EDITORIAL NOTES

THE OLDEST HOSPITAL IN AMERICA.

In an illustrated article on "The Hospital of Jesus of Nazareth in the City of Mexico," established in 1524, and still in use, Lieutenant Colonel Edgar Erskine Hume[1] describes this institution in *The Military Surgeon* for July 1937.

Liberty is taken in quoting from the article mentioned above:

"Cortes caused adequate medical care to be afforded the civil as well as military personnel.

"Never before or since has there been given to the world so vast a collection of remedies as those brought to Europe from America at the period soon after its discovery, and of these the greater part were obtained from the Aztecs. Besides quinine, there were added to man's weapons against disease: Canabis indica, cascara sagrada, chenopodium, coca, copal, chaparo, curare, damiana, condurango, Peruvian balsam, sabadilla, sarsaparilla, tolu balsam and vervain—to mention only a few of them."

Dr. Hume interestingly gives an historical account of hospitals established by Spain and also the hospitals of Mexico. Another paragraph again refers to the list of drugs used by the Aztecs and states that Hernandez learned from the Mexicans the names of more than 3000 plants used in therapeutic practice.

Cortez wrote the King of Spain, Emperor Charles V, relative to the City of Mexico, "in which there is a street set apart for the sale of herbs in which can be found every sort of root and medicinal herb which grows in the country. There are house-like apothecary shops where prepared medicines are sold as well as liquids, ointments and plasters." The great Botanical Garden of Moctezuma supplied the herbs which the physicians used in their practice. Cortez also advised the King that it would not be necessary to send physicians from Spain as they were well provided for in that respect."

REPRINTS.

We have received from **Dr. John C. Krantz, Jr.**, the following reprints:

"Etiology of Gall Stones," by Maurice Feldman, Samuel Morrison and John C. Krantz, Jr.

"The Effect of Brominated Ethylenes on the Perfused Leg Vessels of the Frog," by John C. Krantz, Jr., C. Jelleff Carr, Sylvan Forman and Wm. G. Harne.

"Studies in the Metabolism of Alkalinized Dextrose," by J. C. Krantz, Jr., Ruth Musser, C. Jelleff Carr, Frances Beck and T. Nelson Carey.

"Sugar Alcohols. VIII. The Oxidative Specificity of Acetobacter Suboxydans," by K. Pierre Dozois, C. Jelleff Carr and John C. Krantz, Jr.

"A Comparative Study of the Effect of Santonin, Isoartemisin and Santoninamine on the Blood Sugar Level of Rabbits," by Wm. Ellsworth Evans, Jr.

"The Preservative Capacity of Sodium Formaldehyde Sulfoxylate in Certain Medicinal Preparations," by John C. Krantz, Jr., C. Jelleff Carr and Ruth Musser.

"A Modified Quinhydrone Electrode for Tissues," by John C. Krantz, Jr., C. Jelleff Carr and Ruth Musser.

"Effect of Isoartemisin on the Circulatory System," by Wm. Ellsworth Evans, Jr.

Prof. Dr. H. Zörnig has favored the A. PH. A. with an Inaugural Dissertation by Ulrich Meyer—"A Contribution to the Pharmacognosy of the Umbelliferæ."

FURTHER SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION AT THE CONFERENCE OF PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION SECRETARIES.

Charles J. Clayton has submitted the following subjects for discussion at the forthcoming meeting of the Conference of Pharmaceutical Association Secretaries. Several lists of questions were published in the June JOURNAL, page 576. The additional subjects are:

1. Methods of Financing Fair Trade Administration.
2. Objections to Omnibus Contracts.
3. What Is the Most Practical Time for Starting the Morning Sessions at Our State Conventions?
4. What Experiences Have Our Members Had with "Professional" Sessions at the Annual Meetings?
5. How About Merchandising Demonstration Programs at Our State Conventions?

[1] The Lieutenant Colonel presented an interesting report on the 12th International Congress of Pharmacy—see pages 1113–1119, December JOURNAL A. PH. A., 1935.

AWARDS FOR EXHIBITS AT THE ATLANTIC CITY MEETING OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

The report of the Committee on Awards for exhibits presented at the Atlantic City meeting is given in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

Among the exhibits receiving honorable mention was the one by Marvin R. Thompson, University of Maryland, on "ergot and its active principles."

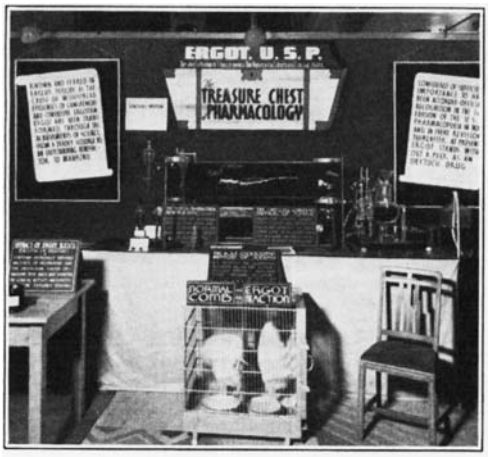

Fig. 1.—Marvin R. Thompson Exhibit at meeting of A. M. A. Front view. The exhibit involved a continuous demonstration of the various active principles of ergot.

