

CLINICAL AND DIAGNOSTIC  
METHODS.

Grimbert, L., and Poirot, G.

**Detection of urobilin in the duodenal fluid***J. pharm. et chim.*, 29 (1924), 169

Rangier, J. M.

**Determination of uric acid in urine containing  
uric acid granules***Bull. Soc. Pharm. Bordeaux*, 61 (1923), 239

Wetselaar, G. A.

**Table for the determination of blood sugar***Pharm. Weekbl.*, 61 (1924), 213AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION BOOK OF UNOFFICIAL  
FORMULAS.

Chairman J. Leon Lascoff made an interesting report of progress on the A. Ph. A. Book of Unofficial Formulas before New York Branch, A. Ph. A., March 10. In his introductory remarks he emphasized that "it is absolutely necessary for every pharmacist to have a number of reference books; a pharmacy cannot be conducted without them. Formulas for unofficial preparations should be standardized just as those of the Pharmacopœia and National Formulary are," he said.

Stressing these points the Chairman added that, "not long ago, a pharmacist received notice from the District Attorney to appear and answer a charge of violation of the laws of 1906. The pharmacist did not remember violating any pharmacy laws and was very much concerned relative to what the alleged contravention of law might be." After conferring with him Chairman Lascoff called on a well-known lawyer, who resides in his neighborhood, and asked him whether he could give any information relative to the law without consulting his library. He also communicated with several other lawyers and not one of them could give definite information anent the violation with which the pharmacist was charged; each and every one of them advised that it was necessary to consult the law books before expressing an opinion. Chairman Lascoff made application of the foregoing to the practice of pharmacy by saying that a formula cannot be remembered, with certainty, and no attempt should be made to do so; books of reference should be consulted—these are as necessary for pharmacists as for lawyers.

In the continuation of his remarks Chairman Lascoff stated that there were quite a number of reference books published in Europe as companions to pharmacopœias. He cited as examples the "British Pharmaceutical Codex," "Squire's Companion to the British Pharmacopœia," "Dietrich's Manual" and "Hager's Pharmazeutische Praxis." He contended that if the British Pharmaceutical Codex could include formulas credited to the United States Pharmacopœia, then the proposed Recipe Book could also have formulas from foreign pharmacopœias. It is probably more necessary to have such references here than in Europe because more nationalities are represented in the citizenship of the United States. Many physicians who received their medical education and training abroad still prescribe according to the formulas of their native land, so it is necessary for the pharmacist to possess several foreign pharmacopœias,—the inclusion in the Recipe Book of the important formulas to be found in these standards is therefore a necessity.

"This book of unofficial formulas," Chairman Lascoff said, "should be con-

sidered a companion to the U. S. Pharmacopœia and National Formulary—a manual or handbook of reference for information concerning every type of useful formulas which the pharmacist may be called upon to prepare.” He then outlined the groups of formulas which will be included in the book, as follows: Formulas deleted from the U. S. Pharmacopœia and National Formulary, formulas of foreign pharmacopœias and formulas which are frequently prescribed or for which druggists could make propaganda efforts, various other formulas often named after their originators, scattered at present in pharmaceutical and medical journals, hospital formulas and other books; cosmetics, toilet preparations and perfumery; technical recipes as photographic solutions, battery fluids, insecticides, cleaning fluids, etc.; veterinary remedies, agricultural preparations, poultry foods and medicines; beverages, syrups, soda water, etc.

“The cost of such a book can be charged to overhead or equipment,” he said; “the expense will be justified in either place and it will come into use many times when formula questions arise. The pharmacist cannot do without a reference library any more than the physician and this Recipe Book will not only be of great value but indispensable.”

“The Recipe Book will preserve the formulas deleted in the revisions of the Pharmacopœia and the National Formulary. For many years after a preparation is deleted from these standards, pharmacists everywhere have calls for these deleted preparations. They also have prescriptions containing preparations of foreign pharmacopœias and a source of information must be had regarding them which this book will supply.”

Chairman Lascoff's report informs that “up to 1924, 714 formulas had been printed and since then other formulas have been sent out to members of the Committee. The number of these additional formulas is 55. There are then also the deletions from the Pharmacopœia and National Formulary but all of them need not be included in the Recipe Book, notably such preparations as extracts and fluidextracts, because few of them if any are made by the retail pharmacist. Comparatively few formulas have come in from retail pharmacists and this is disappointing because the formulas represented should be from every section of the country.”

