

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*.

ISAROL-CIBA.—Sulphonated Bitumen, N. F.—A preparation obtained by dry distillation of bituminous shale. The distillate is sulphonated with sulphuric acid and subsequently neutralized with ammonium carbonate. The product complies with the standards for sulphonated bitumen, N. F.

Actions and Uses.—See Sulphoichthyolate Preparations and Substitutes, New and Non-official Remedies, 1929, p. 398.

Manufactured by the Society of Chemical Industry in Basle, Switzerland (Ciba Company, Inc., New York). No U. S. patent. U. S. trademark, 97007.

Isarol-Ciba is a reddish brown to brownish black syrupy liquid with a strong characteristic empyreumatic odor. It is soluble in water and in glycerin, and is miscible with fixed oils and fats. It is partly soluble in alcohol or ether, and entirely soluble in a mixture of equal volumes of these solvents. An aqueous solution (1 in 10) may be faintly acid or faintly alkaline to litmus paper. The addition of hydrochloric acid to this solution precipitates a dark resinous mass which is soluble in ether.

Incinerate a weighed portion of isarol-Ciba: the ash does not exceed 0.5 per cent. Dry a weighed portion on a water bath to constant weight: the loss is not more than 50 per cent.

Accurately weigh about 5 Gm. of isarol-Ciba, dissolve in 100 cc. of water, transfer to a distillation flask, add an excess of sodium hydroxide solution and distil slowly; collect the distillate (about 50 cc.) in 15 cc. of normal sulphuric acid; when the distillation is completed, titrate the excess of sulphuric acid with tenth-normal sodium hydroxide, using methyl orange as indicator: the amount of ammonia found is not less than 2.5 per cent. Accurately weigh about 1 Gm. of isarol-Ciba; transfer to a 100-cc. beaker and add 25 cc. of alcohol; stir thoroughly, filter, and wash the filter with a mixture of equal parts of ether and alcohol until the washings are clear and colorless; dry the residue on the filter at 100 C., cool, and wash the filter with 200 cc. of warm water slightly acidulated with hydrochloric acid; determine the sulphate in the solution by precipitation with barium chloride solution, and after washing, drying, igniting and weighing,

calculate the results to ammonium sulphate: the amount found is not more than 8 per cent. Dry about 1 Gm. of isarol-Ciba on a watch glass to constant weight at 105 C.; pulverize the dried material and transfer about 0.5 Gm., accurately weighed, to a nickel crucible; add about 9 Gm. of sulphur-free sodium peroxide, and mix thoroughly; place the crucible carefully in a beaker containing cold distilled water, which should reach about half-way to the top; ignite the dry mixture in the crucible by thrusting a red hot iron wire through a hole in the cover of the crucible; after complete combustion has taken place, tip the crucible and allow the fused mass to dissolve in the distilled water; add hydrochloric acid in slight excess, heat to boiling, and determine the sulphate in the solution by precipitation with barium chloride solution, and after washing, drying, igniting and weighing, calculate the results to sulphur: the total sulphur should not be less than 10 per cent.—*Jour. A. M. A.*, July 6, 1929.

AMPOULES OF PITRESSIN.—An aqueous solution containing the pressor and diuretic-antidiuretic principle of the posterior lobe of the pituitary gland (betahypophamine) containing less than 1 unit of oxytocic activity per cubic centimeter. Five-tenths per cent of chlorbutanol is used as a preservative. It is standardized by the method of Hamilton and Rowe (*J. Lab. & Clin. Med.*, 2, 120 (Nov. 1916)) so that each cubic centimeter contains 20 pressor units (1 unit represents the pressor activity exhibited by 0.5 mg. of standard powdered pituitary-U. S. P.).

Actions and Uses.—Ampoules of pitressin are used for temporary stimulation of blood pressure, for increasing the muscular activity of the bladder and intestinal tract, also for antidiuretic effect in diabetes insipidus.

Experimental evidence has been obtained indicating that the product increases the blood sugar and it has been successfully employed to counteract overdoses of insulin in animals. No clinical studies to determine the value for this purpose have been reported so far. It has been suggested that the product may be of value either in conjunction with or supple-

mentary to the use of epinephrine in the treatment of serum sickness and similar vasomotor disturbances, but no definite evidence on this point is as yet available.

Dosage.—From 0.3 to 1 cc. (5 to 15 minims) intramuscularly, repeated as may be indicated.

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

Ampoules of Pitocin, 1 cc.: Each ampoule contains more than 1 cc.

