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### TINCTURES FROM FLUID EXTRACTS.

THE preparation of tinctures from fluid extracts was discussed at a recent meeting of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy. Prof. Lloyd, Dr. Rice and others sent in written opinions, while Mr. Kebler, J. W. England and Prof. Remington took part in the discussion. Opinion was well divided on the subject, but we think those opposed to the practice had the best of the argument. We are opposed to the habit which some pharmacists have of making their infusions, tinctures, etc., from fluid extracts. It may be allowable in certain cases, such as, for instance, when a small quantity of a tincture of some rarely used drug is prescribed, which we have not in stock, but of which the fluid extract is on hand; then the dilution to the strength of the tincture may be practised, but the general preparation of all tinctures from the fluid extracts is certainly opposed to the principles of good pharmacy.

One reason is that the menstrua for fluid extracts generally differ from those for the corresponding tinctures, and therefore will not dissolve the same plant principles in the same proportions, so that a tincture made by dilution will differ to some extent from that made in the usual way. Then again, although the supposition is that fluid extracts represent the drug, volume for weight, we do not think that a tincture made by dilution will contain the same percentage of active principles as the official preparation, as the extraction of a drug by percolating with eight or ten times its weight of menstruum must be more complete than by the process used for the preparation of fluid extracts and subsequent dilution. Although there is room for difference of opinion with regard to the preparation of tinctures, there can be none as regards the preparation of infusions or decoctions from fluid extracts; the preparations thus made are entirely different to those made by the official process. Infusion of digitalis, for instance, made by dilution of the fluid extract, will not produce the same therapeutic effect as one prepared from the drug with water, and which is always intended when this preparation is prescribed. The use of fluid extracts for the preparation of tinctures may in a few limited cases be permitted, but never for the aqueous preparations, such as infusions or decoctions.

### MORE LITIGATION OVER PHENACETINE.

MESSRS. SCHIEFFELIN & CO., of New York, appear to have no end of trouble in protecting their preserve from poachers. They have the exclusive right of sale of phenacetine for the United States, and the price is fixed at \$1 per ounce; it costs about six cents per ounce in Germany, so that even with a duty of 25 per cent. against it, they have been able to struggle along and keep the wolf from the door. Such a good opportunity to make a little "on the side" was bound to be taken advantage of by the fellow on the look