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Accurate indications, adverse reactions, and dosage schedules for drugs are provided in this book, but it is possible that they may change. The reader is urged to review the package information data of the manufacturers of the medications mentioned.

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combination (kom-bi-nā'shūn). 1. The act of combining (i.e., by joining, uniting, or otherwise bringing into close association) separate entities. 2. The state of being so combined.

binary c., the name of a species of bacteria consisting of two parts: a generic name and a specific epithet.

new c. (comb. nov.), the new name that results from the transfer of a microorganism from one genus to another; the generic name changes but, in most cases, the specific epithet remains the same.

combustible (kom-bus'ti-bl). Capable of combustion.

combustion (kom-būs'chūn) [L. *comburo*, pp. -bustus, to burn up]. Burning, the rapid oxidation of any substance accompanied by the production of heat and light.

slow c., see decay.

spontaneous c., the ignition of a mass of material by heat developed within it by the oxidation of the substances composing it without external ignition.

Comby, Jules, Paris pediatrician, 1853-1947. See C.'s sign.

comedo, pl. **comedos**, **comedones** (kom'ē-dō, kō-mē'dō; kom'ē-dōz, kom'ē-dō'nēz) [L. a glutton, fr. *com-edo*, to eat up]. A dilated hair follicle infundibulum filled with keratin, squamæ, and sebum; the primary lesion of acne vulgaris.

closed c., whitehead (2); a c. with a narrow or obstructed opening on the skin surface; closed c.'s may rupture, producing a low-grade dermal inflammatory reaction.

open c., blackhead (1); a c. with a wide opening on the skin surface capped with a blackened mass of epithelial debris.

comedocarcinoma (kō-mē'dō-kar-si-nō'mā). Form of carcinoma of the breast in which plugs of necrotic malignant cells may be expressed from the ducts.

comedogenic (kom'ē-dō-jen'ik) [comedo + G. *genesis*, production]. Tending to promote the formation of comedones.

comes, pl. **comites** (kō'mēz, kom'ī-tēz) [L. a companion, fr. *com-*, together, + *eo*, pp. *itus*, to go]. A blood vessel accompanying another vessel or a nerve; the veins accompanying an artery, often two in number, are called *venae comitantes* or *venae comites*.

comitance (kom'ī-tāns). Concomitance.

commensal (kō-men'sāl). 1. Pertaining to or characterized by commensalism. 2. An organism participating in commensalism.

commensalism (kō-men'sāl-izm). [L. *con-*, with, together, + *mensa*, table]. A symbiotic relationship in which one species derives benefit and the other is unharmed; e.g., *Entamoeba coli* in the human large intestine. Cf. metabiosis, mutualism, parasitism.

epizoid c., phoresis (2).

comminuted (kom'ī-nū-ted) [L. *com-minuo*, pp. -minutus, to make smaller, break into pieces, fr. *minor*, less]. Broken into several pieces; denoting especially a fractured bone.

comminution (kom-i-nū'shūn). A breaking into several pieces.

commissura, gen. and pl. **commissurae** (kom-i-syūr'ā, -yūr'ē) [L. a joining together, seam, fr. *com-mitto*, to send together, combine] [NA]. Commissure. 1. Angle or corner of the eye, lips, or labia. 2. A bundle of nerve fibers passing from one side to the other in the brain or spinal cord.

c. al'ba [NA], white or anterior white commissure; **c. ventralis alba**; a narrow band of white substance bordering on the anterior median fissure of the spinal cord in front of the anterior gray commissure, and consisting of nerve fibers crossing over from one half of the spinal cord to the other.

c. ante'rior [NA], anterior commissure; a round bundle of nerve fibers that crosses the midline of the brain near the anterior limit of the third ventricle. It consists of a smaller pars anterior, the fibers of which pass in part to the olfactory bulbs, and a larger pars posterior, which interconnects the left and right temporal lobes.

c. ante'rior gris'ea, see *substantia intermedia centralis et lateralis*.

