

The carbonate of lead acts as a mechanical purifier, and answers the purpose excellently well.

Had benzol been officinal, doubtless it would have replaced chloroform in this preparation.

*Liquor Magnesie Citratis* is introduced as a preparation containing true citrate of magnesia, and is made by a modification of the French Codex process for purgative lemonade. The carbonic acid is generated from acid carbonate of potassium; the Codex directs the use of the corresponding soda salt. The water thereby charged with carbonic acid is under less pressure than in the ordinary lemonade of trade, which contains generally when filled from a machine 2.5 atmospheres of gas. This liquor would not contain more than 1.5 atmospheres in addition to the quantity dissolved by the water. There is just sufficient to make it grateful, and not too much to prevent it from being easily taken as a draught. I should have preferred to have seen half a fluid ounce of simple syrup with half a drachm of tincture of fresh lemon peel, ordered for each half-pint bottle, rather than syrup of lemon, which has, to my palate, a mawkish taste.

*Oleum Phosphoratum* is made with almond oil, which is first directed to be heated to 300° Fahr., and maintained at that temperature for fifteen minutes. Now, in some cases such treatment of the oil may be necessary, but I have not noticed either water or albuminous matter in the almond oil with which I have experimented. Almond oil readily takes up the phosphorus when the required temperature of 180° (Fahr.) is maintained. The oil now officinal differs in strength from the phosphorated oil of the Codex, which contains 2 per cent. Presuming the specific gravity of almond oil to be .920, then .74 will be the percentage of phosphorus. Surely a one per cent. solution would have been preferable. I do not consider the description of "colourless" as correct for this liquid. I should describe it as straw-colored.

*Pepsin*.—At last this preparation is made officinal, and a standard published by which the value of medicinal pepsin can be determined.

How much of the pepsin of trade will come up to the officinal test, is a matter of speculation.

I have prepared pepsin from fresh rennets, but have not yet had an opportunity of experimenting upon pepsin, either from pigs' or sheeps' stomachs.

It is imperative that the directions of the pharmacopœia as to washing, be strictly adhered to; and I should say, profiting by a failure I had on the first occasion, the scraping even of the stomach is a matter of importance, for a material point seems to be the sufficiently light scraping in order that the fatty matter be not removed with the viscid pulp, which is finally converted into a solid form by desiccation at a temperature of 100° Fahr. The powdering of the