

## Reports and Analytical Records

FROM

### THE LANCET LABORATORY.

#### LUBAFAX SURGICAL LUBRICANT.

(MESSRS. BURROUGHS, WELLCOME, AND CO., SNOW HILL BUILDINGS, LONDON, E.C.)

WE have examined Lubafax surgical lubricant and find that it is a practically clear jelly which is completely soluble in water. It is free from fats and oils and contains a well-known antiseptic in an efficient form. It is supplied in a collapsible tube which renders it most convenient and clean in use. The jelly is free from any corrosive material and is without injurious effect upon surgical instruments or rubber fittings. It is well adapted for a number of purposes, as for lubricating catheters, rectal and vaginal nozzles, and will be found serviceable in many ways in medical practice.

#### RADIUM BATH SALT.

(RADIUM SALT COMPANY, LIMITED, 21, FARRINGTON-AVENUE, LONDON, E.C.)

This salt is stated to consist of practically pure fused sodium chloride in which has been dissolved when in the molten state a definite, though of course small, amount of radium salt. By this method the radio-activity is retained in the block. We have tested a solution of the salt with the electroscope, and it certainly shows ionising properties. The amount of radium salt is certified to be equal to 0.00096 grain per gallon when one packet is dissolved in 10 gallons of water. The method appears to be an ingenious one of preserving the radio-activity of the salt, and affords a means of observing the therapeutic effects of a radio-active bath. Of course, such trials should be made under the guidance of the physician. We confirmed the quantity of salt present, and also a trace of calcium sulphate. The claims made for its therapeutic effects are somewhat exaggerated.

#### VILLACABRAS MINERAL WATER.

(E. DEL MAR, 12, MARK-LANE, LONDON, E.C.)

This water, derived from springs in Spain, has been acquired by a French company. Its chief merit is, according to our analysis, that it contains a much larger amount of sodium sulphate than the corresponding magnesium salt, and thus it is less nauseous or only faintly bitter to the taste. The water acts promptly as a purgative and cholagogue. Our analysis yielded the following results given in grammes per litre: Sodium sulphate, 78.51; sodium chloride, 1.05; magnesium sulphate, 2.74; and calcium sulphate, 1.70. The water is offered as usefully replacing the well-known purgative bitter waters hitherto supplied from Germany, Austria, and Hungary.

#### LANOLIN HYDROSUS B.P.

(MESSRS. CORBYN, STACEY, AND CO., LIMITED, 673, COMMERCIAL-ROAD EAST, LONDON, E.)

We have examined this preparation and can confirm the statement made in regard to it that its colour, odour, and consistency are quite as satisfactory as the lanoline supplied from Germany. We estimated the moisture present, and found that it amounted to 25 per cent. As is well known, wool fat is readily absorbed by the skin and is an excellent basis for an antiseptic ointment.

#### SANTROCYL CAPSULES.

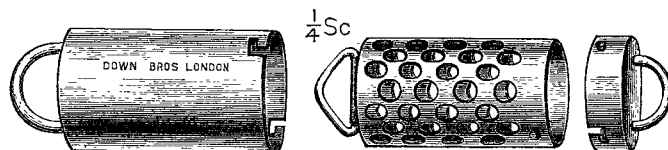
(MESSRS. MAWSON AND CO., WEST NORWOOD, LONDON, S.E.)

As is well known, one of the drawbacks to the use of santal-wood oil is its irritating effects upon the gastric tissues as well as upon the kidneys, which often leads to distressful pain. Santrocyl, while possessing the therapeutic properties of the oil in checking the discharge in gonorrhoea, is claimed to be free from irritant effects due to introducing the salicyl group into the alcohol santalol. Santrocyl shows, like good santal-wood oil itself, a ready solubility in 70 per cent. alcohol, possesses a balsamic odour, but is free from acrid taste. It is green in colour and easily saponifies with alkali, yielding salicylic acid and santalol. The combination has been found useful in urethritis and cystitis.

## New Inventions.

#### A NEW GLOVE STERILISER.

A GLOVE steriliser uncomplicated by hinges or lids, of a pattern small enough to be portable for private work, or made large enough to be useful in the theatre of a nursing home or hospital, is a desideratum which has not hitherto been obtained. I have had made to my suggestion a "glove-sterilising cartridge," shown in the illustration, consisting of a strong perforated metal inner cylinder with slip-on cap. This, after sterilisation, fits into an outer solid cylinder into which the cap fits accurately and is fastened with a bayonet catch, rendering the case air-tight. Handles are fixed at each end to allow of easy manipulation while the metal is hot—the lower handle of the inner cylinder



folding up, when the outer cylinder is applied, so as to economise space. The steriliser can contain one to four pairs of gloves, according to the size of the cartridge used. The apparatus can be sterilised either by dry heat or by boiling, and takes up much less room than a box. It can be carried sterilised or the cartridge can be sterilised anywhere by tying a string to the handle of the inner cylinder and dropping it into a kettle of boiling water. For midwifery work or for dressing the single glove cartridge is invaluable, while for theatre work the larger size effectually ensures that the gloves are efficiently sterilised and do not come in contact with the sides of the steriliser.

Messrs. Down Bros., St. Thomas's-street, London, S.E., are the makers.

Dundee.

DAVID M. GREIG, C.M., F.R.C.S. Edin.

**MEDICAL SICKNESS AND ACCIDENT SOCIETY.**—The usual monthly meeting of the above society was held at 300, High Holborn, on July 16th, Dr. Major Greenwood being in the chair. It was reported that the society had been allotted £5000 in the new War Loan, which, together with the amount invested in the previous War Loan, makes a total of £15,000. The new business showed a falling away in comparison with last year, but the combined tables issued by the society are still much in demand and constitute a good proportion of the total. The claims were also less than the previous month, and the first half of the year has been average in this respect. It was reported that three of the society's candidates were successful at the Epsom College election, one widow of a late member being elected to a pensionership and two sons of late members to Foundation scholarships. For all further information and particulars of this society apply to Mr. Bertram Sutton, secretary, Medical Sickness and Accident Society, 300, High Holborn, W.C.