

mortars, and among them was this one, which was purchased by David Costelo of New York.

Figures 33 and 34 are the obverse and reverse views of a veritable museum piece. It is a bronze or bell-metal mortar and pestle which belonged to one of Napoleon's apothecaries. The inscription around the top is as follows: "A Besançon-Beillemant-Pharmacien-Drogiste." Below this are laurel wreaths and imperial eagles. Below these is the name "Napoleon Empereur." Further below this are more laurel wreaths and robed figures. There is a double-ended pestle bearing the date "Anno 1802" elaborately engraved in bas-relief.

This mortar was at one time in the Rodman Wanamaker collection of Napoleana. The donors of the specimens just described are as follows: No. 4, Wm. L. Cliffe, '84, vice-president of the College. Nos. 7*a* and 7*b*, former president, Howard B. French, '70. No. 9, Joseph P. Remington, '66, one of America's pharmacists, and former dean of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science. No. 14, Ellerslie W. Davis, '16. No. 20, George B. Evans, '80, former member of the Board of Trustees of the College. No. 27, Walter V. Smith, '87, former member of the Board of Trustees of the College. No. 28, Horace B. Taylor, '57. Nos. 29 and 30, Horatio N. Fraser, '72, former member of the Board of Trustees. Specimens 2*a*, 2*b*, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, 13, 15, 15*a*, *b* and *c*, 16*a* and *b*, 17*a* and *b*, 18*a*, *b* and *c*, 23*a* and *b*, 25*a*, *b*, *c* and *d*, 26*a* and *b*, 31-32, 33-34, were all donated by David Costelo, '79, of the Neergaard Pharmacy of New York. There are not many large collections of mortars in the United States, the largest collection at present being the one owned by E. R. Squibb & Sons. There is no collection to our knowledge, however, which possesses so many diversified, interesting and valuable mortars as the one we have herein attempted to describe.

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#### ABSTRACTS OF PAPERS PRESENTED BEFORE SECTION ON PRACTICAL PHARMACY AND DISPENSING, A. PH. A., WASHINGTON MEETING, 1934.

"The Extemporaneous Preparation of Intravenous Solutions Saline and Dextrose," by Robert S. Fuqua.

The paper submitted attempts to outline simple procedures for the preparation of satisfactory intravenous solutions, containing such substances as Sodium Chloride, Sodium Citrate and Dextrose.

Beginning with the distilled water required, and emphasizing the necessity for purity of, and absence of bacterial contamination in this solvent, the relatively simple matter of making solutions considered and then stress the importance of proper filtration to insure freedom from mechanical impurities—especially filter paper shreds.

The thought in mind is to outline both the usual pharmaceutical procedure of preparing simple solutions, with filter paper being used as the filtering medium, and also a hospital method for preparing buffered solutions in small lots: using the Berkefeld candle type filters to clean.

Sterilization, and the temporary preservation of sterile solutions, are discussed briefly. The need for having such solutions as nearly neutral as possible is noted, and attention is directed to factors which affect the values of same adversely.

"A Note on the Assay of Reduced Iron," by Margarethe Oakley and John C. Krantz, Jr.

A comparison of the mercuric chloride and copper sulphate methods for the determination of reduced iron has been studied.

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