XXX. PRELIMINARY NOTE ON THE PREPARATION OF COLLODION DIALYSERS OF GRADED PERMEABILITY.

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In a recent publication, Walpole [1915] has described a method by which the permeability of collodion membranes is specified in terms of (1) the weight of dry nitro-cotton per sq. cm., (2) the "wetness" of the membrane.

In a series of experiments which have been in progress for some time, the author has found that collodion dialysers, constant in character and of a wide range of permeability, can be prepared by treating air-dried collodion membranes with varying percentages of alcohol in water. After such treatment for a suitable time, the membranes are thoroughly washed in water, and are then ready for use. The permeability of such membranes is directly related to the strength of the alcohol employed, so that by the use of various concentrations, membranes of almost any degree of permeability may be obtained: from those which will keep back e.g. copper sulphate, to those which are permeable to such a highly colloidal substance as aniline blue.

A second method of preparing graded dialysers which depends upon a process of differential drying has also been worked out. A full account of these researches will shortly be forthcoming.

REFERENCE.

Walpole, G. S. (1915), *Biochem. J.*, 9, 284