EDITORIAL NOTES

NEW AND NONOFFICIAL REMEDIES.

The following additional articles have been accepted as conforming to the rules of the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry of the American Medical Association for admission to New and Nonofficial Remedies. A copy of the rules on which the Council bases its action will be sent on application.

W. A. PUCKNER, *Secretary.*

IODOXYBENZOATES.

Ortho-iodoxybenzoic acid (which contains two oxygen atoms bound to an iodine atom), iodosobenzoic acid (which contains one oxygen atom bound to an iodine atom) and iodobenzoic acid were first prepared by Victor Meyer and co-workers in 1892. Iodoxybenzoic acid resembles salicylic acid, chemically differing in that the hydroxyl group of the latter has been replaced by an iodoxy $\left(I\begin{matrix}=O\\=O\end{matrix}\right)$ group.

Actions and Uses.—The salts of iodoxybenzoic acid are indicated chiefly in arthritis. . . . .

Dosage.—Intravenously, 0.75 to 1 Gm. of the salts of iodoxybenzoic acid is dissolved in 100 cc. of sterile physiologic solution of sodium chloride. It should be administered by the gravity method, over a period of not less than seven or more than twelve minutes, followed by a small amount of the sterile sodium chloride solution, to minimize contact of the drug with the walls of the vein. A course of treatment is from five to ten injections, and the doses may be given twice a week. Orally, the dosage recommended is twice that of the intravenous method; for rectal administration a solution of two Gm. of the ammonium salt has been used.

Caution.—Salts of iodoxybenzoic acid are oxidizing substances, and will explode if overheated or exposed to a flame. To avoid slow decomposition, they should also be kept out of direct sunlight, and in a dry place.

AMIODOXYL BENZOATE.—Ammonium *o*-iodoxybenzoate.—$C_6H_4(IO_2)COONH_4$.—The ammonium salt of 2-iodoxybenzoic acid. The latter differs from ortho-hydroxybenzoic acid (salicylic acid) in that the hydroxy group is replaced by the iodoxyl $\left(I\begin{matrix}=O\\=O\end{matrix}\right)$ group. It contains 42.7 per cent of iodine.

Actions and Uses.—See preceding general article, Iodoxybenzoates.

Dosage.—See preceding general article, Iodoxybenzoates.

Amiodoxyl benzoate occurs as a white crystalline, odorless powder, with a slightly bitter taste; readily soluble in water, slightly soluble in alcohol, insoluble in benzene, ether, and most of the other commonly used organic solvents. An aqueous solution (1 in 20) when freshly prepared is colorless, and neutral to litmus.

Dissolve 0.1 Gm. in 5 cc. of water; add an excess of sulphurous acid; collect the resultant iodobenzoic acid on a filter, wash and dry at 105 C.; it melts at 160–162 C. Dissolve 1 Gm. in 20 cc. of cold water and divide in two portions; to one portion add 1 cc. of a neutral potassium iodide solution: 0.1 cc. of tenth-normal sodium thiosulphate solution should completely remove any iodine liberated in five minutes (*uncombined iodoxybenzoic acid*); to the other portion add 2 cc. of acetic acid: there should be no precipitate within five minutes (*iodosobenzoates*). Dissolve 1 Gm. in 50 cc. of water: separate portions of 10 cc. each yield a faint opalescence with 1 cc. of diluted nitric acid and 1 cc. silver nitrate solution (*halides*); a faint turbidity with 1 cc. of diluted hydrochloric acid and 1 cc. of barium chloride solution (*sulphates*); no marked coloration on the addition of 1 cc. ferric chloride solution (*salicylates*). An aqueous solution of the salt meets the requirements of the test for *heavy metals,* U. S. P. X. page 439.