Fig. 2.—Left end wall of booth, Thompson Exhibit.

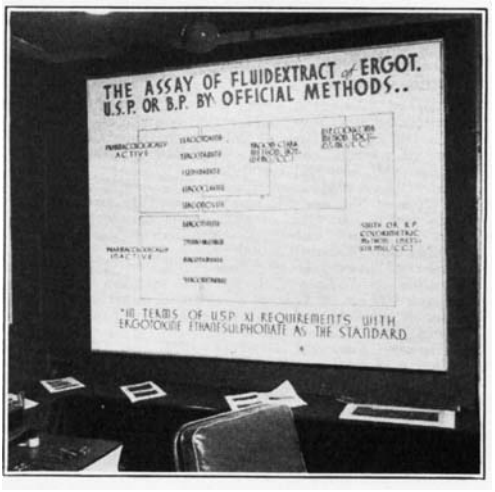

Fig. 3.—Right end of wall of booth, Thompson Exhibit.

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.—PAUL NICHOLAS LEECH, *Secretary*.

ACETARSONE-ABBOTT (See New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1936, p. 90).

The following dosage forms have been accepted:

Tablets Acetarsone, 0.05 Gm.
Tablets, Acetarsone, 0.1 Gm.

TETANUS TOXOID, ALUM PRECIPITATED (See *J. A. M. A.*, May 16, 1936, p. 1735; Revised Supplement to New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1936, p. 16).

Eli Lilly and Company, Indianapolis, Ind.

Tetanus Toxoid, Alum Precipitated (Lilly).—Marketed in packages of two 0.5 cc. vials (one immunization treatment); and in packages of one 5 cc. vial (five immunization treatments).

CALCIUM GLUCONATE-ABBOTT (See *J. A. M. A.*, March 20, 1937, p. 973).

The following dosage form has been accepted:

Tablets Calcium Gluconate-Abbott (Flavored), 1 Gm. (15½ grains).

SALYRGAN (See New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1936, p. 308).

The following dosage form has been accepted:

Suppositories Salyrgan: Each suppository contains salyrgan 0.4 Gm., corn starch 0.1 Gm., and cocoa butter 1.3 Gm.

DEXTROSE (See New and Nonofficial Remedies. 1936, p. 290).

The following dosage forms have been accepted:

The Sterisol Ampoule Corporation, Long Island City, N. Y.

Sterisol Ampoule Dextrose 2½% in Physiological Solution of Sodium Chloride: A solution containing in each 100 cc. 2.5 Gm. of anhydrous dextrose and 0.85 Gm. of sodium chloride. Supplied in ampules containing 250, 500 and 1,000 cc.

Sterisol Ampoule Dextrose 10% in Physiological Solution of Sodium Chloride: A solution containing in each 100 cc. 10 Gm. of anhydrous dextrose and 0.85 Gm. of sodium chloride. Supplied in ampules containing 250, 500 and 1,000 cc.

Sterisol Ampoule Dextrose 20% in Physiological Solution of Sodium Chloride: A solution containing in each 100 cc. 20 Gm. of anhydrous dextrose and 0.85 Gm. of sodium chloride. Supplied in ampules containing 250, 500 and 1,000 cc.

Sterisol Ampoule Dextrose 25% in Physiological Solution of Sodium Chloride: A solution containing in each 100 cc. 25 Gm. of anhydrous dextrose and 0.85 Gm. of sodium chloride. Supplied in ampules containing 250, 500 and 1,000 cc.

Sterisol Ampoule Dextrose 5% in Distilled Water: A solution containing in each 100 cc. 5 Gm. of anhydrous dextrose. Supplied in ampules containing 250, 500 and 1,000 cc.

Sterisol Ampoule Dextrose 10% in Distilled Water: A solution containing in each 100 cc. 10 Gm. of anhydrous dextrose. Supplied in ampules containing 250, 500 and 1,000 cc.

Sterisol Ampoule Dextrose 20% in Distilled Water: A solution containing in each 100 cc. 20 Gm. of anhydrous dextrose. Supplied in ampules containing 250, 500 and 1,000 cc.

Sterisol Ampoule Dextrose 25% in Distilled Water: A solution containing in each 100 cc. 25 Gm. of anhydrous dextrose. Supplied in ampules containing 250, 500 and 1,000 cc.—From *J. A. M. A.*, May 15, 1937.

SYNTROPAN.—The phosphate of *d-1*-tropic acid ester of 3-diethylamino-2,2-dimethyl-1-propanol—$C_6H_5 . CH(CH_2OH)COO . - CH_2C(CH_3)_2CH_2N(C_2H_5)_2 . H_3PO_4$.