AMPOULES OF PITOCIN.—An aqueous solution containing the oxytocic principle of the posterior lobe of the pituitary gland (alpha-hypophamiue) containing less than $\frac{1}{3}$ unit of pressor activity per cubic centimeter. Five-tenths per cent of chlorbutanol is used as a preservative. It is standardized by the U. S. P. method for pituitary, each cubic centimeter containing 10 international units.

Actions and Uses.—Ampoules of pitocin are used to stimulate uterine contractions for obstetric purposes.

The use of the product may be particularly indicated in those cases in which increase of blood pressure or contractile action of the vascular system is undesirable. Its use is contraindicated in contracted pelvis and incomplete dilatation of the cervix.

Dosage.—From 0.3 cc. to 1 cc. (5 to 15 minims) intramuscularly. If used before delivery is completed, small doses are used, repeated if necessary in twenty to thirty minutes.

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

Ampoules of Pitocin, 1 cc.: Each ampoule contains more than 1 cc.—*Jour. A. M. A.*, July 13, 1930.

ANTIRABIC VACCINE (See New and Non-official Remedies, 1929, p. 356). Terrell's Laboratories, Fort Worth, Texas.

Rabies Vaccine (Phenolized).—An antirabic vaccine prepared according to the general method of David Semple (phenol killed). The brain and cord of rabbits killed after inoculation with fixed virus rabies are ground in a mortar with distilled water containing 2 per cent of pherol to yield a 6 per cent emulsion of the fixed virus. The emulsion is incubated at 37° C. for forty-eight hours and then diluted with distilled water so that the finished product contains 1.5 per cent of the brain and cord substance and 0.5 per cent phenol. Marketed in packages of twenty-one vials each containing 3 cc., and in packages of twenty-one vials each containing 3 cc. The content of a vial is administered daily over a period of from fourteen to twenty-one days according to the severity of the case. Ordinarily one dose is given daily but under certain conditions, such as badly lacerated wounds, bites in children, bites about the face and those who have been bitten some time before treatment is begun, two doses may be given daily for the first few days, then one dose daily until treatment is finished.—*Jour. A. M. A.*, July 27, 1929.

EPHEDRINE-LILLY (See New and Non-official Remedies, 1929, p. 166).

The following dosage form has been accepted:

Inhalant Ephedrine (Plain)-Lilly: A solution containing ephedrine-Lilly, 1 Gm.; cottonseed oil, 1 Gm.; perfumed with cinnamic aldehyde, benzaldehyde, and jasmine extract, and tinted with butter yellow; liquid petrolatum to make 100 cc. U. S. patent applied for. No U. S. trademark.

EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE-LILLY (See New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1929, p. 168).

The following dosage forms have been accepted:

Hypodermic Tablets Ephedrine Hydrochloride-Lilly, 0.016 Gm. ($\frac{1}{4}$ grain).

Hypodermic Tablets Ephedrine Hydrochloride-Lilly, 0.0325 Gm. ($\frac{1}{2}$ grain).

EPHEDRINE SULPHATE-LILLY (See New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1929, p. 169).

The following dosage forms have been accepted:

Hypodermic Tablets Ephedrine Sulphate-Lilly, 0.016 Gm. ($\frac{1}{4}$ grain).

Hypodermic Tablets Ephedrine Sulphate-Lilly, 0.0325 Gm. ($\frac{1}{2}$ grain).

Syrup No. 110 Ephedrine Sulphate: Containing ephedrine sulphate-Lilly, 0.22 Gm., in 100 cc. (1 grain per fluidounce) and alcohol 12 per cent; it is flavored with vanillin, benzaldehyde and tolu, and tinted with amaranth.

Syrup No. 111 Ephedrine Sulphate: Containing ephedrine sulphate-Lilly, 0.44 Gm., in 100 cc. (2 grains per fluidounce) and alcohol 12 per cent; it is flavored with vanillin, benzaldehyde and tolu, and tinted with amaranth.

NEOCINCHOPHEN (See New and Non-official Remedies, 1929, p. 114).

Neocinchophen-B. P. C.—A brand of neocinchophen-N. N. R.

Manufactured by Benzol Products Company, Newark, N. J., under U. S. patent 1,045,759 (Nov. 26, 1912; expires 1929); by license of The Chemical Foundation, Inc.—*Jour. A. M. A.*, August 17, 1929.

BRITISH PHARMACOPŒIAL REVISION.