Ignite cautiously about 1 Gm. accurately weighed, *previously* reduced by sulphurous acid in the presence of sulphuric acid: the residue should not exceed 0.1 per cent. Dry about 0.5 Gm., accurately weighed, for forty-eight hours over sulphuric acid in a partial vacuum; the loss in weight should not exceed 1 per cent. Transfer about 0.25 Gm. previously dried to constant

weight over sulphuric acid, accurately weighed, to a 500-cc. Erlenmeyer flask, dissolve in 50 cc. of cold water, add 2 Gm. of potassium iodide, followed by 10 cc. of acetic acid, covering with about 150 cc. of cold water, stoppering the flask, and allowing to stand in a cool, dark place for thirty minutes; titrate the liberated iodine with tenth-normal sodium thiosulphate solution, using starch paste as an indicator: the amount of tenth-normal sodium thiosulphate solution consumed corresponds to not less than 10.3 per cent, nor more than 10.8 per cent active oxygen. Transfer about 0.25 Gm., previously dried to constant weight over sulphuric acid, accurately weighed, to a bomb tube; determine the iodine content by the Carius method: the amount of iodine found should not be less than 42 per cent, nor more than 43 per cent.

Amiodoxyl Benzoate-Abbott.—A brand of amiodoxyl benzoate-N. N. R.

Manufactured by the Abbott Laboratories, North Chicago, Ill. U. S. patent applied for. No U. S. trade-mark.

EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE-SWAN-MYERS (See *Jour. A. M. A.*, April 16, 1927, p. 1235).

The following dosage form has been accepted:

Capsules Ephedrine Hydrochloride-Swan-Myers, 0.05 Gm.

EPHEDRINE SULPHATE (See *Jour. A. M. A.*, March 19, 1927, p. 925).

Ephedrine Sulphate-Abbott.—A brand of ephedrine sulphate-N. N. R.

Manufactured by the Abbott Laboratories, North Chicago Ill. No U. S. patent or trademark.

From *Jour. A. M. A.*, Sept. 24, 1927.

DIPHTHERIA TOXIN-ANTITOXIN MIXTURE (See New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1927, p. 340).

Parke, Davis & Company, Detroit.

Diphtheria Toxin-Antitoxin Mixture, 0.1 L +.—(See New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1927, p. 341.)—Also marketed in packages of 30 bulbs (*Bio. 68*) each containing 1 cc., representing ten immunizing treatments.

From *Jour. A. M. A.*, Oct. 1, 1927.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POTENT DRUGS.

The following is reprinted from the *Pharmaceutical Journal and Pharmacist*, of October 8, 1927; it is a summary of the observations of the Austrian, French and Dutch Governments upon the report of the International Conference for the unification of the formulæ of potent drugs which has been transmitted to the Society by the Privy Council Office:

AUSTRIA.

(A) *Names of Medicinal Substances.*—In many countries other varieties of aconite than *A. Napellus* are used, and the names of these aconites should be indicated in the pharmaceutical description; for example, Tinctura Aconiti Napelli, Tinctura Aconiti Ferocis. For belladonna no minimum, but a fixed alkaloid content; for example, 3 per cent should be required. Belladonna root also should appear in the table. For cantharides not only a minimum quantity, but a definite percentage of cantharidin should be required. Other varieties of digitalis than *Digitalis purpurea* should be admitted. The content of active principle should also be indicated. The requirements for *Hyoscyamus niger* do not include alkaloid content. The content of active principle in lobelia should be required. The strychnine content and not the total percentage of alkaloid should be given for *Strychmos Nux Vomica*. The requirements for strophanthus and ergot should include an indication of their content of active ingredient or their potency. The hydrastine content of Pulvis Hydrastidis should be given as a definite figure, and not as a minimum percentage. There is no requirement of content of active substance or potency laid down for Urginea Scilla and Cannabis Indica.

(B) It is agreed that the chemical control of the arsenobenzenes should be associated with biological control.

(C) It is suggested that to unify the methods of estimating potent drugs the proposed setting up of an international commission would not be so satisfactory as if the various Pharmacopœia Commissions were to study the questions first, and subsequently were to submit their findings to an international commission.

(D) To such a commission the findings of the Pharmacopœia Commissions of different States upon the possibilities of biological methods of testing might also be submitted.

FRANCE.

(A) *Opium.*—Rice starch should be employed in place of sugar and milk for adjusting strength.

(B) The description of "serum" should not be given to artificial solutions. It should be reserved for organic liquids separated by coagulation from blood or milk.