c. bulborum, commissura of bulb; pars intermedia bulborum; a

narrow median band that connects the two masses of erectile tissue (the bulbus vestibuli) on either side of the vaginal orifice.

c. cine'rea, *adhesio interthalamica*.

c. for'nix [NA], commissure of the fornix; hippocampal commissure; commissura hippocampi; transverse fornix; delta fornix; psalterium (1); the triangular subcallosal plate of commissural fibers resulting from the converging of the right and left fornix bundles which exchange numerous fibers and which curve back in the contralateral fornix to end in the hippocampus of the opposite side.

c. gris'ea, (1) *adhesio interthalamica*; (2) see *substantia intermedia centralis et lateralis*.

c. habenula'rum [NA], commissure of the habenulae; habenular commissure; the connection between the right and left habenular nuclei; the decussation of fibers of the two striae medullares, forming the dorsal portion of the peduncle of the pineal body.

c. hippocam'pi, c. fornix.

c. labio'rum [NA], commissure or junction of lips; the junction of the lips lateral to the angle of the mouth.

c. labio'rum ante'rior [NA], anterior labial commissure; the junction of the labia majora anteriorly at the mons pubis.

c. labio'rum poste'rior [NA], posterior labial commissure; a slight fold uniting the labia majora posteriorly in front of the anus.

c. palpebra'rum latera'lis [NA], lateral palpebral commissure; the union of the upper and lower eyelids adjacent to the lateral angle.

c. palpebra'rum media'lis [NA], medial palpebral commissure; the union of the upper and lower eyelids adjacent to the medial angle.

c. poste'rior cer'ebri [NA], posterior cerebral commissure; a thin band of white matter, crossing from side to side beneath the habenula of the pineal body and over the aditus ad aqueductum cerebri; it is largely composed of fibers interconnecting the left and right pretectal region and related cell groups of the midbrain; dorsally, it marks the junction of the diencephalon and mesencephalon.

c. poste'rior gris'ea, see *substantia intermedia centralis et lateralis*.

commissu'rae supraop'ticae [NA], supraoptic commissures; commissures of Ganser, Gudden, and Meynert; the commissural fibers that lie above and behind the optic chiasm.

c. ventra'lis al'ba, c. alba.

commissural (kom-i-syūr'āl). Relating to a commissure.

commissure (kom'ī-syūr). Commissura.

anterior c., *commissura anterior*.

anterior labial c., *commissura labiorum anterior*.

anterior white c., *commissura alba*.

c. of bulb., *commissura bulborum*.

c. of cerebral hemispheres, *corpus callosum*.

c. of fornix, *commissura fornix*.

Ganser's c.'s, *commissurae supraopticae*.

Gudden's c.'s, *commissurae supraopticae*.

c. of habenulae, *commissura habenularum*.

habenular c., *commissura habenularum*.

hippocampal c., *commissura fornix*.

lateral palpebral c., *commissura palpebrarum lateralis*.

c. of lips, *commissura labiorum*.

medial palpebral c., *commissura palpebrarum medialis*.

Meynert's c.'s, *commissurae supraopticae*.

posterior cerebral c., *commissura posterior cerebri*.

posterior labial c., *commissura labiorum posterior*.

supraoptic c.'s, *commissurae supraopticae*.

Wernekink's c., the decussation of the brachia conjunctiva before their entrance into the red nucleus of the tegmentum.

white c., *commissura alba*.

commissurotomy (kom'ī-syūr-ot'ō-mē). 1. Surgical division of any commissure, fibrous band, or ring. 2. Midline *myelotomy*.

mitral c., opening the narrowed mitral orifice for the relief of mitral stenosis.

