

tion assayed 2.62 percent chlorine. From the above information this solution is evidently stable enough to be constituted a concentrated solution from which to make the other hypochlorite solutions.

### SOME PHARMACEUTICAL PREPARATIONS.\*

BY H. M. FASER.

The first preparation I wish to discuss is the much used, and one time official, Elixir of Iron, Quinine and Strychnine Phosphates. Just why a formula is not given in the National Formulary for this Elixir I have never been able to understand. I am aware of the fact that the formula of the U. S. P. VIII was not satisfactory and deleted on that account, but at the same time manufacturers of pharmaceuticals make this elixir and sell it to the drug trade in large quantities. If manufacturers can devise a formula that will stand up under ordinary conditions, surely some member of the American Pharmaceutical Association can devise a formula suitable for admission to the National Formulary. In the section of the country from which I come large quantities of this elixir are used and I have made it for a long time. The formula which I use is one that has been published many times, and I think came originally from Mr. Beringer. I am quite sure that most of you have seen this formula, but for fear some of you have not, I give it here:

#### ELIXIR OF IRON, QUININE AND STRYCHNINE PHOSPHATES.<sup>1</sup>

Soluble Ferric Phosphate.....	17.50
Potassium Citrate.....	5.00
Quinine.....	8.75
Strychnine.....	0.275
Phosphoric Acid.....	2.00
Alcohol.....	200.00
Glycerin.....	200.00
Compound Spirit Orange.....	10.00
Purified Talc.....	30.00
Distilled Water to make.....	1000.00

Dissolve the quinine and the strychnine in the alcohol and 100 mls of water to which has been added the phosphoric acid. Add to this the compound spirit of orange. Dissolve the soluble ferric phosphate and the potassium citrate in 100 mls of warm water and add the glycerin, then the solution of the alkaloids and sufficient water to make the product measure 1000 mls. Mix the talc with the liquid and filter, returning the first portion until a clear liquid is obtained. Lastly wash the filter with a mixture of one volume of alcohol and four volumes of water until the filtered product measures 1000 mls.

It seems to me that Elixir of Iron, Quinine and Strychnine Phosphates should be in the National Formulary, and I do not believe improvement on this formula can be made.

Elixir of Lactated Pepsin is largely prescribed, and is bought by many in

\* Read before Section on Practical Pharmacy and Dispensing, A. Ph. A., City of Washington meeting, 1920.

<sup>1</sup> A year-old sample was shown which had been kept in a dark place, but in a flint glass bottle. The author stated the elixir should be kept in an amber glass container and dispensed in an amber bottle.

five-gallon quantities, and made by some pharmacists. Its use is largely that of a vehicle. The average pharmacist can devise a formula for this elixir, but some cannot, therefore a formula should be in the National Formulary for it. The formula I have used for many years is as follows:

## ELIXIR OF LACTATED PEPsin.

Pepsin (scales).....	30.00
Lactic Acid.....	1.00
Hydrochloric Acid.....	2.00
Glycerin.....	250.00
Alcohol.....	200.00
Oil Orange.....	2.00
Cudbear.....	1.00
Talc, sufficient Distilled Water to make.....	1000.00

Mix according to art.

This makes a nice preparation and one that has given entire satisfaction in my business.

The third elixir I wish to speak of is Elixir Saw Palmetto and Santal Compound. This is another preparation that to my mind should be listed in the National Formulary. The use of it, I think, is pretty nearly universal, and the making of it is very simple indeed.

The formula I use is as follows:

## ELIXIR SAW PALMETTO AND SANTAL COMPOUND.

Fluidextract Saw Palmetto.....	125.00
Fluidextract Corn Silk.....	125.00
Oil Santal.....	4.00
Oil Orange.....	0.50
Alcohol.....	180.00
Glycerin.....	180.00
Purified Talc.....	15.00
Distilled Water to make.....	1000.00

Dissolve the oils in the alcohol and add the mixed fluidextracts, glycerin and water. Allow to stand for several days and filter.

We have a long list of elixirs in the National Formulary, many of which, to my mind, could easily be dispensed with. However, in this I may be mistaken, because I am familiar with conditions only in my part of the country, but using the section from which I come as a guide, the three elixirs I have mentioned certainly deserve a place in the National Formulary. The formulas I have given may not be any better than some others, probably not as good as some, but the point I wish to make is that formulas should be included for these preparations.

Now leaving elixirs, I wish to say a word about a preparation of the National Formulary which I think could be very easily improved upon. The preparation to which I refer is Liquor Antisepticus. As far as medicinal properties go, it is probably fairly good, but being colorless is certainly a drawback. I would suggest the addition to the formula of 2.5 grammes of powdered hydrastis,<sup>1</sup> which not only gives a beautiful color, but improves the preparation as a mouth wash and gargle.

<sup>1</sup> A sample made with the addition of hydrastis was shown.