EDITORIAL NOTES

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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.*

BISMUTH SODIUM TARTRATE-SEARLE.—A basic sodium bismuth tartrate containing from 72.7 to 73.9 per cent of bismuth.

Actions and Uses.—Bismuth sodium tartrate-Searle is proposed as a means of obtaining the systemic effects of bismuth in the treatment of syphilis (See Bismuth Compounds, New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1928, p. 104).

Dosage.—0.03 Gm. (1/2 grain) by intramuscular injection, preferably into the gluteal muscle. The initial dose is 0.015 Gm. (1/4 grain), increased to 0.03 Gm. (1/2 grain) with the second dose and continued in two or three doses weekly for from six to ten weeks.

Manufactured by G. D. Searle & Co., Chicago. U. S. patent 1,663,201 (March 20, 1928; expires 1945). No U. S. trademark.

Ampoules Bismuth Sodium Tartrate-Searle, 2 cc.: Each ampule contains bismuth sodium tartrate-Searle, 0.03 Gm., benzyl alcohol 0.040 Gm., sucrose 0.50 Gm. in water sufficient to make 2 cc. Each ampule contains more than 2 cc. of solution.

Bismuth sodium tartrate-Searle is a finely divided, white powder, odorless and tasteless; permanent in air. The product is soluble in about three parts of water, except for a slight residue (0.1 per cent); the residue is soluble in sodium hydroxide solution. The aqueous solution is alkaline to litmus paper. When acid is added gradually to an aqueous solution of bismuth sodium tartrate-Searle a precipitate is produced, which dissolves on the gradual addition of an alkali.

Dissolve 0.5 Gm. of bismuth sodium tartrate-Searle in 25 cc. of water; heat to 50 C.; add 1.5 Gm. of sodium hydrosulphite dissolved in 5 cc. of 10 per cent ammonia water: a precipitate of metallic bismuth forms. To about 2 cc. of the aqueous solution (10 per cent) add a few drops of copper sulphate solution. A blue precipitate is formed, which is soluble in potassium hydroxide solution. On standing, the alkaline solution gradually deposits a precipitate. Ignite 3 Gm. in a quartz crucible, cool, and cautiously add drop by drop just sufficient nitric acid to dissolve the residue when it is warmed; pour the acid solution into 100 cc. of water, evaporate the filtrate on the water bath to 30 cc., again filter and divide the filtrate into 5 cc. portions; to one portion add an equal volume of diluted sulphuric acid: the liquid does not become cloudy (*lead*). Add an excess of ammonia water to another portion: the supernatant liquid does not exhibit a bluish tin (*copper*). Add to another portion diluted hydrochloric acid: a precipitate, insoluble in an excess of hydrochloric acid and soluble in ammonia water, is not formed (*silver*). Ignite 1 Gm. in a quartz crucible: The residue meets the requirements of Bettendorf's test, U. S. P. X, p. 430 (*arsenic*).

Dry about 1 Gm. of sodium bismuth tartrate-Searle, weighed accurately, at 100 C. to constant weight: the loss is from 2.6 to 3.6 per cent.

Dissolve about 0.5 Gm. of bismuth sodium tartrate-Searle, accurately weighed, in 20 to 30 cc. of water and add sufficient hydrochloric acid to redissolve the precipitate first formed, saturate the solution with hydrogen sulphide; collect the precipitate of bismuth sulphide, wash it successively with water, alcohol, carbon disulphide, and ether and dry it at 100 C.: the weight of bismuth sulphide is equivalent to not less than 72.7 nor more than 73.9 per cent of bismuth (Bi).

EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE-ABBOTT (See New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1928, p. 176).

The following dosage form has been accepted:

Tablets Ephedrine Hydrochloride-Abbott, 1/4 grain.

EPHEDRINE SULPHATE-P. D. & CO. (See New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1928, p. 178).

The following dosage forms have been accepted:

Capsules Ephedrine Sulphate-P. D. & Co., 0.05 Gm. (3/4 grain).

Glaseptic Ampoules Ephedrine Sulphate-P. D. & Co., 0.05 Gm. (3/4 grain), 1 cc.

From *Jour. A. M. A.*, June 3, 1928.

PAROIDIN.—Parathyroid Extract-Hanson.—An aqueous solution containing the active

principle or principles of the parathyroid gland of cattle and having the property of relieving the symptoms of parathyroid tetany and of increasing the calcium content of blood serum. It is standardized by its capacity to increase the blood serum calcium in parathyroidectomized dogs: one Hanson unit being defined as one one-hundredth of the amount of solution required to produce an increase of 0.001 Gm. of calcium (Ca) in the blood serum of parathyroidectomized dogs weighing approximately 15 Kg., the increase being determined after administrations to dogs (twenty-four hours after operation) of a sufficient quantity of solution to cause an average increase in blood serum calcium of 3 mg. within six hours.

