——Review——

Kenji Kaji : Recent Ttudies in Grignard Reaction. I.

Isao Ishiguro : The Applicaion of Radioisotope.

Jinkichi Yoshida: On Price Maintenance in Japanese Drug Trade.

To-day, price cutting or loss-leader prevailing, how to prevent such business practice is the most important problem for retail druggists to be settled as soon as possible. Of course, such problem is not special to-day, and also in Japan, but rather is universal in the process of capitalistic development, and so in all the capitalistic countries. That is, in Japan as well as Great Britain and U. S. A., the problem how to maintain retail prices of drug had taken place since the end of 19th century, but had not been so serious as to-day. Because, before the 2nd World War, Japanese law to prohibit price agreement between firms was not so severe as after the War.

Defeated Japan was compelled to eliminate all the past traditional practices and to induce the Americanized regime. Anti-monopoly law was the most important legislature of Occupied Japan.

Consequently, price agreement and other joint actions to control market was almost illegal, except those of cooperative association of small business firms. So many retail druggists founded cooperative association in order to maintain retail prices, but owing to freedom to enter or leave this association.

Anti-monopoly law was amended in 1953, and resale price maintenance contract was legalized. But this institution was scarcely carried into effect, because of pharmaceutical makers' negative attitude, and retail druggist inperfect organization.

Thus, it seems that success of resale price maintenance in Japanese drug retailing largely depends upon strong organization of retail druggist, law which legalizes compulsory entrance to the organization of all retail druggist, and maker's cooperation, which may be obtained by pressure of the retail druggists' organization.

Original Reports (Abstracts)

Takeshi Shimano, Shintarō Nomura and Sumio Itō :
On the Adulterants of Kubakushi (Ch'ü-mai-tzŭ).

Examing the Kubakushi of the market, we found no seed of *Diantus L.* (*Caryophllceae*). The so-called Kubakushi on the market (Tokyo, Osaka & Nagoya) are all the seeds of onions, which is not germinative more than a year after seeding. It was clarified by anatomy (Fig I, II. table I), capillary-analysis (table II), paper-partition-chromatography and F-test (statistical) (table III—XVI). It is a thousand pities that all of them are spurious.

Yūzō Nagase, Ushiho Matsumoto and Tōru Izumi : Reaction of several Pyridinecarboxylic Acids with Metal Ions.

Pyridine-2,3,4-tricarboxylic acid (I), pyridine-3,4-dicarboxylic acid (II), pyri-

dine-2, 3-dicarboxylic acid (VI) and pyridine-3-carboxylic acid (V) were examined for ability as precipitant of cations with twenty-five species common metal ions.

1) Ag^{+}, pb^{2+}, Hg_2^{2+}, Hg^{2+}, Cu^{2+}, Cd^{2+}, Bi^{3+}, Ca^{2+} and Sr^{2+} were precipitated with I and II from weak acidic solutions, and Zn^{2+}, Mn^{2+} further precipitated with I. Ag^{+}, Cu^{2+} and Ca^{2+} were precipitated with VI and V. In the presence of KNa-tartarate as masking agent, Ca^{2+} and Sr^{2+} were precipitated with I and only Ca^{2+} was precipitated with II from solution of pH about 5.

2) Dilution limits of these all reactions were determined. Sensitive and selective detection reaction of Ca^{2+} was observed in $50^{V}/_{V}\%$ ethanolic solution with I and II. Dilution limits of these reactions were 1 : 10000000 and 1 : 500000 respectively.

3) Stable color reactions (orange red) were obtained from Fe^{2+} with I, II and VI.

Kichitarō Takatori and Shingo Asano :

Synthesis of Kyanmethin from Acetonitrile and Sodium Amide.

Detailed investigation have been made on the reaction to gain kyanmethin from acetonitrile and sodium amide in solvents.

Kichitarō Takatori and Yasuo Yamada :

Syntheses of New Hypoglycemic Sulfonamides.

Two new hypoglycemic sulfonamides, 4-amino-3-methyl-benzene-sulfon-2′-amide-5′-isopropylthiadiazole and 3-amino-4-methyl-benzene-sulfon-2′-amide-5′-isopropyl-thiadiazole, were synthesized.

Reizaburō Sakuma :

Studies on the Action of Radioactive Minerals("Ena"-Radium)

Radioactive minerals ("Ena"-Radium) produced in Ena, Gifu Prefecture have shown no remarkable antiseptic action to Shōyu compared with normal antiseptic substances. While the content of carbohydrate in Shōyu has remarkably diminished, other components have been practically unchanged.

Kazuo Hirose, Yōki Ose and Zirō Kitamura :

Antibacterial Property of Plant Hormones.

Antibacterial property of plant hormones was tested. α-Naphthylacetic acid, β-naphthoxyacetic acid, β-naphthoxyacetic acid methyl ester, ethyl ester and butyl ester had not actibacterial property against *St. aureus*, *Sh. flexerae* 2*a*, *Sal. typhi* and *E. coli communis* at 1 : 2,500 concentration.

The action of α-naphthylacetic acid, 2.4-D, β-naphthoxyacetic acid, maleic hydrazide and ethylenchlorhydrine is shown in table I.