

Kola Preparations.

L. Bernegau gives, in the *Pharmaceutische Zeitung*, the following formulæ for various kola preparations:

KOLA TABLETS.

	Parts.
Dry extract of kola.....	50
Vanillin sugar (vanillin, 1 part; sugar, 500 parts).....	35
Chocolate powder.....	15
Starch, sufficient.	

Mix and form into tablets of 15 grains each.

KOLA PEPPERMINT TABLETS.

	Parts.
Dry extract of kola.....	50
Powdered sugar.....	49
Oil of peppermint.....	1
Starch, sufficient.	

Proceed as before.

KOLA AND CITRIC ACID TABLETS.

	Parts.
Dry extract of kola.....	50
Vanillin sugar.....	45
Citric acid.....	5
Oil of lemon, 2 drops to every 100 tablets.	

Mix and proceed as before.

If pastilles are preferable, mucilage of acacia or tragacanth may be added, and the mass formed into pastilles in the usual way.

KOLA MORSELS.

	Parts.
Dry extract of kola.....	60
White sugar, powdered.....	600
Rosewater.....	150

Mix and boil together and add:

	Parts.
Sweet almonds, blanched.....	60
Citron, preserved.....	60
Orange peel, preserved.....	45

Cut into fine pieces, and, if desired, color. After sufficient agitation to thoroughly mix the ingredients, pour the hot mass into suitable moulds, which should be dampened beforehand. The mass may also be poured on a marble slab, let cool, and cut into the desired sizes and shapes.

KOLA MALT EXTRACT.

	Parts.
Dry extract of kola.....	10
Boiling water.....	10
Dry extract of malt.....	90

Dissolve the kola in the hot water; add the malt extract, and evaporate (best *in vacuo*) down to 100 parts. In this preparation the excitant properties of kola are combined with the nutrient properties of malt. Iron may be advantageously combined with kola-malt extract.

KOLA-PEPSIN TABLETS.

	Parts.
Pepsin.....	10
Acid, hydrochloric, c.p.....	2

Sugar of milk.....	38
Dry extract of kola.....	50
Starch, sufficient.	

Mix and compress into 100 tablets.—*National Druggist.*

Cacao Preparation in Cameroon.

In Cameroon, Africa, according to Friederici, the best grade of cacao known is made. The golden-yellow fruits are cut from the trees, opened, and the seeds removed. The process of curing follows a fermentation, which is carried on in the curing-house. Fermentation, which is hastened by the self-heating of the product, is varied in duration according to the size of the harvest and according to the weather prevailing. During this process the seeds lose their originally bitter taste without sacrifice of the qualities desired. When the violet-colored cotyledons have taken on a chocolate-brown color, fermentation has gone far enough. This lasts usually about sixty hours, the temperature ranging between 30° and 43° C. The seeds are now washed to free them from impurities, dried in the air, and packed in sacks. Throughout the entire process, contact with metal is anxiously avoided.—*Apoth. Zeit. 13; from Der Tropenpflanzer: Phar. Review.*

Cocaine Manufacture in India.

The coca plant, *Erythroxylon coca*, was introduced into Ceylon from Kew in 1870 and it is probable that the plants now cultivated in Madras came from the same source. Three years later the experimental cultivation made at the Sikkim Cinchona Plantations proved a failure, and further attempts to raise the plant were abandoned. In 1894, however, the Madras Government was again approached as to the advisability of instituting experimental cultivation on the lower slopes of the Nilgiris, the failure of the Sikkim crop being apparently due to the too great elevation as well as to the unsuitable climate of that plantation. The government decided that the demand in India for the alkaloid was too small to justify anything beyond experimental cultivation. The latter was accordingly commenced, and the results which are now at hand are eminently satisfactory. In the early part of this year the collector and the chemical examiner of the Nilgiri Gardens submitted further reports dealing with the expenses in growing the plant and in extracting the alkaloid, and

as the Madras Government is assured that the use of the drug has greatly increased, that the alkaloid can be readily extracted and that the plant flourishes on the Nilgiris, it considers that it might, for some time to come, be profitable to private individuals to take up the cultivation of coca.

The enormous consumption of the alkaloid throughout the world may be judged by the fact that 22½ million pounds of dried leaves are produced annually in Peru and Bolivia. This represents about 55,000 pounds of cocaine. It is owing most probably to the great increase in the exportation of the plant from South America and its consequent cheapening in the European market that coca cultivation has not materially developed in India.—*Imperial Institute Journal, Phar. Review.*

A CEMENT FOR METALS.—A cement which firmly unites metals—which, in fact, will stick to almost anything with which it is brought into contact—is made as follows: Take the best white glue, cover it with cold water and let remain over night in a cool place. In the morning drain off all superfluous water by throwing the glue on a towel or cloth and whirling it around until all water not taken up by the glue is driven off. Put into a melting pot hung within a pot of water, after the fashion of a water bath, and heat until the glue has become fluid. To this add sufficient wood ashes to make a mass not too thick for use. The ashes should be sifted again and again until they are in the state of an impalpable powder before being used. This cement should be applied hot, and the substances to be united should be pressed together as tightly as possible. For tin, either in block or in foil, instead of ashes use about two per cent. of boric acid.—*Nat. Druggist.*

THE BRAIN.—It is a popular idea that the heavier the brain is the higher are the intellectual possibilities of its possessor. Sir William Turner now says that a heavy brain is no indication of intellectual eminence. The average weight of the European brain is from forty-nine to fifty ounces, yet five out of thirty-one male lunatics, taken without selection from post-mortem records, had brains ranging from fifty to fifty-six ounces. The brains of three female lunatics out of twenty-two exceeded fifty ounces. It is, moreover, a well-known fact that epileptics usually have large brains.