

EDITORIAL NOTES

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COÖPERATIVE LIBRARIES.

German publishers, voluntarily, are creating a 10,000,000-volume collection of books at Leipsic. In the United States the copyright law automatically builds up the Library of Congress, for with each application for copyright two copies of the books must be deposited. A movement is on foot looking toward coöperation of libraries in an intranational and international way.

The resources of the libraries, according to the Commissioner on Education, Dr. John J. Tigert, are to be distributed through a system of inter-library loans to readers and investigators in all parts of the U. S. and other countries. The Commissioner said that library coöperation pervades all civilized lands.

The American Library Association is an international organization drawing its membership from both the United States and Canada.

The Harvard dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Dr. Clifford H. Moore, has announced an experiment which he considers the most important undertaking at Harvard since establishing the tutorial system and the general final examinations. In the fortnight immediately following the Christmas vacation there will be no formal teaching by lectures or tutorial conferences except in courses designed especially for freshmen and such others as departments may determine. These periods which are called reading periods, will be given to assigned reading (or laboratory work) to be done by the student without assistance from tutor or lecturer.

We are making these references believing that publishers and authors will be glad to coöperate with the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION in establishing its library

when the Headquarters is established in Washington. Such coöperation will not only be of benefit to the members of the ASSOCIATION but also to the publishers and authors.

SYMPOSIUM ON THE GENUS MENTHA.

On August 26, 1927, there was held at the St. Louis meeting of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION an informal symposium on the Genus *Mentha*. This meeting was the idea of Prof. Anton Hogstad and those taking part were:

Edward Kremers, Madison, Wis.; H. W. Youngken, Boston, Mass.; C. M. Sterling, Lawrence, Kans.; Charles C. Plitt Baltimore, Md.; Anton Hogstad, St. Louis, Mo.; C. K. Glycart, Chicago, Ill.; A. J. Swartz, Chilton, Wis.; Leonard Swartz, Inspector of Drugs at the port of New York; G. A. Russell, Greensboro, N. C.

The idea of holding this Symposium was to get together the men interested in mints and to discuss in an informal way, some of the various phases related to the botanical, chemical and commercial sides of the subject. The meeting was productive of so much value that it was decided to hold a similar meeting at Poland Springs, Me., next fall.

One of the main points brought out at the St. Louis meeting, was that through these meetings a line of research on mints can be developed, having a very practical trend. Dr. Kremers especially pointed out how through the coöperation of a large producer of American mint oil, his researches had been of value to all concerned.

At the next meeting, it is planned to have present representatives of mint farmers, and dealers in mint oil.

At the suggestion of those in attendance at the St. Louis meeting, G. A. Russell was delegated to the chairmanship of the coming meeting.

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*.

EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE (See *JOUR. A. M. A.* March 19, 1927, p. 925).

Ephedrine Hydrochloride-Pemco.—A brand of ephedrine hydrochloride-N. N. R.

Prophylacto Manufacturing Co., Chicago, distributor. No U. S. patent or trademark.

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

Ephedrine Sulphate-P. D. & Co.—A brand of ephedrine sulphate-N. N. R.

Manufactured by Parke, Davis & Company, Detroit. No U. S. patent or trademark.

COD-LIVER OIL (See *New and Nonofficial Remedies*, 1927, p. 119).

Nason's Palatable Cod-Liver Oil.—Cod-liver oil containing 0.62 per cent of essential oils as flavoring, having a vitamin-A potency such that 0.002 Gm. per day is adequate to promote the growth of young albino rats and a vitamin-D potency such that 0.02 Gm. per day for eight days will cure experimental rickets in rats which have been deprived of vitamin D and of ultraviolet light.

Dosage.—For adults, 2 to 4 cc. (30 to 60 minims) three times a day; for children, 1 to 2 cc. (15 to 30 minims) three times a day.

Manufactured by Tailby-Nason Co., Boston. No U. S. patent or trademark.

Nason's palatable cod-liver oil complies with the U. S. P. standards for cod-liver oil. In addition, it is required to have a content of fat soluble vitamin A, determined by the U. S. P. method, of not less than 500 units per Gm., and an antirachitic potency such that 0.02 Gm. will produce definite healing in the leg bones of rachitic rats in eight days when added to a diet lacking in vitamin D, the rats being also deprived of ultraviolet light.

