

blades being drawn back the instrument is set upon the skin. Now the spring is released by pressure on the trigger, and the blades shoot out making the desired shallow incisions. The next step in the operation is to apply an "exhausted cup" and withdraw the required amount of blood. 5*d*, a surgical instrument known as a fleam, was used in venesection.

This account of a few of the odd things used in medicine is necessarily limited to the utmost brevity. These practices which were based on superstition, error and incomplete knowledge are being entirely replaced by scientific methods. Some of them played a part in firmly establishing the thought that "prevention" of disease is better than the "cure" of it.

In thinking of these odd things one should remember that at first all branches of medicine were practiced by a single individual. That individual, throughout the ages, stood ready to accept assistance from any source. Physicians, pharmacists and all others who take part in the practice of medicine as it is carried on to-day must continue to do the same as the practitioners of old, that is, accept facts from all sources. They must reject ideas which newly acquired knowledge has proved worthless, and apply remedies which are efficacious in the treatment of disease.

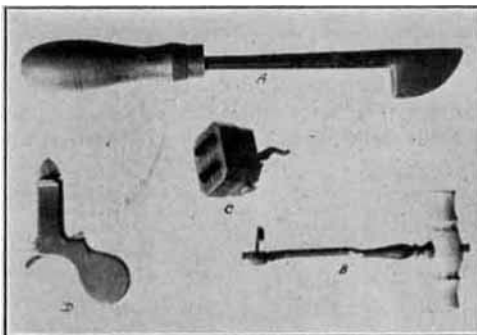
In moments of discontent, consider the practices of the past, think how far medicine has progressed, and you will then be better able to carry on with the happy thought that even in your own brief time on earth much has been done to strengthen the rational foundation on which modern medicine now rests.

PERSONAL AND NEWS ITEMS.

Mr. F. H. King, of Delphos, Ohio, has been unanimously confirmed by the State Senate for his tenth term as a member of the Ohio State Board of Pharmacy.

The Columbia University College of Pharmacy has announced a series of lectures for pharmacists on Thursday evenings of each week from February 2nd to April 20th. These lectures, while primarily intended for graduates of Schools of Pharmacy, are open to other persons who are interested and are intended to give information in respect to the newer forms of medication, and they are also intended to enable the pharmacists to answer general queries from the public and the physician.

The annual meeting of the New Hampshire Commission of Pharmacy was held in the Com-



(Courtesy of the U. S. National Museum.)

Fig. 5.—(a) cauterizing iron; (b) toothpulling key; (c) scarificator; (d) fleam for venesection.

mission's room in the State House at Concord on December 7th.

At a meeting of the Maryland State Department of Health, recently, **Dr. R. L. Swain**, Deputy Food and Drug Commissioner, presented a plan to curb careless handling of industrial poisons: 1, licensing of dealers; 2, coloring of agricultural arsenates to prevent confusion with food products; 3, prohibition of the sale at retail of such poisons except in original packages.

Dr. E. N. Rothenberger has been named manager of the pharmaceutical division of Sandoz Chemical Works of New York City. He succeeds Dr. Eugene Marti who resigned after ten years of service. Dr. Rothenberger was with the Sandoz organization in Basle, Switzerland, having graduated from Basle University in 1922.

THE TEACHING OF THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL LABORATORY PHARMACY.

The following condensed data was obtained by Profs. E. Fullerton Cook and C. B. Jordan at the request of a Joint Committee of the A. A. C. P. and N. A. B. P., for the purpose of comparing and evaluating the teaching of Pharmacy in the colleges of the United States and was presented for study at the annual conference of the Committee in August, 1938. The summary and analysis of the returned questionnaires was prepared by Prof. Harvey P. Frank of Philadelphia.

Answers to Questions 1 and 2: (1) Total number of lecture and review hours, during the four year Pharmacy course dealing with the subject of theoretical pharmacy; (2) Total number of hours devoted to the teaching of practical laboratory pharmacy.

Colleges Reported by Number.	Av. of Total Hours.	Av. of Laboratory Hours.	Av. of Clock and Rec. Hours.	Colleges Reported by Number.	Av. of Total Hours.	Av. of Laboratory Hours.	Av. of Clock and Rec. Hours.
1	573	441	132	23	1058	464	594
2	1221	857	364	24	1062	720	342
3	1088	816	272	25	504	270	234
4	664	322	342	26	752	448	304
5	832	480	352	27	493	340	153
6	997	525	472	28	670	336	334
7	688	336	352	29	632	400	232
8	729	525	204	30	1152	702	450
9	612	468	144	31	816	384	432
10	664	520	144	32	1080	432	648
11	707	*	*	33	642	432	210
12	917	552	365	34	882	594	288
13	640	*	*	35	918	612	306
14	848	448	400	36	1252	738	514
15	1016	552	464	37	816	504	312
16	786	544	224	38	528	336	192
17	663	527	136	39	720	432	288
18	816	432	384	40	765	527	238
19	592	336	256				
20	980	630	350				
21	765	408	357	Average for			
22	612	396	216	all colleges			
				reporting	804	493	318

* Not divided into class and laboratory hours.

Answers to Question 3: (Brief description of practical pharmaceutical training.)

All colleges reported the usual laboratory work in simple operations and in manufacturing of U. S. P. and N. F. preparations, and that these preparations were studied from standpoint of best technique in manufacture, chemical reactions involved, appearance of finished product, etc.; 16 colleges have Hospital or Student Health connection so that their students compound actual prescriptions; 26 colleges report practical prescription work under an instructor who is a registered pharmacist; 1 college reports a course in proprietary specialties and several indicate that attention is given to common specialties.

Answers to Question 4: (Is the complete pharmaceutical training given during the four year course in Pharmacy in your College adequate, in your judgment, for the preparation of a graduate to enter a retail Pharmacy with a comprehensive and practical knowledge of the professional services expected and ready to render such services?)

Replies as follows: 35 colleges, yes; 6 colleges, no, with reservations; 6 colleges, feel need of studying proprietaries; 16 colleges, feel need of actual experience.

Answers to Question 5: (You are invited to offer suggestions for making this training more efficient and practical.)

5 recommend actual experience; 2 recommend increasing hours of work; 2 recommend making courses more uniform; 6 recommend good course in drug store practice or equivalent; 1 recommends sticking to individuality; 2 recommend review of Syllabus; 1 recommends medical school connection; 2 recommend a practically trained faculty.