

THE TRUTH ABOUT PEPSIN.

The competition among pepsin manufacturers for the past year has been so great as to lead to not a little misrepresentation by the less scrupulous as to the actual facts. The controversy over the subject of pepsin tests and standards and comparative digestive power has gradually simmered down to a recognition of certain facts which all physicians should now recognize. These may be briefly stated as follows:

Since the last revision of the U. S. Pharmacopœia there has not been a single instance where the remedial value of a preparation has been so greatly enhanced, through the instrumentality of the manufacturing pharmacist, as in the case of pepsin.

This achievement has resulted from the elaborate researches which have been conducted in the department of our laboratory devoted to original work. We have thus been enabled to increase the proteolytic or digestive power of commercial pepsin to a standard forty times higher than that required by our Pharmacopœia, and, at the same time, imparted to our product certain qualities which have been heretofore regarded as verging on the impossible.

Our pepsinum purum in lamellis and pepsinum purum pulvis meet all the requirements of a typical preparation, not only as regards their freedom from toxic substances, but in point of digestive activity as well. Both are capable of dissolving two thousand times their weight of coagulated egg albumen under the conditions of our published test, but should the experience of physicians indicate that a still greater activity is desirable, we are prepared to meet their wants in this direction, as a degree of activity has already been reached by us which is many times that of our present standard.

We supply pepsin in the following forms:

Pepsinum Purum in Lamellis; Pepsinum Purum Pulvis; Pepsin, Saccharated, U. S. P., 1880; Pepsin, Glycerole, Concentrated; Pepsin, Lactated; Pepsin, Liquid, U. S. P., 1880; Pepsinum Purum Tablets, 1 gr., Sugar Coated.

All information desired by physicians as to our pepsin products, our general line of standard medicinal preparations, pharmaceutical specialties, and the latest therapeutic novelties and improvements in methods of medication, will be promptly furnished on request.

NORMAL LIQUIDS.

In Normal Liquids, which we introduced in 1883, we made the first attempt to meet the requirements of physicians and pharmacists for a uniform and reliable class of fluid preparations of drugs not open to the objections and uncertainty of fluid extracts made by U. S. P. process.

The standard decided upon for these fluids was the result of long experience in the collection, purchase, examination and analysis of crude drugs with a determination of the amount and character of their active principles. The reliability of normal liquids soon led to their large consumption, and the medical profession have evinced their preference for them to such an extent as to make them now an established and popular method of exhibiting the toxic and narcotic drugs.

It is believed that the best interests of pharmacy and medicine will not be served unless **these or like preparations are officially recognized.** For concentrated tinctures of a definite strength, the name "normal liquids" appears to be happily chosen, as it implies a definite standard of strength. The list should embrace preparations of the more potent crude drugs, 1 Com. representing 1 gramme of drug of standard strength.

As a step in this direction we have long supplied the following normal liquids:

Aconite Root.
American Hellebore.
Belladonna Leaves.
Belladonna Root.
Cannabis Indica.

Cinchona Calisaya.
Coca.
Colchicum Root.
Colchicum Seed.
Conium Fruit.

Ergot.
Foxglove.
Gelsemium.
Henbane.
Ipecac.

Mandrake.
Nux Vomica.
Rhubarb.
Stramonium Leaves.
Stramonium Seed.

Circulars and reprints of articles on normal liquids and the necessity for a higher standard of accuracy for toxic and narcotic drugs sent to physicians on request.

PARKE, DAVIS & CO., - Detroit and New York.

Please mention THE MARITIME MEDICAL NEWS.