

- OINTMENTS

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HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION

The generic term Unguentum of modern pharmacopoeias, Engl. ointment (through Fr. oindre, to annoint) Ger. Salbe, has come down to our times from classical Latin. Indeed, the art of making ointments (from unguentum and ars) was practiced by special representatives of a calling known as unguentarii (plural of unguentarius), i.e. makers of ointments.¹ They constituted one of a group of related callings that had more or less to do with the preparation and sale of medicaments.² Like the others engaged in similar practices, they were not much respected. Occasionally slaves appear to have done the work of the unguentarii.³ Women also took a hand in the making of ointments and hence were designated unguentariae.⁴ In Rome these unguentarii were located on the via sacra, more particularly at the foot of the capitoline hill, which for this reason was designated the vicus unguentarius or Salbenkraemerdorff.

In Greece the corresponding group of tradesmen were known as myropoeoi or myrepsoi (from myron, ointment and poiein, make) hence makers of ointments. To what extent, if any, the ointments made by these small tradesmen were used in strictly medical practice is not known. It is significant that the ointments in the modern sense of the word which are

mentioned by Scribonius Largus do not at all come under the generic term ointments, but are referred to as malagma

Ointments, in the sense of the word as it was used in classical Latin, appear to have been largely, if not exclusively, cosmetic preparations, and hence only semi-medicinal, as it were, in their nature. These were used extensively in the baths, as becomes apparent from the numerous unguentaria (sing. unguentarium), or containers for ointments which are still preserved in museums of classical archeology.⁶ In this connection, it is noteworthy to mention that the scrapings of the athletes after they had bathed and were "anointed" were supposed to possess medicinal value.

However, ointments appear to be much older than Roman or even Greek civilization and medical practice. The practice of anointing is associated with the religious rites of Egyptian and Asiatic antiquity.⁷ Whether called ointment or not, the use of soft medicaments of butyraceous consistence appears to be as old, if not older than any historical documents extant. Indeed, the Latin word unguentum is supposed to be related to the Sanskrit anj (comp. Germ. AuKe as used in Switzerland today) which means butter. According to the Formulary of Scribonius Largus, butter

(butyrum. Comp. Rinne, l. c., p. 88, No. 4) was used externally in ointments as was lard (adepts. and axungia, l. c. p. 87, No. 1) and occasionally the fat of dogs and geese. (Ibidem).

That the Egyptians made use of the ointment as a form of external medication is pointed out by Berendes,⁸ though he does not record the technical term used.

Among the Semetic peoples, the Babylonians made external use of the basamu and the sikrutu (ointment with parts of plants).⁹ The Israelites also used the salve¹⁰ as external application.

In Greece, as already pointed out, a class of precursors of the modern apothecary received their name from myron, viz the myropoeoi or myrepsoi, the makers of ointments. Myron was originally the name applied to preparations having the consistence of balsam.¹¹ The malagma (Gen. malagnatis), a softening preparation or poultice, became later a salve of soft consistence.¹² Keroma or kerote was a wax ointment; propissos was a wax ointment with pitch or turpentine; and akapos, originally a fine oil which at a later date was rendered fragrant with galbanum, silphion, opanax, etc., became the generic term for salve.¹³

Little need here be added to what has already been said about the unguenta of the Romans. It may be pointed out, however, that thin salves were designated acopa, and the thicker ones unguenta.¹⁴

But little of a general nature concerning the use of ointments by the Arabian school of medicine seems to have been recorded.

Concerning the early use of ointments by more modern European peoples, something may be learned from the use of the words Salbe (ger), onguent (fr), and ointment (Eng.).