"Pharmacopœia Revision seems to be proceeding on lines that are worthy of every commendation, judging from the *C. & D.*, December 7th, page 691. It is particularly gratifying to learn that close and friendly relations have been established between the medical and pharmaceutical authorities, as evidenced by the arrangement for Pharmaceutical Society's Research Laboratory. In addition, we are told of agreement on the form of future Codex monographs. Other arrangements mentioned in the report indicate that the present revision is to be of a most thorough nature, and I shall look forward to the production of a British Pharmacopœia which will set a model to the world. The Codex, too, is apparently to be dealt with in a similarly systematic way. Your report (*C. & D.*, page 689) of the proposed arrangements for revising the book conveys the impression that more enlightened views now prevail with regard to what is necessary

to hammer a somewhat heterogeneous collection of information and formulas into a substantial work of reference which may properly be recognized as a standard."—A correspondent in *Chemist & Druggist*.

AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION.

Evarts B. Greene, professor of history in Columbia University, was chosen *President* of the American Historical Association for 1930, at the forty-fourth annual meeting of the organization. Other officers for the coming year are: *First Vice-President*, Ephraim Douglas Adams, Stanford University; *Second Vice-President*, Carl L. Becker, Cornell University; *Secretary*, Dexter Perkins, University of Rochester. Members of the *Executive Council* are: Payson J. Treat, Stanford University; William L. Clements, Bay City, Mich.; Samuel E. Morison, Harvard University; Winfred T. Root, State University of Iowa; Elizabeth Donnan, Wellesley College; Joseph G. de Roulhac Hamilton, University of North Carolina; Dixon Ryan Fox, Columbia University; Ulrich B. Phillips, Yale University.

Prof. Greene, teacher and author, has long been prominent in the historical sciences. He is former vice-president of the association, and has been active in the movement to raise an endowment of \$1,000,000 for historical research. He was born in Kobe, Japan, July 8, 1870. He studied at Northwestern University from 1885 to 1888, and was graduated from Harvard College with a degree of bachelor of arts in 1890. From Harvard he received the A.M. in 1891, and the Ph.D. in 1893.

During 1893-1894 he studied at Berlin University as Harris traveling fellow of Harvard. In 1894 Dr. Greene joined the faculty of the University of Illinois as assistant professor and dean of the College of Literature and Arts. In 1923 Dr. Greene came to Columbia where since 1926, he has been DeWitt Clinton professor of history.

Prof. Greene has been president of the Trustees of the Illinois State Historical Library, member of the Illinois State Centennial Commission, and secretary of the council of the American Historical Association.

He is a corresponding member of the Chicago and Minnesota Historical Societies and the Colonial Society of Massachusetts. He is a fellow of the Royal Historical Society and of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

He was chairman of the National Board of Historical Service in 1917-1918, and has been a

member of the board of editors of *The American Historical Review* since 1923.

The Historical Section, Army War College, is gathering material for account of activities of Expeditionary Forces, which is soon to be published.

The work of the Section follows two broad lines:

1. Researching, collecting, examining, indexing and collecting data from the official records of the War Department and other official agencies, which, when properly collated, will provide the material for complete and accurate accounts of the participation of the military forces of the United States in the World War; and

2. The evaluation of differences found in the official records with a view to arriving at logical determinations of such historical differences.

The history of pharmacy in this connection would be helpful and interesting.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.

H. R. 8372 seeks to appropriate \$6,500,000 for construction and equipment of an annex to the Library of Congress. The new building, under the terms of the bill, will contain space for book, newspaper and file stacks, for storage, reference and other rooms; card service and a branch printing office and bindery.

PERSONAL AND NEWS ITEMS.

C. Mahlon Kline, former president of the N. W. D. A., was seriously injured, December 22nd, when an airplane on which he was a passenger, was wrecked in making a landing at Indianapolis. Mr. Kline had his right arm and left leg broken and was badly bruised and shaken up. For a time it was feared that he might have been injured internally, but no indications of this have developed. His mother, Mrs. Mahlon N. Kline, reached the hospital, from Philadelphia, December 23rd. The trip and the shock were such a strain that Mrs. Kline, who is 83 years old, was obliged to go under the care of physicians in the hospital the next day. Both Mr. Kline and his mother are convalescent.

Dr. Harvey W. Wiley will give up his professional activities January 1st. He has been associated with the *Good Housekeeping Magazine* since he left the Government service in 1912. According to the editor of that publication, Dr. Wiley will "remain so long as he lives, a member of our staff"—he is eighty-six years old.