ANALYTICAL REPORTS.

Tabloid Sodium Acid Sulphate for the Purification of Drinking Water.

(Burroughs Wellcome & Co.)

The importance of a pure supply of drinking water to an army in the field is one of the first considerations of a military staff, and excellent means have been devised for sterilising water on a large scale, with the most beneficial results on the health of the troops. It is impossible, however, to ensure that individual soldiers shall not fill their water-bottles on occasion from unauthorised sources of supply. To minimise the risks arising from this practice, Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co. have introduced a preparation of acid sodium sulphate in “tabloid” form, which renders water sufficiently pure for all practical purposes. Sodium bisulphate when dissolved in water yields 40 per cent. of its weight of sulphuric acid. The addition of one tabloid sodium acid sulphate product to a pint of water, or two products to the contents of a soldier’s water-bottle (1 3/4 pints) will yield sufficient free acid to render harmless within the space of half an hour most of the pathogenic bacteria contained therein. When the “tabloid” products are issued to troops, each soldier is instructed to add a couple to his water-bottle when refilling, and not to drink therefrom for at least half an hour. The slightly acid taste imparted to the water is not disagreeable, and is largely masked by the flavour of the sweetened sodium acid sulphate. Water so treated tastes not unlike lemonade, and no difficulty is experienced in inducing the soldiers to make use of the products.

“Tabloid” sodium acid sulphate should not be used with water-bottles made of iron, nickel, german-silver, white metal, Britannia metal, or any alloy of copper. The most suitable metal for the purpose is aluminium.

“SEMPROLIN” BRAND OF PETROLEUM EMULSION.

(Wm. Browning & Co.)

We have received from Messrs. Browning & Co. samples of their new preparation of petroleum emulsion, issued under the name of “Semprolin.” It is prepared from pure Russian petroleum, and forms a palatable creamy emulsion.

The semprolin emulsion may be obtained combined with salol (5 grains to each tablespoonful), phenolphthalein (2 grains to the tablespoonful), or iron (5 grains of ferri et ammon. cit. to the tablespoonful).

GLUTIODIN. MELARGEN.

(Mellins’ Pharmacy, London.)

The makers have forwarded for our inspection samples of these two preparations, both of which, it may be noted, are British-made products designed to supersede similar preparations hitherto imported from abroad.

Glutiodin is a pure vegetable protein, combined with 10 per cent. iodine.
The combination is a direct one, and no inorganic iodide or iodate is present. Glutiodin is a light powder, almost tasteless, and sparingly soluble in ordinary media. Like other organic compounds of iodine, it may be administered without giving rise to iodism, and has been found useful in asthma, syphilis, and arteriosclerosis. The iodine is slowly liberated in the system, its maximum elimination occurring only after twelve hours have elapsed. Glutiodin is supplied both in powder and in 0.5 grain tablets.

Melargen is an organic compound of silver, intended for use as a lotion, injection, or ointment in ophthalmology, gynecology, etc. The strengths of solutions vary, according to circumstances, from 0.25 per cent. to 10 per cent. Solutions should be kept from light, and should not be boiled. In solution it has the characteristics of a colloid, and penetrates mucous membranes deeply. It does not coagulate on boiling, nor does it yield precipitates with chlorides or any of the usual reagents for the silver ion.

FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS.

The following New Books and New Editions are announced:—

MESSRS. H. K. LEWIS & CO., LTD.

Localisation by Röntgen Rays and Stereoscopy, by Sir James Mackenzie Davidson. The Pathology of Tumours, by Dr. E. H. Kettle. A new volume of essays, by Dr. T. B. Scott, entitled Modern Medicine and Some Modern Remedies, to which Sir Lauder Brunton has contributed a preface. Notes on Galvanism and Faradism, by Dr. E. M. Magill, intended for masseuses and those employed in the practical administration of electrical treatment. The Adolescent Period; its Features and Management, by Dr. Louis Starr. A new (4th) edition of Mentally Deficient Children, by Dr. G. E. Shuttleworth and Dr. W. A. Potts. A new (7th) edition of Gould's Pocket Medical Dictionary. A seventh edition of Binnie's Operative Surgery. A new edition of Dr. E. M. Brockbank's Practical Points in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Heart Disease. A new book by Dr. Russ on a New Treatment for Gonorrhoea. A new edition of Dr. Herbert Tilley's Diseases of the Nose and Throat.

MESSRS. SMITH, ELDER & CO.

A new volume entitled More Minor Horrors, by Dr. A. E. Shipley. It is a sequel to the Minor Horrors of War, a third edition of which is now in the course of preparation.

MESSRS. CASSELL & CO., LTD.

A second edition of Diseases of the Nose and Throat, by Sir St. Clair Thomson.