1. Apothekenwesen, p. 40; also Schelenz, Geschichte der Pharmacie, p. 141.
2. e.g. Sepasiarii, pigmentarii, etc.
3. See Schelenz, Geschichte der Pharmacie, p. 140; "Petronius spricht z. B. von einem unguentarius herae, den die Hausfrau vielleicht aus Asien bezogen und zur Vergroesserung ihres Nadelgeldes irgendwo hingesezt hatte, nachdem er ihr, obgleich noch recht jung 'tamen satis faciebat'".
4. Sibilla Unguentaria - Liberta Sept Severi Imp. Vendit Crocomagma in Rhipsia (Inscriptio Apud Orellicum 4991) Berended, Das Apothekenwesen, p. 41.

5. F. Rinne, Das Receptbuch des Scribonius Largus.
In Kobert, Historische Studien, vol. V, p. 37, f.
6. Illustrations.
7. Comp. e.g. Psalm 23, "Thou anointest my head with oil", etc.
8. Das Apothekenwesen, p. 2; See also Schelenz.
9. Berendes, Das Apothekenwesen, p. 8.
10. Berendes, Das Apothekenwesen, p. 11.
11. Berendes, Das Apothekenwesen, p. 31. Comp. also myron rodinon or rose ointment, Schelenz, Geschichte der Pharmacie, p. 104.
12. Littré, VII, p. 418; Through Berendes, Das Apothekenwesen, p. 31.
13. Berendes, Das Apothekenwesen, p. 31.
14. Das Apothekenwesen, p. 52.

Lists of the more important ointments with brief statements as to their ingredients may be found in Hirsch, Universal Pharmakopoe and in the Realencyclopaedie der gesammten Pharmacie.

On the pages which follow will be found a tabulation of all the ointments which have been official in the U. S. Pharmacopoeia since the publication of the first edition 1820.

TABULATION OF THE OINTMENTS IN THE U. S. P.

From 1820 to 1900, Inclusive

N.Y. Phil.

1820 1830 1830 1840 1850 1860 1870 1880 1890 1900

	1820	1830	1830	1840	1850	1860	1870	1880	1890	1900
Unguentum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acidi Borici	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
" Carbolic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
" Gallici	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
" Nitrici	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
" Nitrosi	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
" Tannici	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Adipis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Antimoni	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
et potassae	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
tartaratis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Aquae rosae	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Belladonnae	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benzoini	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cantharadis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cantharidum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chrysarobini	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Creasoti	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cupri Acetatis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
" Subacetatis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diachylon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gallae	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gallarum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
"	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hydrarg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
"	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
"	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

N.Y. Phil.

	1820	1830	1830	1840	1850	1860	1870	1880	1890	1900
sulphuris	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
"	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
"	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
"	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
iodidi	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
tabaci	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
veratriae	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
veratrinae	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
veratri albi	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
"	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
viridis	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Zinci oxidi	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
"	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
"	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
stearatis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	19	20	19	22	25	23	29	26	23	24

COMMENTS ON TABLE

From the tabulation it becomes apparent that sixty-three ointments have been official in the U. S. Pharmacopoeia.

The following fourteen ointments have been official but once, boric acid, gallic acid, nitric acid, nitrous acid, lard, antimony and potassium tartrate, copper acetate, camphorated ointment of nutgall, dilute mercurial, red iodide of mercury, mild ointment of mercury, lead subcarbonate, alkaline sulphur, and zinc stearate.

Six have been official twice. They are: benzoin, stronger mercuric nitrate, mild mercuric nitrate, nitric oxide, ammoniated submuriate, impure zinc oxide.

Seven have been official three times. They are: ointments of chrysarobin, diachylon, iodoform, lead iodide, compound iodine, white hellebore, green hellebore.

Six ointments have been official four times, viz ointment, antimonial ointment, the ointment of creosote, compound iodine, mezereum, and carbolic acid.

Six have been official five times: namely, the ointment of tannic acid, yellow oxide of mercury, simple ointment, compound sulphur, and veratrine.

Four have been official six times, viz: belladonna, cantharides, potassium iodide, tobacco.

Ointment of lead carbonate has been official seven times.

Five have been official eight times. They are: ammoniated mercury, mercuric nitrate, red oxide of mercury, iodine, and zinc oxide.

