

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF PHARMACEUTICAL RESEARCH

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

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THE ANALYSIS OF NITROGLYCERIN TABLETS.

BY MEYER SAMSON.*

The following method for the analysis of nitroglycerin tablets is a modification of the Hay nitrite method as given in the "Methods of Analysis" of the Association of Official Agricultural Chemists. The purpose of these modifications is to avoid the following errors or inconveniences of the old method:

(a) Inconvenience of extraction:

The old method involves in the case of machine-made tablets the passing of a "mess" of starch granules from one separatory funnel to another. Refusal to pass through the stopcock and sticking to the sides of the funnel with resultant incomplete extraction are of frequent occurrence. This is now avoided by the use of chloroform in the extraction of the nitroglycerin.

(b) Incorrect standard:

The preparation of a standard nitrite solution from silver nitrite involves a nitrite loss of 1% to 2.5% as shown by Laird & Simpson (*J. A. C. S.*, Vol. XLI, page 531). This gives correspondingly high results in the analysis of nitroglycerin tablets. This error is avoided by standardizing the nitrite solution against permanganate as suggested by these authors (*Ibid.*, page 528).

PREPARATION OF SAMPLE.

Introduce 20 tablets directly into a 60-cc. glass-stoppered separatory funnel. Moisten with 5 cc. water and extract with 10 cc. chloroform. Pass the chloroform through a pledget of

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