

MEASURES OF CAPACITY.

1 millilitre usually spoken of as a cubic centimetre and consequently abbreviated c.c. 0.001 litre	16.89	min.
1 centilitre abbreviated Cl. 0.01 litre	0.352	fl. oz.
1 decilitre abbreviated Dl. 0.1 litre	0.1759	pint.
1 litre (the volume at 4° C. of 1,000 grammes of distilled water), abbreviated L.	35.196	fl. oz. or 1.7598 pints.

The cubic centimetre that is a cube each of whose sides is a square centimetre is the unit of cubic capacity; it is usually considered to be of such a volume as to contain exactly one millilitre of distilled water at 4°C. It is according to the Pharmacopœia equivalent to 0.99984 millilitre. The term cubic centimetre is, however, used in place of millilitre throughout the pharmacopœia and this book. The British Pharmaceutical Codex has introduced a new term intended to supersede this use of cubic centimetre. The term introduced is "mil" an obvious abbreviation of millilitre. It has the added advantage that using the plan of the metric system, diminutives may readily be constructed to express quantities smaller than one cubic centimetre; thus using this term 0.12 c.c. may be read twelve centimils, or 0.7 c.c. seven decimils.

DOMESTIC MEASURES. A teaspoonful is a convenient but inaccurate measure and is considered as roughly equivalent to 1 fluid drachm (or 3.5 c.c.) a dessertspoonful is similarly considered to be equal to 2 fluid drachms (7 c.c.) and a tablespoonful equivalent to a half fluid ounce (or 14 c.c.). A wine-glassful though too inaccurate for use in medicine is usually stated to be equal to 1½-2 fluid ounces, similarly a teacupful is estimated as 5 fluid ounces and a tumblerful as one half pint or 10 fluid ounces. A minim is considered to be equal to one drop but as the size of a drop varies with the viscosity of the fluid and the point from which it is dropped it is not to be considered an at all accurate measure. Graduated measures may now be obtained so cheaply that every physician can well insist upon their use.