

discard your winter clothes at a certain date. Conform to the whims of the weather clerk.

38. While honey catches more flies than vinegar, a sweet disposition drives away more disease germs than a malevolent nature.

39. Some people are strong and healthy in spite of their disregard for the rules of hygiene but no one on account of such unobservance.

40. Doctors would seldom be sick if they followed all their own advice. But druggists need not take all their own medicine to keep well.

41. Those who are seldom sick take but little medicine and it is equally true that persons are seldom sick if they take but little medicine.

42. To insure a long and healthy life, join the Missouri State Pharmaceutical Association. The members are never sick and seldom die.

43. Pharmacists should eat plenty of well cooked, nutritious food to assist them in withstanding the trials and tribulations of their professional life.

44. Ventilation is regulated by the difference between the temperature outdoors and inside as much as by the size of the opening in windows, etc.

45. It is as much a sin to have teeth drawn as it is pain to let them ache. Visit your dentist every six months and have your mouth examined.

46. It may be more delectable but it is certainly more dangerous to breathe through the mouth than through the nose when we encounter a foul odor. The nose filters the air.

47. Fashion does not often travel the road of health but it is better to be perturbed by the finger of ridicule while alive than deaf to the lugubrious voice of our friends when we are dead.

48. Druggists should marry such good cooks that they will never miss a meal at the proper hour. Their wives should be so handsome that the husband never feels content to eat behind the prescription case.

49. Some people employ a homoeopath when they are but little sick and send for a doctor as soon as frightened by the severity of the disease. Such persons remind me of those who scoff at religion until caught by death's grasp, and they as often wait too long.

50. Churchill says :

The safest way to health, say what you will,
Is never to suppose we shall be ill ;
Most of the ills that we poor mortals know
From doctors and imagination flow.

Ononid is a glycoside isolated by E. Hoffmann from the root of *ononis spinosa*. It appears to be identical with glycyrrhizin.

Coriandrol constitutes about 90 per cent. of the oil of coriander. It is dextrogyre, and has a specific gravity of 0.8679 at 15° C.

The Art of Prescribing.

What we like about Dr. X. is his flattering reliance upon the pharmacist's knowledge of posology, and even of therapeutics. The doctor is interested in cases ; he executes a diagnosis with accuracy and dispatch, but writing prescriptions makes him feel tired. What generally happens is a rapid dash-up of his carriage to the pharmaceutical doorway. "O, I say," come the words of medical wisdom, "just give old Mrs. P. something to cool her down, will you ? Liquor ammon. acet., you know, and spirit of nitre and oh, yes, four minims of ipecac—every four hours. Good morning. Guse-dub Lune." This last to the coachman, who drives off, leaving the pharmacist to collect the *disjecta membra* into a compoundable whole. Very frequently Dr. X., revolving many matters in his noble mind, drives past, forgetting all about the fact that he has told his patient to send to Mr. Pestle for the medicine, which he will order as he passes. Comes the patient, but the physic is not, neither knowledge of it in the mind pharmaceutical. Next day the doctor is *so* sorry, my dear boy, and full of promises of future amendment ; but the pharmacist groans in spirit, knowing that it is his fate to live in an atmosphere of abject apology, surrounded by gloomy, fierce and suspicious patients, clamorous for physic or the gore of him who produceth it not. The airy manner in which our doctor slings about the most leprous distillments of the Pharmacopeia is provocative of respectful admiration.

"What? Oh, that old chap! O, yes, let me see. You just give him some iron and nux—and tinct strophanthus—t. d." The carriage drives off. Out comes a shiny-batted head from the window with a Parthian shot. "Oh, I say. Just put in a little arsenic too, will you?" This delicious. One cannot help loving Dr. X.

Then there is Dr. Q. He always writes prescriptions himself in a hand which cannot be described, but which sometimes may be read—in the sweat of the pharmacist's brow. Whether legible or not it matters little. Dr. Q. is as firm a believer in simple prescribing as the "laudamy and calamy" avenger of Flodden in the Scottish legend. A few days' study of his methods will render the pharmacist independent of the hieroglyphic puzzles produced for his inspection. Dr. Q. smites all diseases with the same fascies, and is as successful as most. His infinite variety lies not in the medicine he orders, but in the materials on which his prescriptions are written. He carries no paper, and, as he goes into many houses of the very poor, writing materials are to seek. Blithely the doctor snatches at anything handy—the margin of a stray newspaper, the lid of a cardboard box, the paper cover of a jam pot, the back of a grocer's butter-paper, or the interior of a sugar-bag. Peradventure an engraving from an illustrated paper is pinned upon

the wall. It is smoky, chewed at the corners, generations of the domestic fly have treated it unkindly. Nonetheless, 'twill serve. We have a prescription written on the reverse of the portrait of an undeservedly popular novelist, and another written across the pictured brow of the present leader of Her Majesty's Government. Inspection as to whether the other side of the picture would not have been better, revealed thereon a comic drawing, and Dr. Q., not writing a prescription *pour rire*, but, indeed, for an aged person of grave countenance, most appropriately chose the solemn visage of the Right Honorable. Once by some means the doctor came into possession of a half-sheet of white demy, and, rejoicing in the unwonted freedom, covered the whole expanse in letters two inches long.

Dr. R., again, is thrifty of words. Not his that infinitude of directions, going twice round the bottle and over the cork, or into half an inch square, according to the penmanship and common-sense of the compounder. His *signetur* is mostly verbal, addressed to the patient or friend, being wholly occupied during the interview detailing symptoms with relish, is in a condition of bland ignorance as to the usage of the remedy and expects full directions from the distressed chemist. Of such was the young lady who brought a prescription for suppositories. The *signetur* was, "As directed." Queried the messenger, "What size of a bowi were we to give these in?" The doctor had explained as to the mode of administration *per rectum*. The one word "bowel" was all that the friend had caught, and that incorrectly. We had to expound to this innocent young person. It was an embarrassing moment.

Nevertheless it is desirable to direct very clearly concerning suppositories, lest it occur as it did to one patient, who swallowed in simple faith two strong ones of belladonna and morphia, and did not swallow more only because the doctor prevented her. She did not die. This was not flattering to the activity of our medicaments, and lowered our professional pride.

Those whose elegant pharmacies are situate in pleasant places among an educated people will perceive that we who make our moan are "down in a village of La Mancha, the name of which there is no occasion to remember." They are a stiff-necked generation. We have wasted lavishly the gray matter of our brain, giving various worthy reasons why a teaspoonful of an inhalation should not be swallowed in a pint of boiling water. And who shall state the mental attitude of that old wife, lean and poor, told to take two tablespoonfuls of a mixture, and who made answer that she had only one tablespoon in the house, but would borrow another from a neighbor?—W. MACÉ, in *Chemist and Druggist*.

If you would establish credit, first create a confidence in your honesty and ability with your creditor.