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containing sequences of comic use
 (1906): not to be taken seriously
 morous character with a happy

emotional tension esp. of a drama
 of a comic episode or elements
 in narrative sequence
 instance of arriving
 in sequence or development (in
 the ~ trend)
 MMINGLE
 of prominence, respectabil-

omintern, fr. *Kommunistisches*
 al] (1923): the Communist Inter-
 national in 1943

a [L. pl. of *comitum*, fr. *com-*
 + *mitare*] (1600): any of several public
 ome for legislative, judicial, and
 -shā adj

[L. *comitatus*, *comitas*, fr. *comis*
 + *amis* (akin to *Skt smayate* he:
 friendly social atmosphere: so-
 ting ~) b: a loose widespread
 institutions (the ~ of civiliza-
 the informal and voluntary recog-
 the laws and judicial decisions of
 ng members of another religious

urtesy and friendship of nations
 if executive, legislative, and judi-
 cating international comity
 s] (1973): comic books or comic

int; commander; commanding 2
 ercial 4 commission; commis-
 6 common; commoner 7 com-
 munication 10 communist 11

of a sentence, fr. Gk *komma* seg-
 ure at CAPON] (1554) 1: a punc-
 separation within the sentence 2
 eral nymphalid butterflies (genus
 ped mark on the underside of the

PLICE
 anden, fr. AF *cumander*, fr. VL
 are to commit to one's charge
 direct authoritatively: ORDER 2
 over: have command of: as a: to
 s many resources b: to demand
 ee c: to overlook or dominate
 n (a hill that ~s the city) d: to
 officer (~ a regiment) 3 obs: to
 1: to have or exercise direct au-
 rs 3: to be commander 4: to
 ze — **com-mand-able** \ˈmān-də-

AIN, DIRECT, INSTRUCT, CHARGE
 d ORDER imply authority and usu.
 rsonality. COMMAND stresses offi-
 ral commanding troops). ORDER
 ry exercise (ordered his employees
 ing orders peremptorily (as to chil-
 seated). ENJOIN implies giving an
 ind urgently and often with admo-
 g patrons to be quiet). DIRECT and
 n of obedience and usu. concern
 thod. INSTRUCT sometimes imply-
 y (directed her assistant to hold all
 y to ignore the remark). CHARGE
 mposing as a duty or responsibility
 cret mission).

ven b: a signal that actuates a de-
 pacecraft or one step in a comput-
 by means of such a signal 2 a: the
 the authority or right to command
 r to dominate (2): scope of vision
 ench) e: CONTROL ld (a pitcher
 the act of commanding 4: the
 der a commander; specif: a unit of
 air force 5: a position of highest

WER
 command or request (a ~ perfor-

ant n (1687): COMMANDING OFFI-
 armored car designed esp. for mili-
 traveling over rough terrain
 economic system in which activity
 y and the means of production are

afrik kommandeer, fr. F *commander*
 81) 1 a: to compel to perform mili-
 tary purposes 2: to take arbitrary or
 c) 1: one in an official position of
 MANDING OFFICER b: the presid-
 ent 2: a commissioned officer in
 ove a lieutenant commander and be-
 hip \ˌvɪʃəp n

commander-in-chief (1654): one who holds the supreme command of
 an armed force

com-mand-ery \kə-ˈmān-d(ə)-rē n, pl -eries (15c) 1: a district under
 the control of a commander of an order of knights 2: an assem-
 bly or lodge in a secret order

com-mand-ing \kə-ˈmān-dɪŋ adj (1591) 1: drawing attention or pri-
 ority (a ~ presence) 2: difficult to overcome (a ~ lead) — **com-**
mand-ing-ly \-dɪŋ-lē adv

commanding officer n (1720): an officer in command; esp: an officer
 in the armed forces in command of an organization or installation
 com-mand-ment \kə-ˈmān(d)-mənt n (13c) 1: the act or power of
 commanding 2: something that is commanded; esp: one of the bibli-
 cal Ten Commandments

command module n (1962): a space vehicle module designed to carry
 the crew, the chief communication equipment, and the equipment for
 reentry

com-man-do \kə-ˈmān-(d)ə n, pl -dos or -does [Afrik *kommando*,
 fr. D *kommando* command, fr. Sp *comando*, fr. *comandar* to command,
 fr. LL *comandare*] (1839) 1. *So Afr* a: a military unit or command
 of the Boers b: a raiding expedition 2 a: a military unit trained and
 organized as shock troops esp. for hit-and-run raids into enemy territo-
 ry b: a member of such a unit