TYPHOID VACCINE (See *New and Nonofficial Remedies*, 1927, p. 365).

The Gilliland Laboratories, Inc., Marietta, Pa.

Typhoid Vaccine (See *New and Nonofficial Remedies*, 1927, p. 367): Also marketed in packages of thirty ampules (ten complete immunizations), ten

containing 500 million, and twenty containing 1000 million killed typhoid bacilli each.

From *Jour. A. M. A.*, Nov. 19, 1927.

EPHEDRINE.—**Ephedrina.**—Ephedrine base.— α hydroxy- β -methyl-amino-propylbenzene ($C_8H_9CHOH.CH(NHCH_3).CH_3$). An alkaloid derived from *Ephedra equisetina*.

Actions and Uses.—The same as those of the ephedrine salts. The free alkaloid is employed in mediums, such as oils, in which it is more soluble than the salts.

Dosage.—One per cent, in oil, may be used for local application to mucous membranes.

Ephedrine occurs as an unctuous, almost colorless solid that tends to crystallize as needles. The needles melt at 34-40 C., and the liquefied alkaloid boils above 200 C. The specific rotation in absolute alcohol (Note: must be no moisture by anhydrous copper

sulphate test) $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ falls between -6 and -7.5. It is soluble in alcohol, chloroform, ether and water, the solutions being strongly alkaline to litmus paper moistened with water. Dissolve 0.0005 Gm. of ephedrine in 1 cc. of water and add 0.1 cc. of copper sulphate solution (10 per cent) followed by 1 cc. of sodium hydroxide solution (20 per cent); a reddish purple color develops. To this solution add 1 cc. of ether, shake the mixture and compare with a tube made up similarly, but without using ether: the reddish purple is partially extracted (apparently decolorized by the ether). Dissolve 0.05 Gm. of ephedrine in 10 cc. of chloroform and allow to stand twelve hours, evaporate spontaneously: white crystals of ephedrine hydrochloride appear; wash with a little chloroform, dry: the crystals melt between 214 and 220 C.

Dissolve 0.05 Gm. of ephedrine in 30 to 40 cc. of distilled water, add 1 cc. of diluted nitric acid and 1 cc. of silver nitrate solution: less turbidity results than in a control tube using 0.1 cc. of fiftieth-normal hydrochloric acid (*limit of chloride*). Dissolve 0.05 Gm. of ephedrine in from 30 to 40 cc. of distilled water, add 1 cc. of diluted hydrochloric acid and 1 cc. of barium chloride solution: no turbidity develops in ten minutes (*limit of sulphate*).

Dissolve about 0.2 Gm. of ephedrine, accurately weighed, in 10 cc. of ether in a previously tared beaker, add an excess of hydrogen chloride in ether, evaporate to dryness, dry to constant weight over calcium chloride, and weigh: dissolve the residue in distilled water and dilute with distilled water to 10 cc.; observe the angular rotation at 20 C.: the specific rotation in water $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ falls between -33 and -35.5.

Dissolve about 0.2 Gm., accurately weighed, in 10 cc. of neutralized alcohol, add 5 drops of bromocresol green solution and an excess of tenth-normal hydrochloric acid, titrate the excess, using fiftieth-normal sodium hydroxide solution: the acid used in neutralizing the ephedrine is equivalent to not less than 97 per cent, nor more than 100 per cent of the ephedrine used.

Place about 0.3 Gm. of ephedrine accurately weighed in a previously tared wide-mouthed weighing bottle in a desiccator and allow to stand over calcium chloride at room temperature for eighteen hours (the temperature should not go above 22 C.): it loses not more than 1.8 per cent of its weight.

Heat about 0.1 Gm. of ephedrine accurately weighed in a platinum dish until constant weight is obtained. The ash is less than 0.1 per cent.

Ephedrine-Lilly.—A brand of ephedrine-N. N. R.

Manufactured by Eli Lilly & Company, Indianapolis. No U. S. patent or trademark.

