

## MEDICAL PREPARATIONS, ETC.

### A PLEASANT, EFFICIENT LAXATIVE.

The desirable qualities of a first-class laxative are efficiency and freedom from unpleasant taste. The lack of either to just that extent disqualifies the product for use in the treatment of chronic constipation. That it is difficult to find a palatable and efficient laxative in the same medicament is a pretty generally accepted fact. It is possible to do so, however, and Cascara Evacuant may be cited as proof of that possibility. This preparation is pleasant in taste, and in doses of 15 to 30 minims in water it performs its duty quickly and well, without incidental nausea or distress. That is why children rarely object to taking it, and adults prefer it to other preparations.

The product is manufactured by Parke, Davis & Co. and is procurable from any well-stocked retail pharmacy. To avoid confusion with the so-called aromatic cascara, however, it is well to specify clearly "Cascara Evacuant, P. D. & Co."

The Earl of Erroll, K.T., C.B., presiding recently at the annual meeting of the shareholders of Bovril, Limited, alluded to an article written by a high medical authority in connection with the tests made at Trinity College, Dublin, to ascertain the value of Bovril. The following is an extract from the article:

"As for digestion and absorption of the food constituents of 'Bovril,' they have long been known to be of the first order. The action of 'Bovril' upon nutrition is that it acts practically as a link between the body and the food. It is on such grounds that we are entitled to say that 'Bovril' is more than a food, for it is a feeder. The upshot one may suppose, must be that 'Bovril,' so to say, increases the temperature of the body. Everything must be a little quicker, brisker, easier running than before. Digestion is hastened, and since it is also more complete, the business of getting rid of what is not used is reduced to a minimum. That means a gain for the temperature of the body. There are constituents of 'Bovril' which greatly stimulate, not so much the flow, but the quality that flows, of the gastric juice."

Sir James Crichton-Browne, speaking at the same meeting, said:

"It is not upon medical authority in the ordinary sense—that is to say, on the opinion of medical men who have tried it, valuable although these opinion are—that Bovril now rests its claims to consideration, but on the far firmer basis of exact scientific experiment. Doctors differ, but the scales and the test tube know nothing of diagnostic difficulties. The careful observations of Professor W. H. Thompson, of Trinity College, Dublin, assisted by Mr. Caldwell, M.A., an expert chemical physiologist, and by Mr. Wallace, B.A., have established the unique reputation of Bovril as a food in itself and as a powerful aider and abettor of the appropriation by the system of other kinds of foods."