

Selections.

GLACERINUM LACTO-CARBOLICUM.—Botey applies one of the following mixtures to tuberculous affections of the throat, which combines the soothing effect of the phenol with the specific healing properties of lactic acid: Acid carbolio, 1, 2 or 5 grammes; acid lactic, 2, 4 or 15 grammes; glycerin, 20 grammes. The painting should be done energetically, the throat being touched up two or three times. In cases of great irritability an application of cocaine should precede painting with this application.—*Pharm. Centralh.*

Carniferrol is a meat peptone preparation containing iron. It has an aromatic odor and agreeable liquorice-like taste. According to the manufacturer it contains 10 per cent. of meat peptone and four-tenths of 1 per cent. of iron. It is used as a tonic stomachic dietetic.

OXY-CAMPHOR. By treating a mixture of camphor and orthoquinone with zinc dust, or aluminum amalgam, a new body, oxy camphor, has been obtained, in which an atom of hydrogen in the camphor molecule has been replaced by an hydroxyl radicle. It is a crystalline body soluble to about 1 in 50 in cold water. From experiments on animals it would seem that oxy camphor may be given in large doses without danger, and that it exercises a markedly sedative action on the respiratory centre. As an anti-dyspnoeic, it is as active as morphine, although without any narcotic action; dyspnoea in cardiac cases has been relieved by single daily doses of 1 gramme, or the same dose night and morning; as much as 3 grammes may be given in the course of twenty-four hours in doses of 0.50 centigramme to 1 gramme.—*L'Union Pharm., after Semaine Medical.*

PREPARATION OF MERCURY PYOKTANATE AND ITS GAUZE.—Pyoktanate of mercury has been used with success as a general bactericide, either in a half or one per cent. solution, or for dressing as a gauze. The compound is prepared by precipitating a solution of mercuric chloride in ammonium chloride by means of a strong solution of pyoktanin. The precipitate which results contains 55 per cent. of mercury. The gauze is prepared by first saturating 100 parts of undressed gauze in a solution of sublimate, 1 part, and ammonium hydrochloride, 5 parts, in water, 60 parts. After drying it is moistened with a half per cent. solution of pyoktanin and again dried.—*Phar. Journal.*

HYDROXYL-FREE COD LIVER OIL.—Peter Moller, of Christiania, has patented and placed on the German market a form of cod liver oil under the above name in which all the oxy-fatty acids (which produce the disagreeable eructations) have

been removed from the oil by treatment in an atmosphere of carbon dioxide. The taste of the preparation is said to be very mild and agreeable, and it is said it can be retained by the most delicate stomachs. It should be protected from air, and is, therefore, put up in bottles only.

DETECTION OF GLYCERIN IN SYRUPY LIQUIDS.—Deniges recommends heating a small quantity of the liquid with three or four times its weight of powdered bisulphate of potassium. Any acrolein vapours which may have formed are detected by Nessler's reagent, or they are passed into a hot mixture of 2 c.c. of a 1 to 2 solution of silver nitrate, 2 c.c. of solution of ammonia, and 2 c.c. of solution of soda. The reduction of the silver solution indicates the presence of glycerin.—*Pharm. Centralh., Phar. Jr. (Eng.)*

ERGOTINOL AND ITS PREPARATION.—Ergotinol is advanced, by the *Apotheker Zeitung*, as a succedaneum of ergotin, in all cases where ergot is indicated, on the ground that it is easy of administration, acts promptly and surely, and possesses great stability. It causes a slight pain when given hypodermically, but this is completely controlled by the addition of a small amount of cocaine or morphine to the dose of ergotinol. The method of preparing the substance is as follows: Reduce the ergot to powder and free the latter of its fatty constituents by extraction with ether. The residual powder is extracted with water, and the aqueous extract submitted to hydrolysis, after acidification. The liquid is then neutralized, and set aside and alcoholic fermentation is superinduced. When the latter is complete the products submitted to dialysis and then concentrated by evaporation down to the point where 1 ccm. of the result represents 50 cgms. of extract of ergot.

INODOROUS OIL OF TURPENTINE.—Szigethy (*Drug Ztg.*) recommends shaking the oil with a 10 per cent. solution of sodium carbonate (calculated as anhydrous) in order to combine the acid and resinous impurities, then it is washed several times with distilled water, finally distilling the product under reduced pressure of 12 m.m., in a current of steam and carbonic acid gas. The distilled oil should be allowed to remain in the atmosphere of carbonic anhydride until entirely cold. The author claims that the odor of turpentine oil is entirely due to the oxidizing action of the atmosphere.

FIGURES REGARDING THE BLOOD CORPUSCLES.—A writer in the *Microscope* has compiled some interesting data concerning blood corpuscles. Thus the diameter of one of these tiny disks is 1-3200th of an inch. One hundred and twenty-one thousandths of the entire blood quantity is red corpuscles. They are individually so minute that it requires a microscope of

considerable power to see them at all; and yet their number is such in one man that if a chain were made of them, each corpuscle just touching its neighbor, it would be over two thousand miles long! Three gallons of blood in a man of 140 pounds weight is a fair average, and 0.381 of a gallon of the above is red globules. One cubic inch of these corpuscles made into a chain of a single corpuscle's breadth would be 3,200 x 3,200 inches long, or 1,600,000 inches. As there are 231 cubic inches in a gallon, 0.381 of 231 would give the cubic measure of red globules in the above man. Thus 1,600,000 x 88 gives 140,800,000 inches. Reduced to miles, this equals, counting 63,360 inches to the mile, 2,222 miles!

TRANSPARENT CRYSTALS.—A French chemist has obtained crystals of alum, copper sulphate and sodium chlorid that were unusually perfect and extraordinarily transparent by imparting to the nucleus a slow rotary motion in the mother-liquor while the crystals were growing.

PREPARING HIGHLY CONCENTRATED SOLUTIONS OF PERFUME.—In perfuming powdered soaps or soap pastilles, the spirituous solution of perfumes are unsuitable on account of their high volatility. On the other hand, the fatty solutions, such as are exemplified by scented pomades, are so weak that the addition of the quantity necessary to impart sufficient perfume to the soap would render the latter unfit for use, by preventing it from absorbing water and by making the skin greasy. In the process patented in Germany by H. Mack, an inodorous fatty substance, e.g., melted vaseline, is heated in an agitator along with the diluted spirituous solution of perfume, whereby highly concentrated solutions of scent are obtained, a small quantity then sufficing to strongly scent the dry soap.—*Soap-maker and Perfumer.*

THE ARTIFICIAL PERFUMING OF FLOWERS.—It is not very long since the secret of coloring flowers with aniline dyes was discovered. Now it is said that flowers can be perfumed artificially. It is possible not only to take away the natural odor of a flower, but also make it yield a perfume derived from some other vegetable product. Some violets, for example, are perfect in form and coloring, but without fragrance, while others, very insignificant to look at, emit a delicious fragrance. The transfer of the odor from one species to another has been accomplished. Those who have been most successful in this branch of horticulture refuse to tell their secret. It is said that the showy African marigold has been robbed of its disagreeable odor and endowed with a perfume that makes it much sought. The fad has been carried to the extreme of giving to the sunflower the odor of the rose and to the chrysanthemum that of the violet.—*Oils, Colours, and Drysalteries.*