

A considerable deviation from the pharmacopœal formula is observed in many of these samples; and most of them contain decidedly more sodium phosphate than the formula demands. Two samples (7357 and 5022) are apparently merely sodium phosphate supplied by mistake. Only one sample contains arsenic in sufficient amount to call for comment.

Although none of the samples herein reported can be regarded as positively dangerous, in regard to arsenical content, it is sufficiently apparent that manufacturing chemists must test all samples of sodium phosphate for arsenic, and reject such as show more than the legal limit of 5 parts per million, if they would meet the requirements of the British Pharmacopœia. The United States Pharmacopœia fixes the limit for arsenic at 10 parts per million; and the Adulteration Act (Section 7b), recognizes this Pharmacopœia. When, however, any other standard than that set by the British Pharmacopœia is in question, we expect such authority to be quoted. Failing this, the standard of the British Pharmacopœia governs.

I beg to recommend publication of this report as Bulletin No. 393.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. MCGILL,

*Chief Analyst.*

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