

## American Pharmaceutical Association.

Below we give the lists of queries submitted by the sections on Scientific Papers and Education and Legislation of the American Pharmaceutical Association for reply at the meeting to be held in Montreal in August:

## SECTION ON SCIENTIFIC PAPERS.

Samuel P. Sadth, Ph.D., Chairman, Philadelphia, Pa.

## QUERIES.

(1) Sanguinaria. The liquid preparations slowly deposit a precipitate upon the sides of the containers. Can a menstruum be devised which will hold permanently in solution the soluble constituents?

(2) Gelatine Capsules. What general rule should be adopted in compounding prescriptions ordering gelatin capsules? When should the ingredients be dispensed in dry powder, and when is it preferable to form them into a mass?

(3) Ichthyol. Ichthyol is now being used internally, dissolved in water and other media. A palatable form of administration is wanted.

(4) Salol and Acetanilid are given usually in powder form. Cannot formulas for therapeutically unobjectionable liquid preparations of the same be devised?

(5) Salicylic Acid. It has been alleged that the synthetical salicylic acid now in the market occasionally shows the presence of salol. Is this statement correct, and, if so, to what extent?

(6) Formalin. A 40 per cent. solution of formaldehyde under that name is attracting much attention as an antiseptic and deodorizer. A good practical formula for its preparation by the retail pharmacists is wanted.

(7) Kamala. It is supposed that resin is the active constituent. Investigation recommended. Is a tincture advisable?

(8) Pyrethrum Carneum. } Insect  
" Roseum. }  
" Cinerariæfolium. }

powder. Can it not be used as a medicine? On what depend their insecticide properties?

(9) Veronica Officinalis is used largely as a house remedy for pectoral complaints and skin diseases. Is there any alkaloid or other active principle in the plant to warrant such use?

(10) Viscum Album (Mistletoe) is used by practitioners to arrest post-partum and other uterine hæmorrhages. Investigation invited.

(11) Pichurim Beans. What are they? Various descriptions of their oils are given by different investigators.

(12) Strophanthus Seeds. A determination of the active principles in the seeds of commerce, their nature, quantity, and method of valuation.

(13) Pareira. Pareira is a valuable diuretic and tonic drug. Buxine has been found in it, but this can hardly be the important principle. What is it?

(14) Rhus. What is the really potent principle of the Rhus group? Is it a

volatile acid, as claimed by Maisch, or is it a substance resembling Cardol?

(15) Tannin. At what season of the year should the tannin drugs be gathered? What relation does the amount of tannin present bear to that of starch? Does the tannin increase as the starch decreases? Or, is this true of some drugs, but not of others?

(16) Cypripedium. There appears to be a poisonous principle, producing effects similar to those of Rhus Toxicodendron, in the glandular hairs of some Cypripediums, particularly C. Spectabile. What is this principle?

(17) Iris. The rhizomes of many species of Iris abound in starch, as the species that furnish the orris root of commerce, but the rhizomes of Iris Versicolor and of the Iris pseudo-acorus do not turn blue with iodine solution. What is the carbohydrate present?

(18) Veratrum. By what means may the rhizomes of Veratrum Album best be distinguished from those of Veratrum Viride? Some method is desirable by means of which this may be done easily and with certainty.

(19) Aconites. The different aconites are very liable to be confounded. In the case of drugs so potent, it is exceedingly important that the structure of each specie liable to be gathered or sold for the officinal should be carefully described. Someone should undertake the task of the thorough investigation of the microscopical structure of all the species.

(20) Pepsin Test. A discussion of the variable results obtained in the tests.

(21) Cottonseed Oil. A review of the tests for its presence as an adulterant in other fixed oils.

## Decolorized Tincture of Iodine.\*

My practical experience, coupled with what research I could make, convinces me that none of the methods given for this preparation is of much worth. Therefore I will only mention the method I use, with a few comments on the so-called decolorized tincture of iodine. The preparation I use is similar in composition to that of the German pharmacopœia and National Formulary. It is as follows:

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Iodine .....             | g. 20 |
| Sodium hyposulphite..... | " 20  |
| Water, distilled.....    | " 20  |

Dissolve by very gentle heat, cool, and add gradually 15 grams of stronger ammonia, and then 150 grams of deodorized alcohol. After eight days filter in a covered funnel, and preserve for use. The careful addition of the ammonia is necessary to insure success of the preparation.

This preparation contains sodium iodide, ammonium iodate, and sodium tetrathionate. The greater part of the latter salt crystallizes out after mixing the different ingredients, and is separated by filtration. Sodium tetrathionate is an

\* R. C. Dickinson at a meeting of the Georgia Pharmaceutical Association.

unstable salt, and therefore it is separated to the greatest possible extent by the addition of alcohol, in which it is not soluble. This preparation differs from that of the German pharmacopœia in being more ammoniacal and more alcoholic, and from that of the National Formulary in being in every way a more concentrated preparation. It appears that if the ammonia is added all at once, the reaction between the chemicals will not be a smooth one. I find that on standing this preparation does not acquire that decayed-radish-like odor characteristic of some preparations.

## The Princess Beglarion, Medicinæ Doctor, Universitatis Bernæ.

Such is the title of one of the most celebrated princesses of Armenia. The royal lady was not content with her social duties, and some four years ago she went to the University of Berne, where she studied medicine industriously, and in due course graduated as M.D. Since her graduation she has served in the cholera hospitals of Russia, and did such good work as to merit the personal thanks of the Czar. At present she is practising at her father's palace, to which the sick flock from miles around to consult her. She is so fond of her profession that she is devoting a large proportion of her fortune to erecting a hospital on her father's estate. The princess is only twenty-five years old, small, piquante, extremely pretty, and undoubtedly far and away the most interesting "new woman" in Europe.—*British and Colonial Druggist*.

## Resinate of Copper.

By dissolving copper sulphate, 50 parts, in water, 1,000 parts, heating the solution to 100°C., and then adding ordinary resin, 100 parts *résinate de cuivre*, a new veterinary remedy is formed (*Ann. de Met. Vet.*). The resulting product is greenish, and described as insoluble in essential oils or alcohol. To prepare it for use dissolve green or black soap (? soft soap), 100 parts, in any amylic alcohol, 100 parts, and to the warm solution add the resinate, 60 parts.

## The Sponge Market Stiffening.

The shortage in the Cuban supply is having its effect on the price of sponges, which is advancing steadily, and the pronounced tendency to higher prices extends to all the grades, including Nassau, Florida, and Mediterranean. Druggists should increase their retail prices, if they have not already done so.

Antidiabeticum is a synonym for glycosolvol, which is referred to below, and which should not be confounded with anti-diabetin, which has already been described in this journal.