

of cholera in the South of France, and in 1885 the fear of a recurrence of the epidemic caused a rise of nearly 100 per cent. within a few weeks. Then the prices gradually fell again to the former low position. In 1887 a fresh fluctuation occurred in consequence of the commencement of the melinite manufacture in France, for which carbolic acid was employed in large quantities. The article then rose to three times its former price and continued nearly at this height until 1890, when, as the demand for military purposes ceased, a fall took place which brought the article down lower than ever, to the very verge of rentability, from which precarious position it has again been raised for a time by the present demand.

It has been calculated that about 820,000 tons of coal tar are treated annually for carbolic acid and other products, of which 600,000 tons fall to Great Britain and 150,000 tons to France alone. Assuming that the carbolic acid produced is about one-twentieth of the weight of the tar treated, the total quantity of carbolic acid produced in the year is about 41,000 tons, of which Great Britain produces 30,000 tons.

Agathin.—Salicyl- α -methylphenylhydrazon, a product of the condensation of salicylic aldehyde with α -methylphenylhydrazin comes into commerce under this name. It forms white or greenish-white lamellæ, free from odour or taste, insoluble in water, soluble in alcohol and ether, and melting at 74° C. Up to the present it has found employment as an anti-neuralgic and anti-rheumatic in doses of 8 grains, taken twice daily.

Analgene.—A new anti-rheumatic and analgesic remedy oxyethyl- α -monocetylaminodicholinol, is recommended under this name in 15-grain doses. The easily-explained lack of enthusiasm that largely prevails in medical circles in undertaking fresh experiments is not favorable to the introduction of new remedies unless there are exceptionally good reasons for expecting extraordinarily good results. For this reason it does not appear at present as if this and other similar remedies will find a good reception.

Antifebrin.—Whilst pure antifebrin continues to lose the favor of physicians on account of the unpleasant bye-effects, and thus only finds a small demand at very low prices, it is attempted, especially in America, to find a profitable market for this antipyretic in mixtures with other medicaments. Sodium bicarbonate, caffeine, ammonium bromide, salicylic acid

and salicylates, serve in combination with more or less well-chosen names, such as antikamnia, antikol, antinervin, and exodyna to give the attraction of novelty to this kind of patent medicine.

Diaphtherin (Oxychinaseptol).—The preference that is being continually given by physicians to aseptic instead of antiseptic treatment, makes the time unfavorable to the introduction of fresh antiseptics. Hence diaphtherin, which is in composition an oxychinoline o-phenol sulphonate, has only met with isolated inquiries.

Guaiacol.—Meets with a considerably increased demand as a substitute for beechwood creosote; to such an extent, in fact, that the new makers of this preparation have been scarcely able to satisfy the demand.

Guaiacol carbonate.—The same facts have to be recorded in this case, the lively demand for the remedy recalling the period of the tuberculin rush.

Spermine hydrochloride.—In spite of

I.—Acidi cinnamylici 5 grms.
Olei amygdalarum 10 grms.
Vitelli ovi 1
Solut. natri. chlorati (0.7% . . . q. s.
ut fiat emulsionis 100 cem.

Before use the solution is to be made alkaline with caustic soda solution. Dose, 0.1 to 1 cem.; medium dose, 0.3 to 0.6 cem.

II.—Acidi cinnamylici
Cocaini muriatici 2 drms.
Spiritus vini 5 ozs.

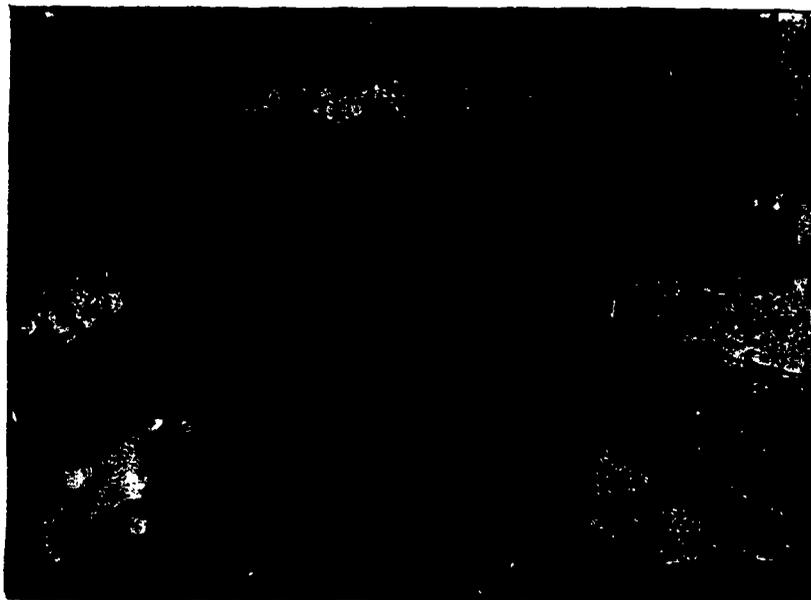
One to two drops to be injected into the lupus.

Acid Lactic.—Up to the present it has been used as a local caustic in laryngeal diseases of an infectious nature and in diarrhoea, but is now used very extensively against cholera, on the recommendation of Dujardin-Beaumetz. Its action is said as Hayem already reported, to be that of a specific antiseptic. The daily dose of 150 grains may not, however, be increased, or else it causes increased diarrhoea. It would, however, appear that the experimental stage has not yet been passed, and that the acid will again be replaced by salol on Lowenthal's recommendation.

Bromine.—The position of this article has completely altered since the last report. Its fate cannot, however, be decided until the outcome of the proposed combination of American and German producers is seen. At present the unstable position of the bromine market makes any reliable opinions as to further development impossible. The fact, however, that the present low prices, both for bromine and its preparations, does not permit of profit to anyone, suggests that every means will be employed to effect a change in the present state of affairs,

which will sooner or later result in a rise in prices.

Chloral Hydrate.—No important change has taken place in the position of this article. It is offered at prices never dreamed of before, and the persistence of offers by all the producers would indeed suggest that a good profit is still to be made at present prices, if it were not observed in every branch of chemical industry that there is an endeavor to meet small profits by an increased turnover. At the present time there is no greater danger for many factories than loss of business, and in order to obtain the same the most modest profits are often given up. Chloral hydrate is undoubtedly one of those articles which is sold by many at a loss, and any change of affairs under these conditions is not to be expected in the near future. It is not, however, impossible that a union may be effected to protect mutual interests.—*Br. and Col. Druggist.*



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the unfavorable reports concerning spermine that have appeared from various sources, it would appear that it has not yet received its quietus. The continually recurring inquiries after it at least show that the action of this remedy is still being investigated. Professor Poehl has recently established the occurrence of spermine in all the druses of the human body, even of the female, and ascribes its tonic action to catalytic power, with which it, like a ferment, increases the oxidation processes.

Acid cinnamic.—Since the publication of Landerer's therapeutical experiences with this acid in tuberculous process, it has been in lively demand. It is used without exception for intravenous injections, generally in the form of a 5 per cent. emulsion, or in the treatment of lupus as an alcoholic solution with addition of cocaine. Professor Landerer prescribes it thus: