

potassium (at least 1-20th of a grain to a dose) be added to intensify the prussic acid taste. The excessive sweetness of these mixtures is disagreeable to some individuals; this, of course, can readily be obviated by the addition of lemon juice or other acid. There are certain very valuable remedies whose nauseousness in solution cannot be overcome by any combination. Under these circumstances the endeavor of the practitioner should be to give a dose so small and in such form that it can be enveloped in a mechanical coating of some sort. Whenever the material is a solid, this is readily managed by giving it in the form of a silver-, gelatin-, or sugar-coated pill; for, whatever may be said in regard to the solubility of these preparations, they are dissolved in the stomach with sufficient rapidity for all practical purposes, provided the pharmacist has done his work properly and the pills are at all fresh. It seems to be a tradition of the profession, that all cough remedies should be given in liquid form. We hear continually of cough mixtures, but who ever heard of a cough pill? Now, there is little reason in this. Squill, ipecacuanha, tartar emetic, all the ordinary expectorants except ammoniacal salts, can be given in a coated pill as well as in a nauseous mixture. When the drug is of such character that it cannot be readily given in pill unless the dose be very large, it is readily administered in capsules. Oil of eucalyptus should never be given except in capsules. Oil of copaiba has for decades been habitually given in capsules for other than pulmonary purposes; why not also for chronic bronchitis? The ammoniacal salts can be given in capsules as well as in mixture. It may be objected by some, that their local irritant effects would be increased by such method of administration. This does not seem to be a valid objection; but if it is considered so, let the patient drink a half a tumbler of milk directly after ingesting the supposed irritant remedy, and the stomach will be protected much more effectually than if the nauseous drug were given in a teaspoonful of water.—*Therapeutic Gazette.*