

names of phenaronum and glusidam respectively.

A new agitation has been started in the press on the subject of proprietary preparations and physicians prescribing them instead of articles to be found in the B.P. It is hinted that Dr. Luff, a former pharmaceutical chemist, is at the bottom of the agitation, and so far it has been very successfully engineered. An editorial on the folly and wickedness of prescribing these factory made articles appeared first in one of the medical journals that depends largely for its income upon the advertisements of these same preparations. It was followed up by a letter signed by half-a-dozen West-end chemists who ventured to place on record their concordance with the principles laid down in the editorial article. Curiously enough, this letter was *not* signed by the leading West-end dispensing chemists, such as Savory and Moore, Squire and Sons, Godfrey and Cooke, etc. Then the *Lancet* had a very circumspect article on the same subject, but preferred to look upon it as a question of prescribing a particular brand of compressed tablet, capsule, etc., and finished with the weighty remark, that to affix the name of a proprietor to the title of an article, is in the nature of a free advertisement. As the *Lancet* does not give free advertisements, except to prospective advertisers, it naturally looks displeased at this view of the subject. The most tangible and practical suggestion emanates from the Formulary Committee of the B. P. C., who announce their intention to publish formulæ for many of the private proprietaries now being prescribed by the medical profession. The only person who will probably gain by this will be the wholesale druggist, as ninety-nine per cent. of the trade will procure these articles, as they do their tinctures, liquid extracts, and even ointments, from the wholesaler. It will be interesting to see if the committee have formulæ handy for Beecham's Pills, Mother Siegel's Syrup, etc., and if not, it is curious that proprietaries that have the largest sale are not to be officially represented. Does any one seriously believe that the publication of these formulæ will induce any but a very few to abandon their practice of prescribing an article of which they have full knowledge for one that is quite new to them? If so, the fate of the American official article that was supposed to represent Bromidia should be a warning.

The American substitute has never, to my knowledge, been asked for in England, but nearly every wholesale druggist has a preparation under the name of Liquor Chloral, Et Pot Bromid or Miso. Bromide Co, which is his own substitute for Bromidia. Yet, I presume the sales of Bromidia go merrily on, and all this in spite of an enormous difference in price in favor of the substitutes.

United States Notes.

The war tax continues to be a source of considerable worry to manufacturing chemists and retail druggists all over the United States. The latest decision of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, makes articles taxable in bulk if any quantities of them, however small, are so made up as to convey directions to the general public regarding their use.

A new germicide for gonorrhea is being used at the New York Post-Graduate Hospital and elsewhere. It is a proteid compound of mercury and nucleol, whence its name, Mercurol, and is said to be preferable to the proteids of silver, inasmuch as its action, being physiological and not chemical, it does not disintegrate, and so has no irritating effect on the mucous membrane. Professor Ramon Guiteras, at the hospital referred to, and Dr. Frederick Fraley, Jun., of Philadelphia, have obtained excellent results from the use of the new remedy. It is easily administered, and is eminently safe.

Interest in the subject of vaccination has been revived by the prevalence of small-pox among the troops in the Philippine Islands. The necessity of rendering soldiers immune from varioloid is strongly insisted on, and it is affirmed that this can be effected by repeated vaccination. As to the danger of infection from the employment of impure vaccine, the advice of Surgeon-General Wyman, of the Marine Hospital Service, is worth bearing in mind: "Use nothing but glycerized lymph."

Several eminent practitioners are conducting series of cases with chloretone, a new hypnotic and anesthetic which Parke, Davis & Co. have put on the American market. It is derived from the mixture of potash with equal quantities of chloroform and acetone, and has properties which make it available not only as a local anesthetic, but also as a

dressings for wounds. As a remedy for insomnia, it has the advantage of being easily taken, being made up into three grain tablets, of which two or three make an ordinary dose. It is customary to prescribe a drink of hot soda or some similar beverage as a diluent.

Edward Otto, a druggist of Chicago, Ill., has been enjoined by the U. S. District Court from dispensing or selling any substance in imitation of, or as a substitute for, Fairchild's Essence of Pepsin, when that preparation is prescribed or asked for, and he is also required to pay all costs of suits, which amount to about \$500.

Liquid Dentrifices.

BOAS' DENTIFRICE.

	Parts.
Anise fruits	15
Chamomiles	10
Cloves	10
Alcohol (90 per cent.)	200
Cinnamon	7.5

Macerate for four days, filter, and add oil of peppermint 5, tincture of ambergris 5.

GUNTHER'S DENTIFRICE.

	Parts.
Tincture of alkanet (1.10)	200
Compound spirit of balm (Codex) ..	70
Alcohol (90 per cent.)	800
Oil of rose	3
Oil of peppermint	9

SCHROEDER'S DENTIFRICE.

	Parts.
Gunther's dentifrice, as above	100
Salicylic acid	2

COCA DENTIFRICE.

	Parts.
Coca leaves	100
Alum in powder	15
Cochineal	100
Alcohol (90 per cent.)	

Macerate for four days, press, add oil of peppermint 4, oil of cloves 4, oil of rose 1, compound spirit of cochlearia (Codex) 400, saccharin 0.4. Filter.

—*Monde Dentaire (Phar 11)*.

A Kink in Making Tincture of Iodine.

M. Pées, writing to the *Bulletin Commercial*, after enumerating the various methods of making tincture of iodine, with the view of shortening the process of solution, says that the following is the most satisfactory to him: Take a small percolator, or one of size suitable to the amount of tincture to be made, with a glass cover, and provided with a glass stopcock. Put at the bottom a wad of absorbent cotton of moderate thickness, and on this put the iodine. Finally pour in your alcohol. Now turn the stop-cock very slightly or just enough to allow the liquid to escape into a receiver, drop by drop. Do this at night, and the next morning you will find your solution ready.—*Nat. Druggist*.