Rose water ointment and nutgall ointment have been official nine times.

Four have been official ten times. They are mercurial ointment, the ointments of tar, stramonium, and sulphur ointments.

CLASSIFICATION

With regard to their therapeutic use, ointments have been divided into three classes:

I. Epidermatic - those which act on the outer skin or cuticle, and are not absorbed. They may act as a protective covering, or as astringents, germicides or antiseptics.

II. Endodermatic - those which act by penetrating into the skin. They may have anodyne, stimulant or resolvent properties.

III. Diadermatic - those which penetrate through the skin and produce constitutional effects.

In order to produce the desired effect, the basal materials in each class must be carefully selected. Thus, for the first class the following basic materials are used: Glycerite of starch (U. S. P.), petrolatum, or a mixture of petrolatum with hard paraffin. The latter combination is to be preferred in warm weather, on account of its higher fusing point.

For the second class the following may be used: Lard, lard mixed with wax, lard and oil, oil and wax, or oil, wax and spermaceti.

For the third class wool fat is used.

METHODS OF PREPARATION

Three distinct methods are used in preparing ointments, namely:

I. By fusion.

Ointment.

" of boric acid.

" " rose water.

" " chrysarobin.

Diachylon ointment.

Mercurial "

Ointment of Ammoniated Mercury.

Ointment of Phenol.

Tar ointment.

Ointment of Zinc Oxide.

Ointment of Zinc Stearate.

II. By incorporation.

Belladonna ointment.

Nutgall "

Blue "

Ointment of yellow mercuric oxide.

" " red " "

Iodine ointment.

Ointment of Potassium Iodide.

Stramonium ointment.

Sulphur ointment.

Ointment of tannic acid.

Veratrine ointment.

III. By chemical reaction.

Ointment of mercuric nitrate.

The illustration in each case are those for the 1900 revision of the U. S. Pharmacopoeia.

Magnes-Lahens

1873

Préparation rapide de la pommade mercurielle: théorie de l'extinction du mercure dans les corps gras.

Journ. de Pharm. et de Chim., 96, p. 220. [Arch d. Pharm. 203, p. 275; Proc. A. Ph. A., 22, p. 58.]

The author suggests that in the preparation of mercurial ointment, the mercury be partly extinguished by agitating it in a large flask with about 2 per cent of oil of sweet almond. Then adding about 20 per cent of melted lard, and continued agitation and finally by triturating in a mortar until complete extinguishment. He also suggests the use of balsam of Peru, as aromatic and preservative in place of "gum" in the preparation of the "pommade mercurielle" of the Codex.

Jester, O.

1874

Benzoinated ointment of oxide of zinc.

Am. Journ. Pharm., 46, p. 9; [Proc. A. Ph. A., 22, p

The author suggests a method for its preparation which while "not strictly pharmaceutical", "gives satisfaction".

England, J. W.

1897

Note on ointment of mercuric nitrate.

Am. Journ. Pharm., 69, p. 209.

The author suggests using a proportionate amount of red oxide of mercury in place of the metal, because small quantities of the oxide are more easily weighed, and because the oxide is probably purer than the commercial mercury. He recommends that the oxidized fat be allowed to cool to about 60°C, and the solution of mercuric nitrate then added. He also recommends a diligent stirring of the fat and the oxidizing material. Lastly, he would incorporate about 5% of glycerin with the finished product when nearly cold.

Mack, G.

1898

Carbolic ointment.

Pharm. Journ., 61, p. 629; [Proc. A. Ph. A., 47, p.412.]

The author recommends a basis composed of yellow wax and olive oil. This gives a softer ointment than the U. S. P. formula, and has the advantage over the B. P. formula that all ingredients are soluble in one another.

1899

Weisses Unguentum Diachylon.

Pharm. Ztg., 43, p. 870. [Pharm. Centralh., 39, 930;
Proc. A. Ph. A., 47, 412.]