Actions and Uses.—Paroidin is of pronounced and definite value in the treatment of tetany. It has been used experimentally, but with inconclusive results, in a number of other conditions, such as chorea, gastric and duodenal ulcers, and delayed healing of wounds. To guard against the serious consequences of hyperthyroidism, excessive doses of paroidin must be avoided and large doses of the preparation must not be administered without estimation of the blood serum calcium.

Dosage.—The average adult dose of paroidin is 0.2 to 0.4 cc. (30 to 60 Hanson units) every twelve hours for five or six days, never more than ten days in succession. Treatment should then be discontinued for a week or two, to be resumed if necessary. For children the initial dose should not exceed 0.1 to 0.2 cc. (15 to 30 Hanson units).

Paroidin is administered subcutaneously or intramuscularly; not intravenously.

Manufactured by Parke, Davis & Co., Detroit. U. S. patent applied for. U. S. trademark.

Paroidin, 5 cc.: Each cubic centimeter contains 150 Hanson units.

Fresh bovine parathyroid glands from which fat and connective tissue have been removed are ground and extracted with dilute hydrochloric acid (approximately 0.5 per cent) at the boiling temperature for about one hour. The mixture is then chilled, filtered to remove fat, and the filtrate treated with an aqueous solution of trinitrophenol to precipitate the active principle together with some protein. The precipitate is collected and extracted with acetone and alcohol containing hydrochloric acid. An excess of acetone is then added to precipitate the active fraction in the form of a water-soluble powder, which is then redissolved in water, diluted to the proper potency, sterilized, and submitted to standardization and sterility tests.

SQUIBBS VITAVOSE.—A maltose-dextrin preparation representing the water-soluble extractives of malted wheat germ. It is composed, approximately, of maltose, 38 per cent; dextrins, 20 per cent; soluble proteins, 8 per cent; soluble amino and other nitrogenous substances, 7 per cent; mineral salts, 4 per cent; moisture, 3 per cent. It is standardized physiologically to contain at least 100 times the amount of the antineuritic factor (vitamin B) contained in fresh, raw, certified, whole cow's milk. The nutritive value of the 500 Gm. corresponds to approximately 1940 calories.

Actions and Uses.—Vitavose is used as an adjunct in the diet of children and invalids and where there is a need for greater amounts of vitamin B than are furnished by the individual's customary diet. It may be used to supplement the carbohydrate and vitamin B content of cow's milk.

Dosage.—Vitavose may be used in milk mixtures in approximately the same proportions by weight as lactose, or in amounts to meet the carbohydrate requirements of the invalid in place of or in addition to other carbohydrates. When vitavose is used because of its vitamin B content, the manufacturer recommends that children and adults be given 15 Gm. (1 tablespoonful) one to three times a day.

Manufactured by E. R. Squibb & Sons, New York U. S. patent 1,541,263 (June 9, 1925; expires 1942). U. S. trademark 177,061.

Vitavose is prepared by freeing wheat germs of oil, cooking, malting and extracting under conditions designed to assure maximum extraction of the nutritive elements and to preserve the vitamin B content. The clarified extract is then brought to dryness.

It occurs as fine golden-yellow granules possessing an agreeable malty taste. It is very hygroscopic and readily soluble in water.

The maltose in Squibb's vitavose is determined by the Munson and Walker General Method, Official and Tentative Methods of Analysis of the A. O. A. C., ed. 2, p. 190. The dextrin is determined by the method described in Leach: "Food Inspection," ed. 4, p. 654. The estimation of protein, soluble amino and other nitrogenous substances is made by the method described in the "Method of Analysis, A. O. A. C.," 1919, p. 168, chapter 14, par. 5; of moisture, ibid, p. 177, par. 2; of ash (Fe and Ca), ibid., pp. 39–41. Malto-Dextrins are determined by evaporating the alcoholic filtrate and washings to dryness under vacuum and determining the reducing sugars on the residue both before and after inversion, the difference between these results being calculated as dextrose and reported as malto-dextrins (Inversion Method, p. 186, Munson and Walker General Method, p. 190, A. O. A. C., ed. 2). The vitamin B content is determined by a modification of the method described by Osborne and Mendel (*J. Biol. Chem.*, **54**, 743, 1922).