command post n (ca. 1918): a post at which the commander of a unit
 in the field receives orders and exercises command

command sergeant major n (1967): a noncommissioned officer in
 the army ranking above a first sergeant

comma splice n (1924): the unjustified use of a comma between coor-
 dinate main clauses not connected by a conjunction (as in "nobody
 goes there anymore, it's boring")

com-me-dia del-l'ar-te \kə-ˈmā-dē-ə-(l)ˈdel-ˈlār-tē, kə-ˈmē-ə n [It. lit.,
 comedy of art] (1823): Italian comedy of the 16th to 18th centuries im-
 proved from standardized situations and stock characters

comme il faut \kə-ˈmē-(l)ˈfəʊ adj [Fr. lit., as it should be] (1756): con-
 forming to accepted standards: PROPER

com-mem-o-rate \kə-ˈmē-mə-ˈrāt v -rat-ed; -rat-ing [L. *commemora-*
tus, pp. of *commemorare*, fr. *com-* + *memorare* to remind, fr. *memor*
 mindful — more at MEMORY] (1599) 1: to call to remembrance 2
 : to mark by some ceremony or observation: OBSERVE (~ an anniver-
 sary) 3: to serve as a memorial of (a plaque that ~s the battle) **syn**
 see KEEP — **com-mem-o-ra-tor** \ˌrā-tər n

com-mem-o-ration \kə-ˈmē-mə-ˈrā-shən n (14c) 1: the act of com-
 memorating 2: something that commemorates

com-mem-o-ra-tive \kə-ˈmē-mə-ˈrā-tiv, -ˈmē-mə-ˈrā-tiv adj
 (1612): intended as a commemoration; esp: issued in limited quan-
 tities for a relatively short period in commemoration of a person, place,
 or event (a ~ stamp) — **commemorative** n — **com-mem-o-ra-**
tive-ly adv

com-mence \kə-ˈmen(t)s v -com-menced; -com-menc-ing [ME *com-*
mencen, fr. AF *comencier*, fr. VL **comitiare*, fr. L *com-* + LL *initiare*
 to begin, fr. L. to initiate] vt (14c): to enter upon: BEGIN (~ proceed-
 ings) ~ vi 1: to have or make a beginning: START (the meeting will
 ~ soon) 2 chiefly Brit: to take a degree at a university **syn** see BE-
 GIN — **com-menc-er** n

com-mence-ment \kə-ˈmen(t)s-mənt n (13c) 1: an act, instance,
 or time of commencing 2 a: the ceremonies or the day for conferring
 degrees or diplomas b: the period of activities at this time

com-mend \kə-ˈmend v [ME, fr. AF *comander*, fr. L *commendare*, fr.
com- + *mandare* to entrust — more at MANDATE] vt (14c) 1: to en-
 trust for care or preservation 2: to recommend as worthy of confi-
 dence or notice 3: to mention with approbation: PRAISE ~ vi: to
 commend or serve as a commendation of something — **com-mend-**
able \ˈmēn-də-bəl adj — **com-mend-ably** \-blē adv — **com-**
mend-er n

com-mend-a-tion \kə-ˈmān-dā-shən, -ˈmēn-ə n (14c) 1 a: an act of
 commending b: something (as a formal citation) that commends 2
 archaic: COMPLIMENT

com-mend-a-to-ry \kə-ˈmēn-də-tōr-ē adj (1544): serving to com-
 mend (~ remarks)

com-men-sal \kə-ˈmen(t)-səl adj [ME, fr. ML *commensalis*, fr. L *com-*
 + LL *mensalis* of the table, fr. L *mensa* table] (1877): of, relating to,
 or living in a state of commensalism (~ organisms) — **commensal** n —
com-men-sal-ly \-sə-lē adv

com-men-sal-ism \kə-ˈmēn-də-ˈlɪ-zəm n (1870): a relation between two kinds
 of organisms in which one obtains food or other benefits from the
 other without damaging or benefiting it