A formula for white diachylon ointment is given, which produces an ointment that does not become rancid as easily as that made according to the Germ. Pharm. III.

1899

Plain cold cream.

Bull. Pharm., 13, p.481.

A formula and method for the preparation of a plain cold cream are given, involving the use of castor oil and cotton seed oil in place of almond oil.

Benyschek, Hans.

1899

Unguentum hydrargyri oxydati flavi.

Pharm. Post., 32, p. 38. [Proc. A. Ph. A., 47, p. 413.]

The author cautions against dispensing ointment of yellow oxide of mercury in earthen jars.

Eliel, L.

1899.

Pharmacopoeial improvement.

Proc. A. Ph. A., p. [Bull. Pharm., 13, p. 456.]

The author suggests the omission of the borax and rose water from the formula for cold cream, and a return to the formula of U. S. P. 1870 or 1880.

Gray, W.

1899.

Superior formula for cold cream.

Bull. Pharm., 13, p. 473.

The author gives a formula for cold cream in which he recommends sodium baborate in place of the U. S. P. borax. In addition to oil of rose he uses oil of patchouli. He says the product will not become rancid.

1900.

Camphorated cold cream.

Merck's Report, 9, p. 78.

A formula and method for preparing camphorated cold cream are given.

Cohn, A. J.

1900.

How ointments should be made.

Merck's Report, 9, p. 242. [Pharm. Journ., 65, p. 216; West. Drug., 22, p. 538.]

The author recommends the use of a pure, properly rendered lard for an ointment base. He gives suitable methods for preparing zinc oxide, veratrine, yellow and red mercuric oxide, and rose water ointments. A method for incorporating extracts, such as stramonium, belladonna, aconite, is also given. A formula for cold cream is given.

Dawson, W. A.

1900.

Shop notes and dispensing hints.

Proc. N. Y. Ph. Assoc., 22, p. 193. [West. Drug., 22, p. 425.]

The author believes the formula of the U. S. Pharmacopoeia for cold cream to be the best for toilet purposes. He suggests an addition of oil of rose or some extract to make the cream more agreeable.

Gates, J. M.

1900.

Improved cold cream.

Bull. Pharm., 14, p.172.

The author gives a formula and method for preparing a cold cream. He substituted castor oil for a portion of the almond oil and says it prevents rancidity for any length of time.

Hallberg, C. S. N.

1900.

The therapo-pharmacy of solid preparations, for external use:

1. Ointments.

West. Drug., 22, p. 652. [Pharm. Journ., 66, p. 30; Am. Drug. & Ph. Rec., 38, p. 74.]

The author classifies the ointments from a therapeutical standpoint and discusses the bases suitable for each class.

Nunn, A. W.

1900.

The B. P. Ointments.

Ph. Journ., 65, p. 754. [Am. Drug. & Ph. Rec., 38, p.

The following method, which may be used for a number of ointments, is recommended more specially for the preparation of paraffin and boric acid ointments: The ingredients having been melted, the ointment is allowed to set and to cool. It is then passed through a No. 20 wire sieve. In this way a smooth ointment is secured.

Wilbert, M. I.

1900.

Ointments.

Am. Journ. Pharm., 72, p. 513.

The author speaks of the use of ointments by the ancients. He expresses his opinion as to the relative value and adaptability of lard and petrolatum as a base for ointments. He also gives a fromulary of the ointments in use at the German Hospital, Philadelphia.

Williams, J. K.

1900.

Random notes on every day pharmacy.

West. Drug., 22, p. 357.

The author gives a method for the preparation of cold cream.

Williams, J. P.

1900.

The manufacture of cold cream.

Bull. Pharm., 14, p. 474.

The author gives a method for the rapid preparation of large quantities of cold cream by means of a churn.

1901.

Competitive Formulas.

Am. Drugg., 39, p. 377.

The formula for a camphor ointment is given.

Alpers, W. C.

1901.

A new cold cream.

