SOME USEFUL AND PALATABLE PRESCRIPTIONS.
R. V. de VILLIERS.

According to the patient, no consultation is complete without a prescription, and this simple fact will cost you many patients if not fully appreciated.

With the advent of well-flavoured proprietary preparations, unpleasant and disagreeable medicines are no longer regarded by the public as having special therapeutic qualities; in fact many patients will refuse to drink such medicines and forthwith consult another doctor.

For this very significant reason, I have set out in prescription form some common drugs, the value of which has been proved clinically, and the flavour of which I can recommend, having dispensed and tasted each one.

The addition of a syrup does not necessarily render a mixture palatable, and surprises await those who judge their prescriptions on paper.

Bitterness is the most difficult, and most important property to mask.

In the B.P. (British Pharmacopoeia) which I have followed, Ext. Glycyrrh. Liq. is the most suitable drug for such means; it nullifies practically any taste, but its incompatibilities must be respected; the volatile oils in various strengths and combinations are also effective.

Finally, the individual tastes of the patient must not be overlooked.

I wish to thank the Pharmacology Department for allowing me to prepare the mixtures, which are available for sampling.

All formulae apply to adults, and the doses should be diluted with a little water.

CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM.

Stimulant.—For Nervous exhaustion, lassitude
1. 1
   Liq. Strych. Hydrochlor. Mins v
   Caffein et Soda Benz. Grains x
   Syr. Menth. Pip. Mins xxx
   Aq. ad. Ozs. ss
   Sig. Ozs. ss as a dose, repeated in 4 hours if necessary.

Soporific—
2. 1
   Pot. Brom. Grains xx
   Chloral. Hydr. Grains xv
   Tinct. Zingib. Mins xxx
   Syr. Aurant. Drams iss
   Aq. Anis (Duplex) Ad. Ozs. ss
   Sig. Ozs. ss when sleep is required.

Cough Sedative. For unproductive, irritating Cough.
3. 1
   Sod. Sulphocarb. Co. (Hospital Pharmacopeia).
   Sig. Drums. ii in half a tumbler of warm water as a gargle.

Cough Stimulant.—To clear Bronchial Tract, i.e. Chronic Bronchitis.
5a. 1
   Ammon. Carb. Grains v
   Tinct. Ipecac. Mins xv
   Oxymel. Scill. Mins xxx
   Ext. Glycyrrh. Liq. Mins x
   Syr. Tolu. Drams i
   Aq. Cinnam. (Duplex) ad. Ozs. ss
   Sig. Ozs. ss every 4 hours if necessary.

5b. 1
   Tinct. Ipecac. Mins xv
   Tinct. Seneg. Mins xxx
   Oxymel. Scill. Mins ss
   Syr. Tolu. Drams i
   Aq. Cinnam. (Duplex) ad. Ozs. ss
   Sig. Ozs. ss every 4 hours.

Purgatives.—
6a. 1
   Elix. Casc. Sagr. Mins xxx
   Ext. Glycyrrh. Liq. Mins v
   Liq. Paraff. ad. Ozs. ss
   Sig. Ozs. ss at night.

6b. 1
   Mag. Sulph. Drams ii
   Mag. Carb. Pond. Grains xxx
   Saccharin. Solub. Grains i
   Aq. Menth. Pip. (Duplex) ad. Ozs. i
   Sig. Ozs. i before breakfast.
Astringent and Carminative—For Diarrhoea.
7. B
  Bism. Carb. Grains. xx
  Mag. Oxid. Pond. Grains xxx
  Sp. Menth. Pip. Mins. xxx
  Syr. Drams. ii
  Aq. ad. Ozs. i
Sig. Ozs. i every 4 hours.

GENITO-URINARY SYSTEM.
Diuretic—
8a. B
  Theobrom. et Sod. Grains x
  Tinct. Zingib. Mins. xxx
  Syr. Aurant. Drams. iss
  Aq. Aneth. (Duplex) ad. Ozs. ss
Sig. Ozs. ss thrice daily depending on effect.


Uterine Stimulant.—For Subinvolution, some cases of Menorrhagia and Metrorrhagia.
9. B
  Ext. Ergot. Liq. Mins. xx
  Tinct. Zingib. Mins. xl
  Saccharin. Solub. Grains i
  Aq. ad. Ozs. ss
Sig. Ozs. ss thrice daily after meals.

CIRCULATORY SYSTEM.
Cardiac.—For Auricular Fibrillation and Flutter. (Slow Method).
10. B
  Tinct. Digit. Mins. xx
  Sp. Cinnam. Mins. v
  Syr. Drams. i
  Aq. ad. Ozs. ss
Sig. Ozs. ss thrice daily after meals.

Anæmia.—(Microcytic).
11a. B
  Ferr. et Ammon. Cit. Grains x
  Liq. Arsen. Mins. ii
  Syr. Zingib. Drams. i
  Aq. ad. Ozs. ss
Sig. Ozs. ss thrice daily after meals.

11b. B
  Syr. Ferr. Phosph. c Quinin. et Strych. Mins. xv
  Syr. Ferr. Iod. Mins. xv
  Tinct. Zingib. Mins. xxx
  Syr. Aurant. Drams. i
  Aq. ad. Ozs. ss
Sig. Ozs. ss thrice daily after meals.

GENERAL.
Diaphoretic—To reduce Fever.
12a. B
  Tinct. Ipecac. Mins. v
  Ext. Glycyrrh. Liq. Mins. x
  Syr. Aurant. Drams. i
Sig. Ozs. ss every 4 hours.

12b. B
  Tinct. Ipecac. Mins. v
  Sp. Cinnam. Mins. xx
  Syr. Aurant. Drams. i
Sig. Ozs. ss every 4 hours.

Analgesic.—Especially for Fibrositis.
13. B
  Pot. Iod. Grains xx
  Phenazon. Grains x
  Ext. Glycyrrh. Liq. Mins. xv
  Syr. Drams. i
  Aq. Anis. (Duplex) ad. Ozs. ss
Sig. Ozs. ss every 4 hours.

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