. It is our field, and we should take advantage of our opportunity. When Dr. Emil Fischer, in Cincinnati, gave a lecture last winter, on emulsions, I was present; and in the discussion, I said that I regretted the fact that from outside of pharmacy had come that study of emulsions. I thought that it was our field. It requires no expensive apparatus; but the apothecary behind the prescription case could, with the addition of a microscope to the ordinary conveniences of a prescription case, accomplish as much as a man in the laboratory.

I remember well the instructions given me by my old preceptor, Geo. Eger, fifty-four years ago, on the subject of the making of emulsions. Generally the rule is applicable, not only to one, but to all, and I believe that it will work as perfectly to-day as it did a half a century ago. If you use it you will find that you first make a watery emulsion in oil, which then turns to an oily emulsion in water. After the emulsion is made, any alcoholic constituent that may be prescribed is added. Sugar is to be added finally. Then you will have an emulsion that will pass the test.

Let me congratulate this society on this paper. Pharmacy is coming into its own. Structural chemistry will still have its place. It need not, and should not be brushed aside; but the study of these substances and their actions on each other, such as class attraction, structural attraction, cohesion, adhesion, etc., is bound to be recognized. These actions all deal with pharmacy in our plant life and animal life.

## U. S. P. AND N. F. PROPAGANDA.\* A PRACTICAL SUGGESTION.

BY EMIL ROLLER.

The question often arises among pharmacists, "Why is it that the physician

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\* Read before Section on Practical Pharmacy and Dispensing, A. Ph. A., Atlantic City meeting, 1916.

in general makes so little use of the galenical preparations of the U. S. P. and N. F.?" To get a satisfactory answer to this timely and most important question, all guessing and sophisticating will be futile on the part of the pharmacist. To get at the bottom of this fact (or evil) one has to interrogate the physician himself to find out why he resorts more to the special formulas of manufacturers than to the official ones: By not only asking one or two, but by the score, one will invariably get the answer that he has not the time to make himself acquainted with these two official books, because they are too voluminous. He is interested more in clinical work, he is looking for cases, and therefore the manufacturer supplies him with the special formulae for the particular cases, that come within his treatment. Furthermore, if he wants the effects of a special alkaloid, salt or botanical drug, he specifies the dose and vehicle himself, thus making the vast number of elixirs of both official standards unnecessary. This is the case also with many liquors, etc.

The important question now is, "How can this evil be remedied?" Shall all this valuable work of able brains and sacrifice of time and labor be only destined to that limited use it enjoys now or can it be handed to the medical men-at-large in a better and more "attractive form," to induce the physician to take advantage of our professional aid handed over to him in such reliable form as the U. S. P. and N. F. represent? According to my experience it must be done differently than at present. There must be a different edition for the medical practitioner, more concise, leaving out all working formulae intended for the druggist, which do not interest him, also tests of purity and identity should be omitted, neither should the grouping in alphabetical form be adhered to, for him the arrangement according to indications is only of importance. For instance, if he has a certain case and wants to know what official preparation he can use and can look in the "Pharmacopoeial and National Formula Guide" or some otherwise titled reference book, where the diseases are alphabetically listed, to select his choice, with formula and dose and quantities of each dose, he surely will make more use of our standards than now.

If we consider ourselves in the position of a busy practitioner, we would appreciate such a helpful "Vade Mecum" very much, while at present it really can not be expected of him to dig out just what he needs out of these two rather voluminous books, suitable for him in each particular case.

The compilation of such a condensed, instructive and practically arranged side edition for the physician would be most welcome to the medical world-at-large and made good use of.

Now with the completion of the Ninth Edition of the U. S. P. and N. F. IV, I think it would be proper to also publish such a "Vade Mecum" or whatever you may call it, for the physician's use, and it will immensely help to make these preparations popular with the medical men and thus bring pharmacists and physicians in closer contact than now predominates.

These suggestions, if heeded by the members of the A. Ph. A. and carried out in the above indicated, or a similar manner, will meet with great success, an object really desired by leading men in both professions. Let us hope for its realization.