

Vorländer and Guthke, F. W.

Action of alkalis on chloroform

*Ber.*, 62 (1929), 549; through *J. pharm. chim.*, 10 (1929), 368

Wirth, E. H., and Dorjahn, J. A.

Phytochemical tests as pharmacopœial identity tests

*Am. J. Pharm.*, 101 (1929), 638

## CLINICAL TESTS.

Stich, C.

Colorimetric detection of acetone in urine

*Pharm. Zentralh.*, 70 (1929), 681

Tixier, L.

Estimation of urobilin in urine

*Bull. sci. pharmacol.*, 36 (1929), 555

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 PHYSICIANS' PRESCRIPTIONS IN RELATION TO THE U. S. P. AND N. F. PREPARATIONS.\*

BY P. J. KOLB.

Pharmacists should realize that in the United States Pharmacopœia and the National Formulary there are a number of formulas which physicians would gladly make use of, if they were consistently featured to them, and every pharmacist should endeavor to place the formulas and the finished preparations at the disposal of his own circle of physicians. Some of these formulas may be classified as vehicles, others as active remedies. As a rule, vehicles are calculated to make the administering of active drugs more palatable; among those, the following are quite satisfactory.

Compound Elixir of Almond  
Elixir of Anise  
Compound Elixir of Cardamom

Aqueous Elixir of Glycyrrhiza  
Compound Elixir of Pepsin

There are a number of others, but these are good vehicles; Syrup of Wild Cherry, also, when prepared according to the official formula is always popular. Among the active remedies the following deserve more consideration:

Elixir Terpin Hydrate  
Compound Elixir of Terpin Hydrate and Creosote  
Elixir of Three Bromides  
Elixir of Five Bromides

Compound Cathartic Elixir  
Compound Elixir of Euphorbia  
Elixir of Iron, Quinine and Strychnine  
Glycerinated Elixir of Gentian  
Solution of Peptonized Iron and Manganese

The writer has had experience with various physicians featuring Compound Mixture of Chloral and Potassium Bromide; Compound Mixture of Glycyrrhiza; Compound Mixture of Rhubarb; Expectorant Mixture, known as Stokes Expectorant. This last formula was especially effective when recently prepared.

Compound Mixture of Glycyrrhiza is frequently prescribed with Sodium Iodide or Salicylate, and quite a number of physicians have replaced other formulas by these, with very satisfactory therapeutic effects. Physicians have told us that they had not before realized how satisfactory these preparations were.

Being your own detail man presents many advantages, and proves to the medical profession that the National Formulary is a reliable standard. In these days of strenuous merchandising the Prescription Department can show a far better profit if the pharmaceutical skill of the pharmacist is utilized in interesting

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\* Section on Practical Pharmacy and Dispensing, A. Ph. A., Rapid City meeting, 1929.

the pharmacy's circle of doctors in the desirable formulas of the United States Pharmacopœia and National Formulary.

Alkaline Aromatic Solution has met with the approval of many physicians and it is surprising how satisfactory the home-made product really is, and it is easily prepared. I have seen some samples of this preparation in drug stores, when purchased in gallon quantities, of which the last portion was faded and almost unfit for dispensing. In the home-product the amount prepared can be adjusted to the demand created. It really is an elegant pharmaceutical and quite effective.

When the special effort of the detail man is over, the demand ceases, and a large number of these so-called physicians' proprietaries add to the dead stock of every pharmacy and have no inventory value. What is the remedy? Get behind the United States Pharmacopœia and National Formulary preparations, and prescription business will show a profitable increase.

#### ABSTRACT OF DISCUSSION.

P. Henry Utech commended the efforts of the kind presented by Mr. Kolb. He had obtained satisfactory results in his home city; physicians were not informed, as they should be, on United States Pharmacopœia and National Formulary preparations and were glad to have the information. Persistent and continued efforts will be followed by satisfactory results.

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#### NOTES ON SOME OFFICIAL PREPARATIONS.\*

BY P. HENRY UTECH.

Within a few months the machinery for the task of revising the U. S. P. X will be set in motion. So painstaking and thorough—and withal so efficient—has been the work of the former Committee of Revision, to their credit let it be said that the U. S. P. X stands to-day without a parallel in the literature of pharmacy. Comment and criticism of the book since its publication four years ago has been more favorable and constructive than has characterized any previous edition of the work.

That the publication of an official text of such high standard and unusual excellence—the major portion of which represents the voluntary service of a large group of research workers, laboratory experts, teachers, professional pharmacists and physicians—could be so successfully consummated, reflects a fine spirit of coöperation, of unselfish interest and loyalty on the part of the entire personnel of the organization.

To the end that the forthcoming volume may keep pace with its predecessors, and be equally free from errors both of omission and commission, every effort has been made by the chairman, through the medium of the pharmaceutical press, the meetings of the various state associations, the colleges of pharmacy, as well as many other possible sources of contact, to enlist the coöperation and support of all the related interests of pharmacy. The following suggestions and comments on certain official preparations which have come under my personal observation are herewith respectfully submitted for the consideration of the Revision Committee:

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\* Section on Practical Pharmacy and Dispensing, A. Ph. A., Rapid City meeting, 1929.