Am. Journ. Pharm., 73, p. 117.

The author gives a formula and method for the preparation of a permanent cold cream.

Grouzel, Ed.

1901.

Permanent ointment with insoluble active constituents and petrolatum bases.

Repert. de. Pharm., -- p. --- [Am. Dr. & Ph. Rec., 30, p. 118.]

The author suggests the addition of 20% hard paraffin to petrolatum, in the preparation of ointments containing calomel, mercuric binioidide, red and yellow precipitates, lead iodide, boric acid, and other insoluble mineral substances.

Edel, F.

1901.

Notes of practice.

Am. Drug. & Ph. Rec., 39, p. 311. [Proc. A.Ph.A., 50, p.776.]

The author finds that ointment of yellow mercuric oxide can be made rapidly and satisfactorily by triturating the mercuric oxide with a little water so as to obtain a smooth paste and then incorporating with it the necessary quantity of petrolatum.

Forster, H.

A new ointment basis.

Ph. Journ., 66, p. 694. [Am. Drug. & Ph. Rev., 38, p. 363.]

The author has for some years used a mixture of equal parts of lard, anhydrous lanolin and petrolatum as a general ointment base with satisfactory results.

He calls it lanolin mixture and commends it to the Pharmacopoeia authorities.

W.

Tar ointment.

Pharm. Journ., 67, p. 62. [Proc. A. Ph. A., 50, p. 776.]

The author suggests the use of a mixture of soft and hard soaps in suitable proportions as a substitute for the fats in making tar ointment.

Gilmour, J. P.

Some official adaptations and economies of B. P. processes.

Pharm. Journ., 70, p. 96. [Proc. A. Ph. A., 51, p.

The author prepares a perfectly smooth ointment of zinc oxide (p. 96) by rubbing the zinc oxide to a smooth paste with a portion of the hot lard, then forcing it through a muslin strainer and passing the previously melted remainder through the same strainer.

Leubner, B. O.

1903.

The chemistry of the U. S. P. preparations.

Merck's Report, 12, p. 3.

The author gives the chemistry of the preparation of citrine ointment. He says that the greenish-gray or brown color sometimes assumed by this ointment is due to excessive heat, or to incomplete oxidation of the oil, which gradually continues its oxidation at the expense of the mercuric nitrate, the latter being reduced to metallic mercury, or to the oxide.

d'Ommin,

1903.

Prescription difficulties and ways out of them.

Merck's Report, 12, p. 94.

The author recommends bases for ointments free from foreign matter, also a very fine state of the powders to be incorporated. He would reduce opium and resorcin, extracts, gum resins, etc., to a smooth paste, by using some suitable liquid. He suggests a little alcohol added to balsam of Peru when dispensing it in ointments, and the keeping of a 50 % solution of aristol in expressed oil of almond, which can be used in the quick dispensing of aristol ointments.

ler, J. L.

1903.

Toilet preparations and household remedies.

Merck's Report, 12, p. 217. (Proc. A. Ph. A., 52, p. 599.]

The author gives a formula and method for preparing resorcin ointment. He also says that the great trouble which most pharmacists have with lead ointment is due to not removing the crust from the outer part of the lead plaster.

1904

Witch hazel ointment.

Drug. Circ., 48, p. 252.

The editor quotes a formula for this ointment, which is given in the British Pharmacopoeia. He also quotes another formula, which contains witch hazel extract made according to Squire's method.

Bayne, S.

1904.

Process for causticless (yet antiseptic and healing) carbolic acid ointment.

Proc. Ga. Pharm. Assoc., 29, p. 73. [Proc. A. Ph. A., 53, p. 600.]

The author recommends neutralizing the caustic effect of carbolic acid with camphor, without impairing the antiseptic properties of the acid, and obtaining a "causticless" preparation.

Dunning, H. A. B.

1904.

Hints for the laboratory and dispensing counter.

Drug. Circ., 48, p. 29.

