

In the metric-apothecary equivalents, however, cc., not ml., is the equivalent of millimetre as given by the author.

Nearly all syringes and most pipettes are marked in cc.'s.

'c.cm.' is only a longer way of writing cc. We prefer cc. 'c.c.' (with a full stop after the first c) is not necessary. Further, it appears to be an abbreviation for 'chief complaint'.

MIL., mil. and ml. denote a millilitre. We prefer ml., if cc. is not used.

Metric system, and the gramme, cc. and ml.—It has been stated that the weights and measures can no longer be correctly described as metric inasmuch as the kilo and the litre have been legalized as weight and volume of a cylinder specially preserved (Hamill, *loc. cit.*). The prototype kilo, however, being 'as nearly as possible' equal to the *kilogramme des archives*, must be as nearly metric as it is possible to be. It is, therefore, metric and will remain so. The rest follows. The ml. must be metric and the cc. of course is metric, being derived from the metre itself.

Metric equivalents.—Eminent British men of science have recently stressed the need of 'giving the metric equivalent of data expressed in British units' (Robinson, Dale, Appleton, Darwin and Paterson, 1947). The position is particularly difficult with respect to ml. and/or cc. as the equivalents from the following sources show:—

General Medical Council (<i>loc. cit.</i>)	1 cc.	= 16.68911 minims
Stedman (<i>loc. cit.</i>) :		
Imperial Apothecaries' measure.	1 cc.	= 16.23412 minims
U.S. Apothecaries' measure.	1 cc.	= 16 minims
Dorland (1947)	1 cc.	= 16 minims
	1 fluid ounce	= 30 cc.
Hyman (<i>loc. cit.</i>)	1 cc.	= 16 minims
Tuberculin syringes	1 cc.	= 16 minims

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BETWEEN OURSELVES ON PREPARING A TYPESCRIPT, ETC.

THE paper economy has again become necessary. Your article, however, must be typed: (i) with a generous margin, (ii) in double space, and (iii) on one side of a sheet only. Not to do so is false economy as far as the ultimate expenditure of paper goes. Alterations made in editing on a sheet with narrow margin, typed in single space and/or on both sides of a sheet are not made out by the printer. They are undertaken again on the galley proof. Another galley proof may be required. Thus the paper is expended just the same with extra labour and irritation in dealing with the proof. The publication of the journal is also delayed.

As long as the need for the economy lasts we will not insist on two copies of the typescript for our office, as long as you retain a copy which we may require. A typescript is hardly ever mislaid in our office. Occasionally, it is mislaid by the referee or in the press, or is lost in transit to and from them. Even these accidents are few and far between unless communal frenzy or labour excitement disturbs the routine of the town.

If for some reason or other single space typing is inescapable, the following conditions must be satisfied: (i) the margin should not be less than $\frac{1}{4}$ of the width of the page; (ii) after the final reading the typescript should be locked up in your drawer for two weeks to enable you to forget the syntax; (iii) it should then be read to you by someone other than your typist; (iv) all errors now detected should be corrected by pasting typed slips; and (v) typing on both sides of the sheet should be avoided.

If for some reason or other typing on both sides is inescapable at present, then kindly hold back your contribution as long as the economy lasts.

Under skiagrams and photographs should be pasted type-written slips giving the legend. R and L if wrongly placed on the former should be stated to be so placed in the slip. Lately, several errors have occurred due to inversion and lateral inversion of the skiagrams.

The writing on figures and graphs should not be typed, such writing is not easy to photograph, in preparing the block.

We are mending our ways also. Due to economy in paper we have not been acknowledging receipt of typescripts promptly and have been informing the contributors of the decision of the editorial committee only, later. This has caused annoyance and we express our regrets. From now onwards two intimations will be sent as formerly: one on receipt and one on deciding on publication.