

the oils of gaultheria, or birch, to the unbroken skin, takes place somewhat readily. Drasche² noted its appearance in the urine in a very short time after an application of its alcoholic solution to the skin. The acid and its salts are rapidly absorbed from the stomach and intestines, and are eliminated in very much the larger part by the kidneys. Salicylic acid and its compounds are taken up by the blood as salicylate of sodium (Salkowski). The theory of Binz that the acid is liberated in the blood by the carbonic acid formed in the tissues, has been disproved by the experiments of Feser and Friedeberger. Kohler has shown that



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only in the blood of asphyxia does such a liberation occur. It is probable that even the insoluble salicylates of strontium, bismuth, etc., are decomposed in the intestines and yield their acid to the blood as the sodium salt. Kumagawa's experiment showed that salicylic acid was absorbed from the intestines so rapidly that it failed to act as an antiseptic upon the bowel contents, and thus diminish the indican of the urine. Elimination is correspondingly rapid. Soullier detected the drug in the urine ten to twenty minutes after its exhibition by the stomach in 15