

liquid is obtained. Lastly, wash the filter with a mixture of 1 volume of Alcohol and 4 volumes of Water until the filtered product measures 1000 Cc.

In this formula the proportion of the medicinal ingredients is retained the same as in the present official formula, as it was not deemed desirable to make any change in the accepted strength or dosage. The use of glycerin as the sweetening ingredient in place of sugar has proven very satisfactory in elixirs containing iron salts and corrects the tendency of such elixirs to change color. The green tint of the product as at first prepared appears to undergo no marked change after keeping for a year or more. Instead of using Aromatic Elixir as a diluent, the elixir is made in the process of the manipulation, the Compound Spirit of Orange being added, thus insuring the greatest amount of flavoring possible. The manipulation is an important factor in obtaining a satisfactory product and a reversal of the directions as to mixing will promptly demonstrate this.

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### A RAPID METHOD FOR THE QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS OF ZINC OINTMENT.\*

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In testing some samples of Zinc Oxide Ointment recently, it appeared to me that the analytical methods now in use were too involved and time consuming for the pharmacist: I therefore devised the following very simple and accurate process:

Into a tared porcelain crucible, accurately weigh 1 gram of the sample, heat cautiously until the material bursts into flame, allow to burn quietly until all inflammable material is consumed, then heat strongly with the Bunsen burner until all organic matter is burned off, cool and weigh.

Should difficulty be experienced in burning off organic matter, moisten with a drop of nitric acid, heat cautiously to avoid spattering, and then with the full flame as before.

Since 1 gram of the sample is taken the residue, which is oxide of zinc, can easily be computed into percentage by multiplying the result by 100.

Of course, if necessary this result can be checked by determining the zinc in the residue volumetrically, gravimetrically or electrolytically, and calculating to oxide.

There does not appear to be any reason why the method cannot be employed with equally good results for the analysis of zinc stearate ointment. In this case the amount of stearate present could easily be calculated from the residue of zinc oxide.

The method, in addition to being rapid, is accurate and easily applied.

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