The author suggests that all powders to be used in ointments be bolted.

He gives a method for the preparation of zinc ointment which gives a very satisfactory product.

Greenish, H. G.

1904.

Official processes for galenical preparations.

Pharm. Journ., 73, p. 734. [Proc. A. Ph. A., 53, p. 60a.]

The author has investigated the different formulas which have been suggested for preparing the official B. P. ointment of carbolic acid, and recommends the following:

Phenol	1 part
Hard Paraffin	6 parts
Soft Paraffin	18 parts.

The two paraffins are melted together and the phenol added. The phenol dissolved completely and did not, as far as could be ascertained, separate on cooling.

Hall, W. A.

1904.

Dispensing notes jotted down by a practical pharmacist.

Proc. Mich. Pharm. Assoc., 22, p. 18. [Pharm. Era, 32, p. 205; Proc. A. Ph. A., 53, p. 604.]

The author gives a method for the preparation of zinc oxide ointment.

Nicaud, H. E.

1904.

Lanolin base for ointments.

Pharm. Era, 31, p. 8. [Proc. A. Ph. A., 52, p. 593.]

The author recommends lanolin as an ointment base, viz, purified lanolin freed from fatty acids. Ointments made therefrom are apt to be stable.

Snavely, O.

1904.

Citrine ointment.

Proc. Pa. Pharm. Assoc., 27, p. 167. [Proc. A. Ph. A., 53, p. 602.]

The author recommends the use of mercuric oxide in place of metallic mercury for preparing the solution of mercuric nitrate. He also gives a modified formula with directions for the preparation of the ointment.

The advantages claimed are:

1. A definite solution of mercuric nitrate.
2. The availability of a larger proportion of acid to oxidize the fat.
3. An ointment true to, i.e. name free from mercurous nitrate.
4. An ointment devoid of odor in great degree.
5. An ointment physiologically more active than when accompanied by mercurous salt.

Wilbert, M. J.

1904.

Notes from Joseph Ince's book on elementary dispensing practice.

Am. Journ. Pharm., 76, p. 171.

The author suggests that whenever practicable potent drugs be added in the form of solution, and crystalline bodies be reduced to impalpable powder, before incorporating with the other ingredients.

He suggests that the dispenser learn the relative melting points of the bases, so that burning of the delicate ingredients be avoided.

Caldwell, P.

1905.

Some familiar preparations.

Drugg. Circ., 49, p. 220. [Proc. A. Ph. A., 54, p. 675.]

The author recommends a manipulation for the expeditious and satisfactory preparation of zinc oxide ointment.

Raubenheimer, O.

1905.

Permanent ointment of red mercuric oxide.

Amer. Drug. and Ph. Rec., 46, p. 200. [Proc. A. Ph. A., 54, p. 673.]

The author gives a formula and method for preparing a stable ointment of red mercuric oxide.

Sturmer, J. W.

1905.

Report of the Committee on Pharmacy and Queries.

Proc. Ind. Pharm. Assoc., 24, p.673.

The author objects to the use of moist yellow mercuric oxide for the preparation of ointment of yellow mercuric oxide.

His method is to prepare the yellow mercuric oxide by precipitation as usual, and after washing with water, to wash it with alcohol and then with ether.

The latter is drained off, and the mercuric oxide is immediately mixed with enough petrolatum to make a 50 per cent stock ointment.

Caldwell, P.

1906.

My trouble slate.

Drug. Cir., 50, p. 59. [Proc. A. Ph. A., 54, p. 672.]

The author's experience is that the public demands a stronger ointment. He also considers the ointment insufficient in consistence, and suggests the addition of from 5 to 10 per cent of paraffin to the white petrolatum.

Dunning, H. A. B.

.....

An extinguishing agent for mercury.

Proc. Maryland Pharm. Assn., 24, p. 70. [Proc. A. Ph. A., 55, p. 704.]