com-men-su-ra-ble \kə-ˈmen(t)-sə-rə-bəl, -ˈmēn(t)-sə-ˈrə-bəl, -ˈmēn(t)-sə-
 -ˈshə-ə adj (1557) 1: having a common measure; specif: divisible with-
 out remainder by a common unit 2: COMMENSURATE — **com-**
men-su-ra-bil-i-ty \ˌmēn(t)-sə-rə-bəl-ˈi-tē, -ˈmēn(t)-sə-ˈrə-bəl-ˈi-tē,
 -ˈshə-ə n — **com-men-su-ra-bly** \ˌmēn(t)-sə-rə-blē, -ˈmēn(t)-sə-ˈrə-
 -ˈshə-ə adv

com-men-su-rate \kə-ˈmen(t)-sə-rət, -ˈmēn(t)-sə-ˈrət, -ˈmēn(t)-sə-ˈrə-
 -ˈshə-ə adj [LL *commensuratus*, fr. L *com-* + LL *mensuratus*, pp. of *mensurare*
 to measure, fr. L *mensura* measure — more at MEASURE] (1641) 1
 : equal in measure or extent: COEXTENSIVE (lived a life ~ with the
 early years of the republic) 2: corresponding in size, extent, amount,
 or degree: PROPORTIONATE (was given a job ~ with her abilities) 3
 : COMMENSURABLE 1 — **com-men-su-rate-ly** adv — **com-men-su-**
ra-tion \ˌmēn(t)-sə-rā-shən, -ˈshə-ə n

com-ment \ˈkə-mənt n [ME, fr. LL *commentum*, fr. L. invention, fr.
 neut. of *commentus*, pp. of *commentisci* to invent, fr. *com-* + *minisci*
 (akin to *ment-*, *mens* mind) — more at MIND] (14c) 1: COMMENTARY
 2: a note explaining, illustrating, or criticizing the meaning of a writ-
 ing 3 a: an observation or remark expressing an opinion or attitude
 (critical ~s) b: a judgment expressed indirectly (see the film as a
 ~ on modern values)

comment vt (15c): to make a comment on (the discovery... is hardly
 ~ed by the press — *Nation*) ~ vi: to explain or interpret something
 by comment (~ing on recent developments)

com-men-tary \ˈkə-mān-tər-ē, -ˈtē-rē n, pl -tar-ies (15c) 1 a: an ex-
 planatory treatise — usu. used in pl. b: a record of events usu. writ-
 ten by a participant — usu. used in pl. 2 a: a systematic series of ex-
 planations or interpretations (as of a writing) b: COMMENT 2 3 a:
 something that serves for illustration or explanation (the dark, airless

apartments and sunless factories... are a sad ~ upon our civilization
 — H. A. Overstreet) b: an expression of opinion

com-men-tate \ˈkə-mān-tāt v -lat-ed; -lat-ing [back-formation fr.
commentator] vt (1794): to give a commentary on ~ vi: to comment
 in a usu. expository or interpretive manner; also: to act as a commen-
 tator

com-men-ta-tor \ˌtā-tər n (14c): one who gives a commentary; esp:
 one who reports and discusses news on radio or television

com-merce \ˈkɑ-ˈmɜrs, kə-ˈmɜrs n [MF, fr. L. *commercium*, fr. *com-* + *merc-*
merx merchandise] (1537) 1: social intercourse: interchange of
 ideas, opinions, or sentiments 2: the exchange or buying and selling
 of commodities on a large scale involving transportation from place to
 place 3: SEXUAL INTERCOURSE **syn** see BUSINESS

com-merce \ˈkɑ-ˈmɜrs, kə-ˈmɜrs n **com-merged**; **com-merc-ing**
 (1596) archaic: COMMUNE