(C) *Doses.*—Adrenalin hydrochloride—substitute doses of 2 and 10 milligrams for doses of 1 and 4 milligrams proposed by the Convention. Ergot—substitute doses of 1000 and 6000 milligrams for those of 500 and 1500 milligrams proposed by the Convention. Phosphorus—substitute a dose of 2 milligrams in 24 hours in place of 3 milligrams. The doses of the following articles require

further examination: atropine sulphate; tincture extracts and leaves of belladonna; iodine; strychnine; tincture of strophanthus. A list of additional potent drugs for which a maximum dose should be fixed is given. Maximum doses for prolonged treatment should be given for phosphorus, digitalis, strychnine and atropine. Maximum doses should be given for other methods of administration than by the mouth. Rules should be agreed upon for fixing maximum doses for children.

HOLLAND.

(A) Of the different systems of nomenclature that in the Swedish Pharmacopœia is considered to be the best.

(B) The Kew Index, particularly in its Supplements, is not always clear upon scientific names.

(C) The proposed chemical nomenclature should be compared with that drawn up by the Union International de Chimie Pure et Appliquée.

PERSONAL AND NEWS ITEMS.

"Xrayser III," in *Chemist and Druggist* of October 15th, congratulates Prof. Henry George Greenish in the following:

"Congratulations to Professor Greenish, whose name appears as that of a prizeman in your Retrospect of fifty years ago (C. & D., October 8th, p. 470). During the half-century which has elapsed since his appearance as one of the most promising students of his year, he has got through a wonderful lot of work for the improvement of pharmaceutical education in this country. Before his time, students' textbooks dealing with drugs were largely collections of fairy tales which had been passed on by one author or compiler after another. That state of affairs has now been changed for the good, and for this we are mainly indebted to Professor Greenish, whose useful innings is, I trust, likely to be continued for a long time to come."

Fifty years ago, as a student, Professor Greenish was a prize-winner of his class in the British Pharmaceutical Society School of Pharmacy. He is an honorary member of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

Dr. A. T. Henry, director of the Wellcome Chemical Research Laboratories, London, was awarded the Hanbury medal this year. The medal is awarded periodically for "high excellence in the prosecution or promotion of original research in the chemistry and natural history of drugs." He delivered the inaugural address at the opening of the Pharmaceutical Society's School (his *Alma Mater*). The late Prof. John M. Maisch and Dr. Frederick B. Power were honored with the Hanbury medal.

The President and Mr. Marns have enjoyed from all accounts an interesting experience in Canada and the United States, according to the *Liverpool Evening Express*. At a complimentary dinner given in his honor Mr. Skinner received an enthusiastic "welcome home" from his admirers, and regaled them with some impressions of the lighter side of the tour.—See September JOURNAL, A. PH. A., p. 891.

The inauguration of the exhibition of souvenirs of Marcellin Berthelot at the Faculty of Pharmacy, Paris, took place on October 24th. Interesting accounts of the centenary of his birth have appeared in the press, chemical and foreign pharmaceutical publications. In the exhibit are many pieces of apparatus used by the great savant, his library, etc.

Pierre Eugene Marcellin Berthelot was born at Paris, Oct. 25, 1827; died there, March 18, 1907. He became professor in the École de Pharmacie in 1860. In later years, he was general inspector of higher education, a member of the Senate; and 1886–1887, he was Minister of Education.

The *Pharmazeutische Zentralhalle*, one of the best known German scientific pharmaceutical Journals, established by that master of pharmacy, Dr. Hermann Hager, in 1859, in its number of October 6, 1927, pp. 634 and 635, publishes a timely review of the YEAR BOOK, A. PH. A. for 1924, Vol. 13. The review was written by our fellow-member **Prof. Otto Raubenheimer** of Brooklyn. He concludes his review with the statements that the YEAR BOOK of the A. PH. A. not only contains abstracts but also monographs and working formulas, and that they can be justly called brothers or companions to the older "Jahresbericht der Pharmazie."

H. H. White has returned from a motor trip through England and Scotland and also attended the unveiling in Edinburgh of the American-Scottish Memorial.

William B. Day, former President and Secretary of the A. PH. A., recently spoke before Stark County Druggists' Association (Illinois) and during the same visit before Kewanee Rotary Club. The address to the latter dealt with the history of pharmacy and with the services rendered to the public by pharmacists