The author prepares a "gray oil" by rubbing lanolin with chloroform to emulsify it, continuing trituration until the chloroform is evaporated. He then adds the mercury and triturates until the mercury is extinguished.

He quotes another formula, coming from abroad, which is:

Mercury and lanolin equal parts, are triturated until the mercury is finely distributed, then six parts of the above mixture are triturated with four parts olive oil.

Ellis, W. H.

1907.

The preparation of sulphur ointment.

Bull. Pharm., 21, p. 164. [Proc. A. Ph. A., 55, p. 705.]

The author has found that by rubbing the sulphur on a piece of common oak board with a spatula, it can be incorporated easily with the lard.

Voener, H.

1907.

Hydrargyrum praecipitatum album pultiforme.

D. Med. Wochenschr., p. [Pharm. Ztg., 52, p. 222;
Proc. A. Ph. A., 55, p. 704.]

The author gives a method for the preparation of ointment of ammoniated mercury, by incorporating the freshly prepared ammoniated mercury while in a moist condition, with the fat.

Cook, E.

1908.

Notes on compound resorcinol ointment, N. F.

Am. Journ. Pharm., 80, p. 120.

The author gives a method for the preparation of this ointment, which yields a more satisfactory product than that obtained by following the N. F. directions. He also believes the color changes in this ointment due to the action of the oil of cade on the resorcin, and suggests incorporating the oil of cade just before dispensing the ointment.

Good, J. M.

1908.

Notes and suggestions on the cerates and ointments.

Proc. A. Ph. A., 56, p. 972.

The author comments on cerate, rosin cerate, petrolatum, chrysarofin ointment, diachylon ointment, ointment of mercuric nitrate, ointment of yellow mercuric oxide, tar ointment, and ointment of zinc oxide.

Schmidt, V.

1908.

Unguentum aquae rosae.

Proc. A. Ph. A., 56, p. 971.

The author suggests as a substitute for oil of sweet almonds the pure white Russian mineral oil, and for rose water, distilled water and otto of roses.

Stimson, C. E.

1908.

Massage ointment, or toilet cream.

Proc. A. Ph. A., 56, p. 972.

The author gives a formula for an excellent massage ointment.

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1908.

Methylenblau-Salbe

Presse medicale, 16, p. 336. [Apt. Zg., 23, p. 430;
Drugg. Circ., 53, p. 117.]

A formula and method for the preparation of methylene blue ointment are given.

1909.

Munyon's pile ointment.

Drugg. Circ., 53, p. 137.

After examination of this ointment, the British Medical Journal concluded that it was only soft paraffin containing less than 0.2 p./c. of itchyol -- value 1 farthing, price 1 shilling.

1909.

Deterioration of iodoform ointment.

Drug. Circ., 53, p. 407.

The use of good lard, free from rancidity is said to retard the coloration of iodoform ointment.

1909.

A troublesome ointment.

Drugg. Circ., 53, p. 347.

The editor discusses the incompatibilities in an ointment containing sulphur, zinc oxide, starch, Peru balsam and petrolatum.

1909.

How to fill jars with cold cream.

Bull. Pharm., 23, p. 123.

The editor gives a method for filling cold cream jars so that the surface of the cream will be concave and have a shiny appearance.

1909.

Peroxide cold creams.

Bull. Pharm., 23, p. 41.

The editor comments on the use of hydrogen peroxide and oxygen liberating salts in cold cream. He says Dr. Foregger advises the use of zinc peroxide instead of sodium perborate in a toilet cream.

1909.

Non-greasy cold cream.

Bull. Pharm., 23, p. 437.

The editor quotes formulas by B. S. Cooban and I. V. S. Stanislaus.

1909.

Government after peroxide products.

Bull. Pharm., 23, p. 312.

Investigators have found that cream which contains a stipulated percentage of peroxide when made, loses all or nearly all of it in a very short time.

B. S. G.

1909.

Ointment of iodine.

Drugg. Circ., 53, p. 74.

