

There is no class of preparations that require such special care as these. The absence of moisture is absolutely essential, therefore the bottles should be thoroughly dried and hermetically sealed immediately after being filled. Those composed of iron, pepsin and their compounds should be stored in amber or blue glass bottles.

I will submit a few formulas, which I have compiled and am using, most of which, in course of preparation, require some special precautions, which will, however, present themselves to the operator upon his first attempt.

The samples that I have presented were prepared in the drying apparatus, which I will later on explain.

FORMULAS.

1—Granular Effervescent Caffeine Citrate.

Caffeine citrate 20 grains.
Sodium bicarbonate 600 grains.
Citric acid 300 grains.
Tartaric acid 240 grains.
Powdered sugar 620 grains.

2—Granular Effervescent Caffeine Citrate and Phenacetin.

Caffeine citrate 20 grains.
Phenacetin 100 grains.
Sodium bicarbonate 600 grains.
Citric acid 300 grains.
Tartaric acid 240 grains.
Powdered sugar 620 grains.

3—Granular Effervescent Potassium Bromide.

Potassium bromide 1-2 troy oz.
Sodium bicarbonate 3-3-4 troy oz.
Tartaric acid 1-1-1 troy oz.
Citric acid 2 troy oz.

4—Granular Effervescent Caffeine Citrate and Potassium Bromide.

Caffeine citrate 50 grains.
Potassium bromide 1-2 troy oz.
Sodium bicarbonate 3-3-4 troy oz.
Tartaric acid 1-1-4 troy oz.
Citric acid 2 troy oz.

5—Granular Effervescent Magnesium Sulphate.

Dried magnesium sulphate 400 grains.
Tartaric acid 300 grains.
Citric acid 240 grains.
Powdered sugar 400 grains.
Sodium bicarbonate 600 grains.

This is practically identical with the granular effervescent magnesium citrate on the market.

6—Granular Effervescent Vichy Salt.

Potassium bicarbonate 45 grains.
Sodium bicarbonate 5 troy oz.
Magnesium sulphate 45 grains.
Sodium carbonate 5 troy oz.
Tartaric acid 1-1-2 troy oz.
Citric acid 2 troy oz.

7—Granular Effervescent Pepsin.

Pure powdered pepsin 50 grains.
Citric acid 1-3-4 troy oz.
Tartaric acid 1-1-2 troy oz.
Powdered sugar 1-2 troy oz.
Sodium bicarbonate 3-3-4 troy oz.

8—Granular Effervescent Pepsin and Bismuth.

Pure powdered pepsin 50 grains.
Bismuth & ammonium citrate 50 grs.
Citric acid 1-3-4 troy oz.
Tartaric acid 1-1-2 troy oz.
Powdered sugar 1-2 troy oz.
Sodium bicarbonate 3-3-4 troy oz.

I am reliably informed that these preparations are not much used in the Southern States. This is no doubt due to the want of push and advertising by those houses making specialties of them.

By calling the physicians' attention to

them, and furnishing a few samples, I do not hesitate to say that this most pleasing form of medication will be revived.—*Proceedings of North Carolina Pharm. Association.*

Dead Stock in a Drug Store.

BY M. W. SHARRY.

The pharmacist is a professional man, the druggist is a storekeeper, and, presumably, a business man. Few men are so constituted either by nature or training as to combine both. Those very qualities which fit a person to become a pharmacist, seem, in the judgment of many, to be antagonistic to his ever becoming a successful trader. The nicety, the carefulness for minute detail, the exactness and slowness which become a habit to the chemist, conflict with the energy and dispatch necessary in business operations. The slow and thoughtful methods pursued in pharmacy, microscopy and other studies that now form a part of the pharmacist's education, induce a habit that is unfavorable to the successful prosecution of trade. You can push trade, but you can't push chemical and microscopical operations. Patience, watchfulness, caution and scrupulous exactness are needed in pharmacy, but in business you need promptness, energy, decision, with some degree of diplomacy. Is it any wonder then, that we rarely find all those qualities in any one man?

So well is the dual character of the apothecary of the 19th century understood in Great Britain, that he is there called a "chemist and druggist," the term *chemist* implying that he is a scientific man, while the word *druggist* indicating that he is a trader—a man who lives by buying and selling drugs.

On this side of the Atlantic we are no less traders than our brethren on the other side, but we are making far more strenuous efforts than they to be recognized as members of a profession. It is doubtful if we are any more entitled than they to be so considered. Indeed, it will not be many years before we shall be less entitled than they, if our colleges do not insist upon a higher grade of general education before matriculation; already, both in Great Britain and Canada, they are becoming more exacting than we in this particular.

I am an advocate for a more liberal scientific education of pharmacists, believing that it is only as we are superior in attainments to the average storekeeper that we can retain our hold upon the public and claim from them the respect that is due to the profession of pharmacy; but at the same time I recognize the importance of a careful attention to the business end of the druggist's calling. The mere fact that we deal in drugs, that is to say, in goods which have such a slow sale that their very name is indicative of unsaleableness: the mere fact, I say, that we deal in drugs, predisposes us to rest in undue content while we see the same old

goods standing on our shelves from month to month, if not from year to year, with but little sale.

Had we been trained to handle other merchandise, we should chafe at the sight and take some steps to get rid of the dead stock which we now hold on to so complacently. My attention was brought to this matter a few days ago by the necessity of making arrangements to place a new line of goods in some convenient part of the store. The idea naturally suggested itself to me to remove some of the dead stock to a less convenient part of the store; and when about to select the goods in question, I looked around to see what line of goods had the smallest sale in proportion to the room they occupied. It will, I am sure, surprise some of our members when I tell them that the articles that could with the greatest convenience be placed in a back room, where they would only be called for a few times in each month, were some of our oldest and staunchest friends; those which we have looked upon from our boyhood as the main source of the druggist's profit, namely, the pharmaceuticals and the crude and powdered drugs. Herbs have already long since been relegated to the privacy of the closet or store room, but it seems almost a sacrilege to think that if a live business man should for a time take possession of a drug store, he might lay his unconsecrated hand upon the shop bottles containing powdered drugs, syrups, tinctures and fluid extracts, and consign them to a subordinate place. One of the first provisions we make in fitting up our stores is for a certain amount of wide-mouthed bottles containing powdered drugs and chemicals. Many of these chemicals retain their hold upon the profession and are still used with sufficient frequency to warrant their retention on the front shelves, but powdered drugs are very little used and could just as well be in the back room. As for syrups, a few are used at the prescription counter, but how many of them are sold at retail? Where is the sense, therefore, in allowing them to occupy a prominent place in the store? Why not keep them behind the prescription counter, where they properly belong? The same may be said of tinctures. Any druggist can count on his fingers the number of tinctures which he is called upon to sell with any frequency. The rest, like the syrups, belong to the prescription counter. But even for this purpose they have been almost entirely superseded by fluid extracts, which in turn are rapidly giving place to the alkaloidal and other active principles and the various forms in which concentration and convenience of dosage are provided.

Any pharmacist who will take the trouble to note the quantity of all the pharmaceutical preparations which he makes, with the date of their manufacture, will be surprised to find how seldom he makes such preparations as the tinctures of kino, columbo, cubeb, hyoseyamus, rhubarb, and twenty other tinctures that might be named. If he will note the

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