

Spring Medicines and Other Seasonable Specialties.

BY A "CONNECTICUT DRUGGIST" IN PHARMACEUTICAL RECORD.

As the spring season approaches the demand for blood purifiers, spring tonics, nervines, etc., makes itself felt. Druggists can make very good preparations, probably exceeding in virtue articles of a similar kind which are largely advertised and many of which contain stuff which is of little or no medicinal value. They can also put them up and sell them at a great deal cheaper than the others cost at wholesale. Large retailers seldom care to go to the annoyance and bother of putting up those more largely demanded, on account of lack of time and facility.

This month is the time in which one should have some spring tonic well started. To give it a boom, advertise it in the various church fairs, suppers, etc. This method is better than advertising in the newspapers, since, in addition to booming your preparation, it helps the church, and most churches need a lift now and then. Newspapers are beneficial if you can get the right spot. Very few people read the advertisements in the advertising departments of the paper lest, may be, it is for bargains in their favorite dry goods store, where they are selling goods below cost (!).

The part to advertise in is the reading matter columns, known as "locals" by the papers outside of the large cities.

A few examples of advertising may not be amiss in connection with this article. The following, for instance, is sure to be read :

"After you have read all about the sermon by your favorite pastor, you should see that the larger number of people going into John Jones' drug store to-day was because he was selling that celebrated spring tonic of his for 50 cents a bottle. Just as good, probably better than any other spring tonic, and at less cost."

Another might read :

"On your way home from church stop into Jones' drug store and get a bottle of his spring tonic ; only 50c. a bottle."

Numerous other advertisements may be drawn up on the lines indicated.

SARSAPARILLA FORMULÆ.

In preparing a staple compound of sarsaparilla for spring trade, it is essential to success to make a first-class article in the beginning and always maintain its strength and appearance. If you change it after the first lot, your customers will believe that you are weakening and cheapening it.

For a sarsaparilla and iodide of potassium compound, the following is an excellent formula :

SARSAPARILLA AND IODIDE OF POTASSIUM.

Sarsaparilla gr. d.	lb. 1
Burdock root	} aa. oz. 3
Dandelion root	
Prickly ash bark	
Chamomile, Roman ..	
Sassafras bark	oz. 4

Iodide potassium	av. oz. 1
Salicylate sodium	av. oz. 4
Glycerin	fl. oz. 21
Alcohol	pt. 1½
Water, enough to make	gal. 1

Grind all the drugs to No. 20 powder. Mix the glycerin and alcohol with 2 quarts of water. Macerate 24 hours and percolate. When the liquid has ceased to drop, pour in hot water until a gallon altogether has been percolated. Add the iodide of potassium and salicylate sodium and dissolve. If not sufficiently dark to suit the eye, add caramel, 1 fl. ounce.

Bottle this in 12-ounce green panels and label attractively. This will cost, without the carton, about 17 cents a bottle. The carton will cost about 2 or 3 cents extra.

Put 2 or 3 dozen on the counter next to the scales, and over them hang a sign, reading : "Jones' Sarsaparilla, only 50 cents a bottle. Guaranteed to be equal to any made."

Other compounds may be made, almost without limit. A few ideas are subjoined :

SPRING BITTERS.

Aloes	oz. 6
Sassafras	oz. 8
Hops	oz. 2
Gentian	oz. 4
Chamomile	oz. 2
Acetic acid, U. S. P.	oz. 1
Alcohol	qt. 1
Water, q. s.	gal. 1

Mix acid and alcohol with 2 quarts of water. Macerate 24 hours, then percolate, adding enough hot water to make 1 gallon.

DR. BREEN'S NERVE TONIC.

R Coca, No. 20 powder	oz. 8
Damiana	oz. 8
Gentian	oz. 8
Bromide potassium	oz. 1½
Salicylate sodium	oz. 1
Dandelion root	oz. 8
Alcohol	qt. 1
Glycerin	pt. 1
Water, q. s.	gal. 1

Follow directions as above. Put up in green panel, 8-ounce bottles.

Another very fair tonic is the cheaper preparation of Peruvian bark, combined with different substances with popular names. These are very much called for in some localities, and a fair idea of the general composition may be gathered from the following model, which may be called either

"ROXA TONIC" OR

ELIXIR RED BARK AND CELERY.

R Celery seed, powdered	av. oz. 2
Red cinchona	oz. 1
Orange peel	} aa. oz. 1
Coriander seed	
Lemon peel	
Muriatic acid	min. 15
Alcohol	fl. oz. 5
Glycerin	fl. oz. 4
Water	fl. oz. 4
Syrup	fl. oz. 4

Mix all the drugs and grind to about No. 40 powder.

Add the mixture of acid, alcohol, glycerin and water ; macerate 24 hours, then percolate, adding enough alcohol and water in the proportion given to make 12 fl. ounces. Add the syrup and if neces-

sary filter. The flavoring may be altered to suit. Some like rose. Add instead, then of the lemon, orange, and coriander, red rose leaves po., 1 ounce. This takes the place of a certain preparation which the proprietor informs me is gaining great and deserving popularity in the New England states.

Another idea is for a good fruit laxative to take the place of a certain fig syrup largely advertised. This may be made as follows :

IDEAL FRUIT SYRUP.

R Fl. ext. cascara sagrada (tasteless)	fl. oz. 1½
Fl. ext. Oregon grape root	dr. 3
Grd. senna, No. 20, powder	dr. 6
Prunes } aa.	av. oz. 2
Figs }	
Oil of fennel } aa.	min. 10
Oil of cinnamon }	
Oil of cloves	min. 5
Sugar	oz. 3
Water, enough to make	pt. 1

Chop the figs and prunes, without stones, to a fine hash, mix with senna and steep in 12 ounces water for three hours, adding sufficient to replace the water of evaporation. Strain through a No. 4 wire sieve. To this liquid add the sugar and dissolve. Add the fluid extracts and oils, make up to one pint with hot water, which has been poured over the fruit on sieve.

Some may prefer to leave out the oils and add instead

Fl. ext. licorice	fl. 3 iv.
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Others may prefer instead of the licorice,

Powdered nutmeg	5 iij.
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This is more like the original. Dose, one to two tablespoonfuls.

In preparing substitutes for the various liver and kidney remedies which have a large sale in some places, the following will serve as a model :

SECURE OR SAFE KIDNEY AND LIVER CURE.

R Liverwort	oz. 4
Jam. dogwood	oz. 1
Ergot	oz. 2
Triticum repens	oz. 4
Gaultheria	oz. 2
Nitrate potassium	av. oz. 1
Alcohol	pt. 2
Glycerin	fl. oz. 12
Water q. s. ad	gal. 1

Grind the drugs to No. 20 or 30 powder, percolate with all the glycerin and alcohol mixed with 2 quarts water. When that has all passed add enough hot water to make 1 gallon, add the nitrate of potassium and dissolve.

In displaying preparations made as above a neat and artistic wrapper will be of much assistance. Outside appearances are everything with some people, and the more you expend in dressing your preparations the better returns you will have.

Love your neighbor as yourself, and you will love him too well to help him get into debt.

The muscular force used in making a dozen kicks will carry one a mile, if properly employed.

The most unendurably egotistical persons are those who affect great humility in order to accomplish some selfish end,