Inhalant Ephedrine Compound-Lilly: A solution containing ephedrine-Lilly, 1 per cent (by weight) in a liquid composed of menthol, 0.66 Gm.; camphor, 0.66 Gm.; oil of thyme, 0.31 cc.; liquid petrolatum to make 100 cc. U. S. patent applied for. No U. S. trademark.

PERSONAL AND NEWS ITEMS.

William A. Oren, President of the N. A. R. D., was tendered an elaborate testimonial luncheon, under the auspices of Eli Lilly and Company, Kiefer-Stewart Company, and the Mooney-Mueller-Ward Company, Indianapolis, Indiana, last month. The luncheon was held at the Indianapolis Athletic Club headquarters. J. K. Lilly officiated as toastmaster, welcoming the guests and introducing the various speakers with appropriate remarks. He emphasized the fact that only one other Hoosier had been honored as Mr. Oren had been by being chosen President of the N. A. R. D.

The speakers, all of whom eulogized Mr. Oren for his practical wisdom and devotion to the cause of pharmacy, included the following: Frank T. Stone, Washington, D. C.; Samuel C. Henry and Julius Riemenschneider, Chicago; Russell Rothrock, President of the Indiana State Board of Pharmacy; Wood Wiles, President of the Indiana Pharmaceutical Association; George Schaub, President of the Indianapolis Retail Druggists' Association; Charles Ehlers, Cincinnati; Barret Moxley, Indianapolis and F. W. Meissner, LaPorte, Indiana. Mr. Oren in well selected words expressed his appreciation of the testimonial luncheon and of the many expressions of loyalty and confidence extended to him. He stated that he had worked all of his life for the best interests of pharmacy, but that all of the time he had worked other druggists were working with him, and all that he had accomplished had been through the assistance of others. He also stated that any success he hoped to have in the future would be with the help and coöperation of others interested in pharmacy.

Samuel Wilson Parr, professor emeritus of industrial chemistry, University of Illinois, and internationally known for his researches in coal chemistry, has been elected President of the American Chemical Society for 1928. Professor Parr succeeds Dr. George D. Rosen-garten of Philadelphia. He has been a professor in the University of Illinois since 1891.

Dr. Wilmer Krusen, former director of the Department of Health in the Philadelphia City Government and recently elected President of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, relinquished his official duties as Director of Health on Monday, January 2nd, when the new Mayor of the city of Philadelphia was inaugurated. In assuming direct administrative control of the College, Dr. Krusen was

given a reception in the President's Room of the new College building just completed at 43rd and Kingsessing Avenue in West Philadelphia. Among those who took part in the reception were the Trustees and the major faculty of the College.

Dr. Francis E. Stewart, of Philadelphia, and Mrs. Susan Palmer Linnell, of Engelwood, N. J., were married in New York City, December 26, 1927.

Matthias Noll was in the drug business in Atchison, Kans., for more than forty years. The *Atchison Daily Globe* devotes a column of a recent issue to a sketch of the veteran with historical data of the period during which he served his patrons. Mr. Noll is collecting valuable historical matter relating to the drug business in the State from earliest period to the present and will present this to the Section on Historical Pharmacy of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION. Such efforts are much appreciated and will serve a good purpose; he has set an example for others.

Sharp & Dohme, Inc., Baltimore, has appealed the decision of the British court, dismissing with costs an action brought by the firm against the Boots Pure Drug Company for alleged infringement of their patent for "improvements relating to the manufacture of alkyl resorcinols."

The Abbott Laboratories, North Chicago, Ill., has purchased John T. Milliken & Co., St. Louis.

The Milliken company was established in 1894 by John T. Milliken, to manufacture pharmaceutical products. Dr. Alfred S. Burdick, President of the Abbott Laboratories, states that the Milliken business will be continued at St. Louis for the present with no changes in personnel, and operated as a branch of the Abbott Laboratories.

"MILK OF MAGNESIA" HELD REGIS- TRABLE AS TRADE-MARK.

Right of the Charles H. Phillips Chemical Company to the registration of the words, "Milk of Magnesia," and "Leche de Magnesia," as trade-marks has been upheld by the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia in a decision given December 5th. This case before the court was an appeal by McKesson & Robbins, Inc., New York, from a decision of the Commissioner of Patents, which had upheld the right at issue.