Chairman Lascoff referred to preparations that are called for quite frequently in his pharmacy:

Wadsworth's Solution; Thiersch's Solution—*Liquor Boro-Salicylatus*; Kummerfeld's Cosmetic Lotion—*Aqua Cosmetica Kummerfeldi*; Ointment of Scarlet Red—several formulas; Yellow Astringent Eye Wash—*Collyrium Adstringens Luteum*; Modified Lassar's Paste—*Pasta Zinc Modificata*; White Lotion—*Lotio Alba*;<sup>\*</sup> Compound White Lotion—*Lotio Alba Composita*; Calamine Lotion—*Lotio Calaminæ*; Compound Calamine Lotion—*Lotio Calaminæ Composita*;<sup>\*</sup> Quinine Lotion (Eau de Quinine)—*Lotio Quininæ*; Witch Hazel Ointment—*Unguentum Hamamelidis*; Easton's Syrup—*Syrupus Ferri, Quininæ et Strychninæ Phosphatum*; Neutral Mixture—*Mistura Potassii Citratis*, U. S. P. VI; Mixture of Rhubarb and Soda—*Mistura Rhei et Sodæ*, U. S. P. VI.

The report of Chairman Lascoff was continued by giving a classification of the preparations thus far considered; they follow:

<sup>\*</sup> Every pharmacist seems to have a formula of his own.—J. L. L.

Acid, 1	Elixirs, 18	Liquids, 5	Putty, 1
Applications, 2	Essences, 4	Liquors, 10	Reagents, 11
Alcohol, 1	Excipient, 1	Lipsticks, 2	Remedies, 13
Antiseptics, 2	Extracts, 1	Lotions, 72	Rouges, 2
Balsams, 3	Face Powders, 4	Lutes, 3	Snuffs, 4
Baths, 5	Fire Extinguishers, 3	Lubricants, 3	Soaps, 4
Brilliantines, 2	Foot Powders, 5	Mixtures, 42	Solutions, 33
Capsules, 1	Flavoring Extracts, 19	Mass, 1	Soda Fountain Requi- sites, 30
Cements, 8	Fluids, 6	Moth Destroyers and Repellants, 12	Spirits, 4
Cerates, 4	Gargles, 6	Mouth Washes, 6	Stains, 10
Collodion, 1	Gelatins, 2	Mucilages, 3	Suppositories, 7
Collyria, 2	Glue, 1	Nascent Chemicals, 2	Syrups, 11
Confections, 1	Glycerins, 5	Oils, 11	Tablets, 16
Corn Remedies, 2	Glycerites, 5	Ointments, 46	Teas, 32
Creams, 10	Glyceroles, 5	Oleosacchara, 2	Tinctures, 44
Cleansers, 1	Gauze, 1	Paint Remover, 1	Tonics, 5
Deodorizers, 1	Headache Remedies, 2	Paints, 2	Tooth Powders, 13
Disinfectants, 1	Hydromel, 1	Pastes, 17	Treatment, 1
Drops, 3	Ices, 19	Pills, 6	Troches, 2
Dusting Powders, 18	Infusions, 4	Plugs, 2	Vinegars, 6
Dyes, 1	Inhalations, 3	Pomades, 2	Washes, 5
Dressings, 1	Injections, 2	Polishes, 8	Waters, 21
Emulsions, 12	Jellies, 2	Powders, 16	Waxes, 2
Enamels, 2	Lanolinents, 2	Pigments, 2	
Enemas, 3	Liniments, 11		

Chairman Lascoff in presenting his report exhibited about 100 preparations made according to formulas which were submitted. The value of this presentation was not only by the exhibit of the preparations properly made but also by showing preparations made after the same formulas but by different manipulation. In the one instance an imperfect preparation was produced and in the other a satisfactory one, this indicating the importance of accurate compounding; for example, following the formula, in a Salicylic Acid Mouth Wash the salicylic acid was precipitated, which was prevented by the addition of two more drachms of alcohol. These preparations were put up by Dr. Curt P. Wimmer, Dr. Robert P. Fischelis, and the Chairman. The latter presented 112 additional formulas; some of them had been called for in his pharmacy and some of them were copies of formulas from foreign pharmacopœias; these preparations were successfully compounded. Charts were shown bearing the formulas and the finished products were passed around to those in attendance. Difficulties that were met with in compounding were explained and some of the formulas were shown on the screen.

Chairman Lascoff introduced a letter sent out to the members of the Committee in which consideration of formulas was asked. He explained that 114 deletions were made from the National Formulary IV, and the names of these preparations were shown by slides. The Chairman concluded his report by stating that 714 formulas had been published, 112 new ones had been submitted to which must be added the deletions to be included from the Pharmacopœia and National Formulary. In his opinion the book of unofficial formulas will serve a large purpose, and in this opinion he is supported by the members of the American Pharmaceutical Association and pharmacists generally, here and abroad.