GENTIAN VIOLET MEDICINAL (See New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1928, p. 172).

The following dosage form has been accepted:

Gentian Violet Capsules - Swan - Myers, 1 grain: Each keratin coated capsule contains gentian violet medicinal-N. N. R., 0.65 Gm.; with lactose.

Prepared by the Swan-Myers Company, Indianapolis.

EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDEPEMCO (See New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1928, p. 176).

The following dosage form has been accepted:

Capsules Ephedrine Hydrochloride-Pemco, 1/4 grain.

Capsules Ephedrine Hydrochloride-Pemco, 0.3 Gm.: Each red capsule contains ephedrine hydrochloride-Pemco without diluent.

From *Jour. A. M. A.*, July 7, 1928.

THE FAMILY MEDICINE CLOSET.

Dr. F. W. Palfrey (*Hygeia*) suggests the following list of drugs to be kept in the family medicine closet for emergencies. (Drugs to be marked clearly by name.)

Glycerin.

Boric acid solution, 4 per cent or saturated.

Quinine (only for malaria).

Acetylsalicylic acid—Aspirin. Label "One or two for headache or for slight fever."

Castor oil.

Seidlitz powders.

Extract of cascara, 3-grain tablets.

(The above three to be labeled "Not to be taken for pain.")

Bismuth subgallate or subcarbonate. Label "Half a level teaspoonful 3 or 4 times a day for diarrhea."

Milk of magnesia.

Sodium bicarbonate.

Wine of ipecac. Label "For croup, 5 to 10 drops every four hours in afternoon and evening as preventive. In an attack, a teaspoonful."

Compound tincture of benzoin. Label "A teaspoonful to the quart of boiling water. Inhale the steam."

Tincture of iodine—half an ounce.

Boric acid ointment.

Supplies: Books on first-aid medicine and surgery, nursing and diets.

Bedpan, drinking tube, enema syringe, croup kettle, sterile gauze "sponges," sterile-absorbent cotton, gauze bandage, cotton.

PERSONAL AND NEWS ITEMS.

Cyrus H. K. Curtis, publisher, has been elected President of the Benjamin Franklin Memorial Committee to raise funds for the erection of a $10,000,000 memorial to Benjamin Franklin for his "discovery of electricity."

Dr. Hugh S. Cumming, surgeon-general of the United States Public Health Service, has been elected a corresponding member of the Royal Society of Medicine of Great Britain for "meritorious work and ability as a scientist and leader in public health affairs."

Dr. Louis I. Harris, Commissioner of Health of the City of New York, has resigned and will become sanitary administrator for the National Dairy Products Corporation. Dr. Harris had been a member of the administrative and technical staffs of the local department of health for a number of years when made commissioner by Mayor Walker.

Dr. R. A. Hatcher, with N. B. Eddy, has corroborated former investigations by Hatcher and Weiss that nicotine neutralizes the emetic action of all pure digitalis principles which are in common use, and also that of many of the crude drugs of this group.

Edmund White known to American pharmacists for his work in connection with the British Pharmacopœia, has retired from the British Pharmaceutical Council. Mr. White is untiring in his efforts for pharmacy. He is the representative of Great Britain and a member of the International Pharmaceutical Federation.

Through the donations made by the late **C. G. Lloyd**, Cornell University has three Wild Life Preserves—400 acres near Slaterville, N. Y., 110 acres near Ringwood, and 80 acres near McLean. With these preserves Cornell University will always have an opportunity of studying plant and animal life in situations where interference by the public is reduced to a minimum. The donor is a brother of our senior Past-President **John Uri Lloyd**.

Through the generosity of an anonymous donor interested in the subject of chemical education a professorial chair in this field has been endowed for the immediate future in the Johns Hopkins University, and **Dr. Neil E. Gordon** has been elected to the position. Dr. Gordon is at the present time head of the department of chemistry at the University of Maryland and state chemist; he is a member of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

The present year marks the centenary of Wöhler's publication of the synthesis of urea. Concerning this epoch-making discovery, Professor Hofmann wrote in his biography of Wöhler: "The present generation, which is constantly gathering such rich harvests from the territory won for it by Wöhler, can only with difficulty transport itself back to that remote period which the creation of an organic compound within the body of an animal or plant appeared to be conditioned in some mysterious way by the vital force, and they can hardly realize the impression which the building up of urea from its elements made on men's minds." Wöhler was for a time a pharmacy inspector.

One of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION veteran members, **E. W. Runyon**, is making a trip around the world.

Adelaide Rudolph, former librarian of New York College of Pharmacy, is contributing interesting historical data to *The Messenger*