

in the process of coagulation. It has been also proven that it increases the secretion of the coagulating materials of the white corpuscles. Lancereaux adopts the following solution:

Gelatin sterilized at 120°	gr. 4.55
Chloride of sodium	gr. 1.40
Sterilized water	gr. 200

The complete treatment requires from 30 to 40 injections. The only contra-indication to this treatment is the existence of albuminuria. Possessing in gelatin a valuable means of favoring the coagulation of the blood, one must seek measures for lessening the arterial tension and modifying the condition of the vessel-walls. To accomplish the former, the best measures are rest in the horizontal position, an absolute milk regimen and iodide of potassium. Rest in the horizontal position lowers the arterial pressure by 40 millimetres. The iodide of potassium is preferable to the sodium salt, as it has a better effect on the nutrition of the vessel-walls. One must also treat any etiological conditions which come into play. If the patient is undoubtedly syphilitic, one must use mercurial preparations.—Translated from *Giornale Internazionale delle Scienze Mediche* by Harley Smith.

The Lost Art of Prescribing.

It is a venerable grumble among physicians of the older school that the art of therapeutics is decaying because the younger generation is extremely ignorant of materia medica and remarkably inefficient in the matter of prescribing elegant mixtures. The result, it is averred, is that proprietary drugs are acquiring an increasing vogue, to the detriment both of the patient and the practitioner. A recent contributor to the *Medical Record* has made this thesis the text of an address upon the proper teaching of therapeutics in medical schools. "I have maintained for years," he says, "that the best way to do away with nostrums is to give our medical students thorough courses in materia medica, medical pharmacy, pharmacology, and therapeutics. The way to abolish proprietary medicines is to teach medical students how to prescribe, and acquaint them with the physiological and therapeutic action of drugs. They should be taught how to write or compound prescriptions that would be palatable and agreeable, compatible, yet so associated or combined as to meet the indications for which the prescription is intended in a scientific manner."