
MAKE USE OF THE ABSTRACT SECTION.

PHARMACISTS will learn to appreciate the value of the Abstract Section in the JOURNAL if each issue is studied. Several references are made to a few recent issues: Therapeutics, New Remedies and Specialties, pages 482-493 in the November JOURNAL.

In the December issue refer to Non-Official Formulæ, pages 516-519; Therapeutics and Specialties, 525-536. In the January issue consult the Vitamins and New Remedies. It is realized that many are making use of the Section and this note is an effort to have all of the readers make greater use of it. Reference to the Index in the December JOURNAL, pages 574-599, will reveal items that you may have been looking for. This comment is largely prompted from the fact that requests for information have been answered by reference to the abstracted articles. It is hoped that during 1937 this Section will bring to realization the value of it.

THE U. S. P. BOARD OF TRUSTEES ANNOUNCE A REFERENCE STANDARD FOR VITAMIN B₁ SIMILAR TO THE INTERNATIONAL STANDARD.

AT THE earnest solicitation of many who were interested in the preservation of Vitamin B₁-containing products the U. S. P. Board of Trustees has secured a stock of a standard adsorption product containing Vitamin B₁. This is identical in character and potency with the International Standard for Vitamin B₁ and was prepared by Professor B. C. P. Jansen of the University of Amsterdam. *One International Unit of Vitamin B₁ represents the activity of 10 milligrams of the International standard or of the Pharmacopœial standard adsorbates.*

As only a limited quantity of the International Vitamin B₁ Standard was available the Pharmacopœia has undertaken to supply this product for use in standardizing commercial products.

All preparations claiming Vitamin B₁ activity should now express that potency in terms of International Units e. s. determined by biological assay.

The Pharmacopœial Reference Standard for Vitamin B₁ is packaged in 30-Gm. units. The price is \$1.00 each or \$10.00 per dozen. Orders should be sent to E. Fullerton Cook, Chairman of the U. S. P. Committee of Revision, 43rd Street and Woodland Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa.

WARNING TO PHARMACISTS.

THE MEDICAL SOCIETY of an Eastern Pennsylvania County has brought to the attention of the Pennsylvania Pharmaceutical Association an unethical practice urging that steps be taken to correct certain proceedings.

As outlined by the report the plan is operated along these lines:

From information gathered from his prescription files the druggist selects the name and address of patients under treatment for certain ailments. A letter is directed to the sufferer emphasizing the virtues of a certain treatment which can be explained to the patient if they will arrange to call at the drug store and meet Doctor So and So, a specialist in this disease.

Information disclosed certain facts relative to the degree of the specialist; in this case a Ph.D., and disqualified to practice medicine.

The extent of this campaign is not known, however, such practices being detrimental to the efforts of those interested in developing the finest coöperation between the professional groups; it is deemed advisable that full publicity be given to the scheme throughout the country.

This subject might serve as one of a group of topics to be discussed at an early inter-professional meeting. Information on other disclosures should be brought to the attention of the officers of the State Association for prompt action through committees.
