

EXTRACTS FROM BRAIN TISSUES STOP BLEEDING

Dangerous bleeding after surgical or accidental injury to blood vessels may now be stopped by chemical substances derived from brain, lung, blood, or other body tissues. Herbert Hamilton of Detroit described at the recent meeting of the American Chemical Society at Philadelphia how substances of animal origin which cause the blood to coagulate more quickly are made. Extracts may be prepared from any tissues, Mr. Hamilton said, but those from the brains or lungs are the most effective. These substances are to be used by "bleeders", or hemophiliacs, as the doctors call them. They are persons with blood which fails to coagulate quickly enough or which does not form the right kind of clots.

BEST FOOD DYES MADE IN AMERICA

How American chemists had to get busy to maintain the pretty pre-war colors of domestic candies and cake icings with home made dyes during the World War and afterwards, was described at the recent meeting of the American Chemical Society at Philadelphia by W. C. Bainbridge of Brooklyn, N. Y. From 1907 to 1914 food colors were purified from imported crude dyes from Germany but after that time American manufacturers had to produce their own from domestic raw materials, Mr. Bainbridge said.

"The use of coloring matter in foodstuffs is an old established practice which originated in the workshop of Nature" Mr. Bainbridge explained. "Man in his endeavor to meet the culinary requirements of advancing civilization found it necessary to perpetuate the familiar and characteristic hues that suffered deterioration in the process of cooking or preserving. Thus the art of tinting foodstuffs was established.

"At first the juices of such vegetables or fruits that lent themselves readily to extraction and concentration were employed," Mr. Bainbridge said, "Those coloring matters were as a rule easily destroyed and the results were not satisfactory. But the advent of coal tar colors brought the desired permanent shades and hues and these soon found wide use. In 1907 the U.S. Government passed a law making the use of certain of the harmless coal tar colors in food permissible and barring the rest."

The war established a new industry in the United States and a larger variety of truly superior dyes are now being produced here as a result, it is said.

FEMALE SEX GLAND EXTRACT STUDIED

The chemical substance that controls sexual reactions in the female and which was recently first isolated from the ovarian gland has been subjected to many laboratory tests since its discovery and many of the properties and effects of this vital substance have been studied. J. O. Ralls, C.N. Jordan and E.A. Doisy of the St. Louis School of Medicine have succeeded in making a highly pure preparation of the hormone free from cholesterol, a substance present in all body tissues, they told members of the American Chemical Society at its recent meeting.