com-mer-cial \ˈkɑ-mər-ʃəl adj (1598) 1 a (1): occupied with or en-
 gaged in commerce or work intended for commerce (a ~ artist) (2)
 : of or relating to commerce (~ regulations) (3): characteristic of
 commerce (~ weights) (4): suitable, adequate, or prepared for com-
 merce (found oil in ~ quantities) b (1): being of an average or infe-
 rior quality (~ oxalic acid) (show-quality versus ~ cattle) (2): pro-
 ducing artistic work of low standards for quick market success 2 a:
 viewed with regard to profit (a ~ success) b: designed for a large
 market 3: emphasizing skills and subjects useful in business (a ~
 school) 4: supported by advertisers (~ TV) — **com-mer-ci-al-i-ty**
 \ˈkɑ-mər-ʃē-ə-lē-tē n — **com-mer-cial-ly** \ˈmər-ʃə-lē adv

commercial n (1935): an advertisement broadcast on radio or televi-
 sion

commercial bank n (1910): a bank organized chiefly to handle the ev-
 eryday financial transactions of businesses (as through demand deposit
 accounts and short-term commercial loans)

com-mer-cial-ism Brit var of COMMERCIALIZE

com-mer-cial-ism \ˈkɑ-mər-ʃəl-izəm n (1849) 1: commercial
 spirit, institutions, or methods 2: excessive emphasis on profit —
com-mer-cial-ist \ˈmər-ʃəl-ist n — **com-mer-cial-is-tic** \ˈmər-
 -ʃəl-ist-ik adj

com-mer-cial-ize \ˈkɑ-mər-ʃəl-iz v -ized; -iz-ing (1830) 1 a: to
 manage on a business basis for profit b: to develop commerce in 2
 : to exploit for profit (~ Christmas) 3: to debase in quality for more
 profit — **com-mer-cial-i-za-tion** \ˌmər-ʃə-lə-ˈzā-shən n
 commercial paper n (1836): short-term unsecured discounted paper
 usu. sold by one company to another for immediate cash needs

commercial traveler n (1807): TRAVELING SALESMAN

com-mie \ˈkɑ-mē n, often cap [by shortening & alter.] (1940): COM-
 MUNIST

com-mi-na-tion \ˈkɑ-mā-nā-shən n [ME, fr. MF or L; MF, fr. L
commination, *comminatio*, fr. *comminari* to threaten, fr. *com-* + *mi-*
nari to threaten — more at MOUNT] (15c): DENUNCIATION — **com-**
mi-na-to-ry \ˈkɑ-mā-nə-tōr-ē, kə-ˈmī-nə-, -ˈmī-ə adj

com-min-gle \ˈkɑ-mɪŋ-gəl, kə-ˈmɪ-nɪ (1612) 1: to blend thoroughly into
 a harmonious whole 2: to combine (funds or properties) into a com-
 mon fund or stock ~ vi: to become commingled **syn** see MIX

com-mi-nute \ˈkɑ-mā-nūt, -nyūt v -nut-ed; -nut-ing [L. *comminu-*
tus, pp. of *comminere*, fr. *com-* + *minuere* to lessen — more at MINOR]
 (1626): to reduce to minute particles: PULVERIZE — **com-mi-nu-tion**
 \ˈkɑ-mā-nū-shən, -ˈnyūt n

com-mis-er-ate \ˈkɑ-mi-zə-rāt v -at-ed; -at-ing [L. *commiseratus*,
 pp. of *commiserari*, fr. *com-* + *miserari* to pity, fr. *miser* wretched]
 (1594): to feel or express sympathy: CONDOLE (~s with them on
 their loss) ~ vi: to feel or express sorrow or compassion for — **com-**
mis-er-at-ing-ly adv — **com-mis-er-a-tion** \ˌmɪ-zə-rā-shən n —
com-mis-er-a-tive \ˈmɪ-zə-rā-tiv adj

com-mis-sar \ˈkɑ-mā-sər n [Russ *komissar*, fr. G *Kommissar*, fr. ML
commissarius] (1918) 1 a: a Communist party official assigned to
 a military unit to teach party principles and policies and to ensure party
 loyalty b: one that attempts to control public opinion or its expres-
 sion 2: the head of a government department in the U.S.S.R. until
 1946 — **com-mis-sar-i-al** \ˈkɑ-mā-sär-ē-əl, -ˈsär-ē adj