The author objects to the official formula for this ointment, because of the change in color of the ointment after dispensing.

He asks for the old formula, which was official in 1890.

Boerner, B.

1909.

Unguentum Hydrargyri cinereum.

Apoth. Ztg., 24, p. 887. [Proc. A. Ph. A., 58, 123.]

The author recommends putting the mercury, woolfat and castor oil into a strong bottle, heat then shaking the mixture, till the mercury is extinguished.

Burge, J. O., Sr.

1909.

Compound recorcin ointment.

Proc. A. Ph. A., 57, p. 1160. [Proc. A. Ph. A., 58, p. 125.]

The author gives a method for the preparation of compound recorcin ointment which never fails in giving a nice, smooth ointment. He used anhydrous wool fat, and sufficient water to dissolve the recorcin and to make a smooth paste of the zinc and bismuth salts.

Caldwell, P.

1909.

Some U. S. P. criticisms.

Bull. Pharm., 23, p. 115.

The author believes a firmer cold cream can be made by reducing the spermaceti to 100 gm., increasing the white wax to 145 gm., and replacing the oil of almond with liquid petrolatum.

Franklin, J. H.

1909.

Unguentum Paraffini.

Year Book of Pharm., 46, p. 313. [Proc. A. Ph. A., 58, p. 123; Am. Journ. Pharm., 81, p. 490.]

The author comes to the conclusion that white petroleum jelly, and commercial bleached carnauba wax, make a firmer, smoother and more homogeneous ointment than the now official "Unguentum Paraffini" B. P.

Franz, J. J.

1909.

Some good sellers.

Bull. Pharm., 23, p. 204.

The author gives formulas and methods for preparing the following:-

Cold cream,
Cucumber cream, and
Cream of roses.

He says the formula for cold cream can be guaranteed not to grow hair or become rancid.

Stage, F. M.

1909.

Hydrous wool fat in resorcin ointment.

Druggist's Circular, 53, p. 406.

The author gives the reason for the use of hydrous rather than anhydrous wool fat as a base for compound resorcin ointment.

Welborn, G.

1909.

The prevention of rancidity in lard and ointments.

Ph. Journ., 83, p. 390. [Proc. A. Ph. A., 58, p. 122.]

The author states that in his experience lard as well as ointments mixed with oil of pimento are preserved from rancidity and discoloration for a period of two years and more.

White, G. H.

1909.

Ointments and cerates.

Proc. N. J. Pharm. Assn., 39, p. 78. [Proc. A. Ph. A., 58, p. 121.]

The author has found the "Unguentum" of the U. S. P. 1890, to be an almost perfect base, which he believes can be used for all ointments except that of mercuric nitrate.

As an alternative of this ointment he recommends a base composed of olive oil and wax.

1910.

Two druggists specialties.

Bull. Pharm., 24, p. 128.

The editor has received from a foreign subscriber a formula and method for preparing a toilet cream, called cold cream of roses. Oil of peach kernels and cocoa butter are used in the formula.

1910.

Cold cream difficulties.

Bull. Pharm., 24, p. 483.

The editor suggests the use of pure beeswax to make the mixture cream properly, also a larger proportion of wax and less paraffin.

Ames, F. W.

1910.

Petrolatum spissum, an ideal ointment base.

Merck's Report, 19, p. 131 [Proc. A. Ph. A., 58, p.

The author regards petrolatum spissum as an ideal ointment base chiefly on the ground of its stability under all conditions of temperature, exposure to atmospheric influences, and its uniformity in character and composition.

L.

1910.

Greaseless or peroxide cold cream -- a new formula.

Bull. Pharm., 24, p. 473.

The author gives a formula and method for preparing a cream which yields a nice white product and vanishes on rubbing and leaves the skin dry. He advises pharmacists not to recommend this cream for chapped hands or lips, but a mixture of equal parts U. S. P. Unguentum aquae rosae and lanolin.

Accepted

Edward Cremer

Prof. J. Plummer