Actions and Uses.—The actions of syntropan are similar to those of atropine. However, syntropan acts to a certain extent directly on smooth muscle in addition to its inhibitory effect on parasympathetic endings. It does not depress salivary secretion as actively as atropine or induce mydriasis as readily, and its inhibitory action on the parasympathetic innervation of the heart is not as pronounced as that of atropine. Syntropan is employed for its antispasmodic action on smooth muscle.

Dosage.—For oral administration, one tablet (50 mg.) three or four times a day; for subcutaneous or intramuscular administration, 1 cc. of syntropan solution (representing 10 mg. of syntropan) three times a day.

Manufactured by Hoffmann-LaRoche, Inc., Nutley, N. J. U. S. patents 1,932,341 (Oct. 24, 1933; expires 1950) and 1,987,546 (Jan. 8, 1935; expires 1952). U. S. trademark 308,080.

Ampuls Syntropan Solution, 0.01 Gm., 1 cc.

Tablets Syntropan, 0.05 Gm.

Syntropan occurs as a white, crystalline powder, with a faint roseate odor and having a bitter taste; freely soluble in water, slightly soluble in absolute alcohol, insoluble in chloroform and ether. The aqueous solution is acid to litmus. Syntropan melts at 142° to 145° C. From aqueous solutions, alkali hydroxides precipitate the free base as a water-white oil, which does not solidify at ordinary temperature.

Place about 0.01 Gm. of syntropan in a porcelain dish, add a few drops of nitric acid, and evaporate to dryness on a water bath: a yellow residue results; cool, add a few drops of alcoholic potassium hydroxide solution: the mixture is a violet color.

Dry about 0.5 Gm. of syntropan, accurately weighed, to constant weight at 100° C.: the loss in weight does not exceed 1 per cent. Incinerate about 0.5 Gm. of syntropan, accurately weighed, in a platinum crucible: the residue does not exceed 0.1 per cent. Transfer about 0.5 Gm. of syntropan to a 500 cc. Kjeldahl flask and determine the nitrogen content according to the official method described in Official and Tentative Methods of Analysis of the Association of Official Agricultural Chemists, third edition, page 20, chapter 2, paragraph 22: the percentage of nitrogen corresponds to not less than 3.3 per cent nor more than 3.6 per cent when calculated to the dried substance.—From *J. A. M. A.*, May 22, 1937.

NEO-IOPAX (See New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1936, p. 256).

The following dosage form has been accepted:

Ampoule Solution Neo-Iopax, 10 cc.: Each ampule contains neo-iopax, 7.5 Gm., dissolved in sufficient sterile distilled water to make 10 cc.

DEXTROSE (See New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1936, p. 289).

The following dosage forms have been accepted:

The Lakeside Laboratories, Inc., Milwaukee.

Ampules Dextrose (d-Glucose) 5 Gm., 10 cc.: Each ampule contains dextrose (*d*-glucose) 5 Gm., in distilled water to make 10 cc.

Sterile Solution Dextrose (d-Glucose) in Rubber Stoppered Vials 25 Gm., 50 cc.: Each ampule contains dextrose (*d*-glucose) 25 Gm., in distilled water to make 50 cc.

Sterile Solution Dextrose (d-Glucose) in Rubber Stoppered Vials, 50 Gm., 100 cc.: Each ampule contains dextrose (*d*-glucose) 50 Gm., in distilled water to make 100 cc.

TETANUS TOXOID, ALUM PRECIPITATED (See *J. A. M. A.*, May 16, 1936, p. 1735; Revised Supplement to New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1936, p. 16).

Mulford Biological Laboratories, Sharp & Dohme, Philadelphia and Baltimore.

Tetanus Toxoid, Alum Precipitated, Refined.—Marketed in packages of two 1 cc. vials (one immunization treatment); and in packages of one 10 cc. vial (five immunization treatments).

ANTIPNEUMOCOCCIC SERUM, TYPE II (See New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1936, p. 374).

The National Drug Co., Philadelphia.

Antipneumococcic Serum (Felton) Type II, Refined and Concentrated.—Prepared by immunizing horses with intravenous injections of virulent and avirulent pneumococci, and subcutaneous injections of the supernatant broth culture mediums in which the pneumococci had been grown. When test bleedings show the serum to have reached a sufficient degree of potency, the horses are bled aseptically and the serum is refined and concentrated by a method similar to that used for antitoxins. The potency of the product is determined and expressed in terms of the unit of Lloyd D. Felton. Marketed in packages containing 10,000 and 20,000 units of type II pneumococcus antibodies.

PHENOLSULFONPHTHALEIN (See New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1936, p. 194).

Phenolsulfonphthalein-"National."—A brand of phenolsulfonphthalein-U. S. P.

Manufactured by the National Aniline and Chemical Co., Inc., New York. No U. S. patent or trademark.

LIVER EXTRACT (INTRAMUSCULAR)-PARKE, DAVIS & CO. (See New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1936, p. 281).

The following dosage form has been accepted:

Solution Liver Extract (Intramuscular) P. D. & Co., 10 cc. vials.—From *J. A. M. A.*, June 12, 1937.