

added to the concentrated iodide solution after it has been allowed to cool to 90° C. If it is added to the iron iodide solution before concentration, the hypophosphorous acid is more or less decomposed. The Pharmacopoeia states that hypophosphorous acid begins to decompose between 130-140° C. The decomposition appears to commence below this temperature and in experiments where it was added to the solution before evaporation, the decomposition was quite marked. If the manipulation be changed and the hypophosphorous acid added before concentration, then the evaporation must be done on a water-bath.

A LABEL VARNISH SUBSTITUTE.

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The ordinary label varnish is quite unsatisfactory in appearance and application. Labels may be made water and acid proof by the application of a saturated solution of solid white paraffin in petroleum ether of boiling point from 40 to 50 degrees Centigrade. The process consists in simply touching the label with a small piece of cotton saturated with the solution. The petroleum ether evaporates almost instantly, leaving an invisible coating of paraffin which retains the new lustre of the label as well as making it water and acid proof.

INFLUENCE OF CLIMATE ON VARIOUS CHEMICALS.

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A knowledge of the chemical and physical properties of the various compounds of the materia medica constitutes a prerequisite of qualification of the professional pharmacist. To this must be supplemented an adequate knowledge of the best methods to be employed for their preservation, and as a rule, the educated pharmacist becomes very skillful as the years pass and his experience is extended.

The manufacturing chemist, however, occupies a somewhat different position in that, no matter with what scrupulous care his products are made, they are distributed over a wide domain, and are subjected to variations of climate which