

ated is mixed with water. Taken internally, the mixture acts as a sedative on the mucous membrane of the respiratory passages, intestines, and bladder, and as a diuretic. It is slightly astringent, and is sometimes prescribed by native physicians in bronchitis, catarrh, diarrhoea, and dysentery, as also in diseases of the urethra.—*Chemist and Druggist*.

Pharmacists and the Epidemic in Hamburg.

According to a writer in the *Pharmaceutische Zeitung*, one of the results of the outbreak of cholera in Hamburg will be the introduction into the Reichstag of a Bill for placing the power to adopt protective measures against infectious diseases in the hands of a central authority, thereby taking away the autonomy now possessed by Hamburg and other free cities in this matter. The writer, after drawing a harrowing picture of the devastations of the plague in the ancient city, describes the preventive measures generally resorted to by pharmacists. A 5 per cent. solution of carbolic acid is sprinkled on the floor of the pharmacies at frequent intervals, and near the desk for sales over the counter a basin with corrosive-sublimate solution (3 in 1,000) is kept for the frequent rinsing of the hands. No bottles are taken back from customers during the epidemic. Smoking and, as far as possible, all direct contact with customers are also avoided. The following prophylactic has been found very useful:—

Hydrochloric acid.....	30 grains.
Pepsin.....	30 "
Aq. menth. pip.....	6 ozs.
Syr. zingiber.....	1 "

Take half a tablespoonful every two hours. Feet and legs should be rubbed morning and night with spirits of camphor.

No pharmacist has died of cholera in Hamburg thus far.—*Chemist and Druggist*.

Cherry Tree Gum.

M. Garros (*Jour. de Pharm. et de Chim.*) has found that cherry-tree gum easily dissolves and is whitened in water containing a few drops of sulphuric or hydrochloric acid. This two fold operation is aided by a gentle heat, such as that of the sun, or better, of a stove maintained at 40° or 45° C. for 20 or 25 minutes. The solution thus obtained is white and viscous. Cherry-tree gum and gum arabic are bodies presenting different reactions; neutral acetate of lead produces no effect with either; subacetate of lead yields a precipitate with gum arabic, but none with cherry-tree gum; gum arabic is levogyrate, cherry-tree gum inactive. By placing a concentrated solution of gum arabic upon strong sulphuric acid, an insoluble gelatinous substance is formed, while cherry-tree gum, similarly treated, changes into a saccharine body which consists chiefly of galactose. The fact that arabinose is yielded by gum arabic constitutes a

sufficient mark of distinction between the latter and cherry-tree gum.

Black Phosphorus.

Black Phosphorus, obtainable by the prolonged action of ammonia and heat upon ordinary powdered phosphorus, until the powder remaining becomes permanent in air and ceases to smell of hydrogen phosphide, has been proven to be arsenic: the ammoniacal solution contains the salts of the lower acids of phosphorus, but is free from phosphates and arsenic salts. The presence of the arsenic in the commercial phosphorus is traceable to the sulphuric acid used in its preparation; the phosphorus is considered to hold the arsenic dissolved, and when acted upon by ammonia may give rise to a red or brown colored powder, which, however, disappears after some time, leaving a black, lustreless powder composed of metallic arsenic.—*Amer. J. Pharmacy*.

Iodine Trichloride.

On account of the introduction of this substance into surgical and ophthalmic practice, A. Tschirch has studied its behavior with water and its antiseptic action. In contact with water it immediately undergoes decomposition, yielding monochloride, hydrochloric and iodic acids. Both the latter have but a very slight antiseptic action, consequently the effect of a solution of the trichloride can only be due to the monochloride produced. The idea that the antiseptic action is due to nascent chlorine is incorrect, since no chloride is eliminated. Comparative trials with pure trichloride, monochloride, and the brown commercial article have given identical results, and they show that the monochloride is a very powerful antiseptic even when diluted to the extent of 1 in 2000.—*Schweiz. Wochensh. f. Chem. u. Pharm.*

Pointers for Retailers.

Buyers in the aggregate, think very little about sellers and will rarely move much out of their way to make a purchase at their friends, provided they can get the article they want equally cheap and equally good in the immediate neighborhood where they may chance to be.

Those who expect to keep up with the times and with competitors must take and read their class journals for it is only in this way they are likely to keep well posted. There is no excuse for not knowing the news and advertisers.

Advertising in trade papers must pay, or else so shrewd an advertiser as John Wanamaker, for example, would not use such mediums. His business engages a large audience. His problem is, of course, how to reach all sorts and conditions of people.—*Ex.*

The moment you begin to distrust yourself others will believe you are right in doing it.

Kresol-Lime, a New Disinfectant

Prof. Fodor (*Rundschau*, 1892, page 53) calls attention to Kresol-lime as a very cheap and effective disinfectant for disinfection on the large scale.

One part of lime is slaked with four parts of water, and then five parts of crude kresol are gradually added. The result is a syrupy liquid containing fifty per cent. of kresol, and mixable with water in all proportions. Fifty grams of this lime, equal to twenty-five grams of crude kresol, is sufficient to sterilize one liter of filthy fluid inside of four hours, while twenty-five grams of phenol cannot do that. Pure cultures of typhoid and cholera-bacilli were sterilized equally, quickly and efficiently.

Removing Broken or Wedged Glass Stoppers.

Those who handle perfumery, extracts, chemicals, and other substances that may be kept in glass stoppered bottles, are familiar with the trouble often caused by a stopper refusing to come out, or by such stoppers whose handle has been broken off. Their removal may sometimes be effected by causing the neck of the bottle to expand under the influence of heat, which may be applied either by the "sawing" motion of a rope around it, or by running a stream of hot water over it. If the handle of the stopper is broken off, a good plan is to wrap the bottle up securely in a cloth, to prevent accident in case of bursting, and then running hot water over the neck and body. The neck expands, as well as the air in the bottle, and the latter eventually forces the stopper out—if the bottle does not break.—*Perfume Gazette*.

Cold-Made Tooth Soap.

Tooth soap by the cold process may be made in the ordinary manner of cold-made toilet soaps, by sifting into the stock a suitable quantity of carbonate of lime, and adding the perfume and color at the same time. These additions must be made before running in the lye, because the soap is apt to become very thick after the materials have joined. A small addition of sugar solution is made to improve the taste of the soap, and the soap wrapped in waxed paper.

Of course, particular attention must be paid to the purity of all ingredients and their best possible combination.—*Soap-maker's Gazette*.

Advertising at the expense of your creditors is working up trade for the sheriff.

Any dead beat can wear good clothes and pay his tailor at the expense of his grocer.

In running away from a foolish policy we may be unconsciously running toward success.