

The new sulfa-iodine compounds showed definite germ-killing action against tough spore forms of germs such as those which cause tetanus, gas gangrene and anthrax. Similar results were obtained with vegetable forms, such as the ball-shaped staphylococci and the rod-shaped typhoid bacillus of the gram-negative type.

These experiments do not imply a care-all for such infections, but serve to make Dr. Goedrich's point that the compounds "seem therefore to be non-selective in their bactericidal action."

Since such drugs should "retain a germ-killing action in the presence of organic matter, as present in wounds," tests were conducted under similar conditions.

Difficulties of using the regular sulfa drugs in wounds and various local applications have been pointed out by other investigators and their use questioned unless the physician knows with what combination or strain of germs he is dealing.

"Highly trained bacteriologists and well equipped laboratories are of paramount necessity to establish which type of organism is involved and which kind of the many sulfa drugs would be best suited for treatment," Dr. Goedrich stated. "Such facilities are rarely readily available to the average physician in an emergency, and hardly so at far-off outposts of our armed forces. It appears therefore that indiscriminate use of sulfonamides would mean taking a chance of 'hit or miss'."

Hence the need for a sulfa drug for local application, such as the promising new compounds which would be effective against all types of bacteria, including the resistant spore-bearers. Research is continuing.

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#### PHARMACY

### Many Pharmacies of Future Will Be in Clinics

➤ FEWER drug stores as we know them today, more medical supplies dispensed through prescription shops and pharmacies in medical centers and group clinics, and better care for low wage groups were possible post-war changes foreseen in a report to the American Pharmaceutical Association in Columbus, Ohio, by Dr. Robert P. Fischelis, chairman of the Social and Economic Relations Committee.

The medical center idea, developing in many war production communities,

is probably here to stay, the committee believes, and will have its effect upon private practice in both pharmacy and medicine. More pharmaceutical service through such agencies is considered likely either with government sponsorship or without it. Some plan to provide more adequate medical care and supplies for people with low incomes is certain, the report predicted. Fewer pharmacists may be available for corner drug stores as need for pharmacists increases for group service and in hospitals.

"The corner drug store will probably be confined more and more to towns which can support only one pharmacist and to neighborhood communities," Dr. Fischelis said. "This will open the way for more pharmacists to earn their living out of strictly professional practice.

#### GENERAL SCIENCE

## Reason Not Sufficient

Sentiments and different backgrounds due to language and different experiences are important factors in post-war world and peace, Harvard anthropologist states.

➤ ANY APPROACH to world peace that is purely geographic or economic is doomed to breed new confusion, Prof. Clyde Kluckhohn, Harvard University anthropologist, warned the Fourth Conference on Science, Philosophy and Religion meeting in New York.

Anthropologists agree, he said, that geographical position, natural resources, present degree of industrialization, illiteracy rate and countless other factors are important, but that many other factors must be taken into account.

The American public views the problems of the post-war world too exclusively in the light of reason, Prof. Kluckhohn said. Faith in reason is a glorious American tradition, but we must not ludicrously overestimate how much reason can accomplish in a limited time. Many of our acts are determined by sentiment and not reason. The sentiments of various peoples are determined by their peculiar historical experience.

The fact that various peoples have different languages causes them to arrive at different conclusions and actions when they start with the same set of conditions and facts.

"What we notice, what we talk about, what we feel as important is in some part a function of our linguistic habits," he said. "Because these linguistic habits tend to remain as unquestioned 'back-

"The pooling of patents now going on is resulting in a more liberal distribution of the right to produce important drugs, such as the sulfonamides, and may help to change the emphasis from brand names to the basic drugs themselves."


Need was foreseen for still more efficient cooperation between the pharmacist and physician to maintain top-notch medical service, since there are likely to be fewer physicians after the war. The more than 45,000 physicians in military service will not all return at once and as many as a third are expected to remain in the Army, Navy or U. S. Public Health Service. Many will serve in foreign lands to rehabilitate peoples who have war ills of mind and body.

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ground phenomena,' each people tends to take its fundamental categories, its unstated basic premises for granted. It is assumed that others will 'think the same way,' for 'it's only human nature.' When others face the same body of data but come to different conclusions, it is seldom thought that they might be proceeding from different premises. Rather, it is inferred that they are 'stupid' or 'illogical' or 'obstinate'."

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