

purpose, and was generally superior, to any of the vehicles which have, heretofore, been recommended. The peculiar advantages of the mixture are stated to be: 1st.—That the compound has a low fusing point, and thus readily melts at the temperature of the body. This low melting point facilitates the manufacture of the suppository, as the heat of a warm mortar is sufficient for liquefaction, and the compound as quickly cools, so that a suppository may be extemporised in a few minutes. It was found that the heat of the hand would melt the mixture, and that there would be no danger of its remaining in the solid condition in the body. 2nd.—The suppositories leave the mould without any difficulty. The property of contraction on cooling, which is strongly manifested by Stearic Acid, renders this mixture superior to some others. The contraction is equal to about eleven per cent. 3rd.—The basis has the advantage of being a solvent of such alkaloids as pure Morphia and Atropia, and of being itself readily absorbed by the epidermis and mucous membrane, at least as far as the Oleic Acid is concerned. 4th.—On account of the partial crystallization of some of the Stearic Acid, the Suppositories are firm, and can be placed in their position without difficulty, not being elastic, brittle, or yielding in any way. This is a decided advantage over the gelatine composition. 5th.—The proportions of the ingredients can be varied to suit summer or winter temperatures. 6th.—The price of the composition is not above that of Oil of Theobroma, the material which is now most generally employed. The author exhibited specimens of Suppositories which had been medicated with Tannin, Peroxide of Mercury, and Morphia. Similar compositions had been tried at some of the hospitals, and found to work very satisfactorily.

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TINCT. AURANTII RECENTIS.—(C. Symes, Ph. D. in *Phar. Jour. and Trans.*)—A method of preparation yielding a very superior article consists in macerating for 48 hours, 5 ounces of fresh peel of bitter orange, in 3 ounces of distilled water; 17 ounces of rectified spirits are added, and the maceration continued for a week longer. The rationale of the process is this: That the rectified spirit, while it is the best solvent of the essential oil, tends to harden the texture of the peel as to seal from its action the oil in the containing vesicles. Water has the opposite effect, and the previous maceration softens