com-mis-sar-i-at \ˈkɑ-mā-sär-ē-ət, -ˈsär-ē-ət n [NL *commissaria-*
tus, fr. ML *commissarius*] (1779) 1: a system for supplying an army
 with food 2: food supplies 3 [Russ *komissariat*, fr. G *Kommissariat*,
 fr. NL *commissarius*]: a government department in the U.S.S.R. until
 1946 4: a board of commissioners

com-mis-sary \ˈkɑ-mā-sər-ē, -ˈsär-ē n, pl -sar-ies [ME *commissarie*,
 fr. AF, fr. ML *commissarius*, fr. L *commissus*, pp. of *committere*] (14c)
 1: one delegated by a superior to execute a duty or an office 2 a: a
 store for equipment and provisions; esp: a supermarket for military
 personnel b: food supplies c: a lunchroom esp. in a motion-picture
 studio

com-mis-sion \ˈkɑ-mi-shən n [ME, fr. AF, fr. L *commissio*, *commis-*
sio act of bringing together, fr. *committere*] (14c) 1 a: a formal writ-
 ten warrant granting the power to perform various acts or duties b: a
 certificate conferring military rank and authority; also: the rank and
 authority so conferred 2: an authorization or command to act in a
 prescribed manner or to perform prescribed acts: CHARGE 3 a: au-
 thority to act for, in behalf of, or in place of another b: a task or mat-
 ter entrusted to one as an agent for another 4 a: a group of persons
 directed to perform some duty b: a government agency having ad-
 ministrative, legislative, or judicial powers c: a city council having
 legislative and executive functions 5: an act of committing some-
 thing (~ of a crime) 6: a fee paid to an agent or employee for trans-
 acting a piece of business or performing a service; esp: a percentage of
 the money received from a total paid to the agent responsible for the
 business 7: an act of entrusting or giving authority — **in commis-**
sion or into commission 1: under the authority of commissioners
 2 of a ship: ready for active service 3: in use or in condition for use
 — **on commission**: with commission serving as partial or full pay

\ə\ abut \ʔ\ kitten, F table \ər\ further \ə\ ash \ā\ ace \ā\ mop, mar
 \ā\ out \ch\ chin \ē\ bet \ē\ easy \g\ go \i\ hit \i\ ice \j\ job
 \n\ sing \ō\ go \ō\ law \ō\ boy \th\ thin \th\ the \ū\ loot \ū\ foot
 \y\ yet \zh\ vision, beige \k, ŋ, æ, ō, ɛ, ɪ, ʏ\ see Guide to Pronunciation

Hawley's
Condensed Chemical
Dictionary

TWELFTH EDITION

Revised by
Richard J. Lewis, Sr.



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in the combustion of a mixture of hydrogen and chlorine to form hydrogen chloride.

Spontaneous combustion may occur at or even below room temperature (1) by exposure to air of substances that are highly sensitive to oxidation (e.g., phosphorus); (2) by heat buildup from bacterial activity (compost, sewage sludge) or oxidation catalyzed by moisture, as in wet waste materials (paper, cotton, wool); (3) by internal heat accumulation due to autoxidation (fish oils, linseed oil).

See also oxidation, pyrophoric material, autoignition point, flash point.

combustion tube. A tube used in the combustion method of chemical analysis.

comicellization. The phenomenon wherein a surfactant in a concentration considerably below its own critical micelle concentration solubilizes an insoluble compound in a comparatively large quantity.

comirin. Exact formula undetermined. An antifungal agent produced by *Bacterium antimyceticum* comprised mostly of amino acids. A gray to white powder which resists heat and acids, but decomposes in the presence of alkalis; soluble in organic acids and bases; slightly soluble in water. A fungicide in paints, textile products, plant growth.

comminution. Size reduction of materials by grinding, cutting, shredding, chopping, etc. Solids can be reduced to a particle size approaching 1 micron in special fine-grinding equipment. Comminution of coal by chemical means is possible via a low-molecular-weight compound such as sodium hydroxide or anhydrous ethanol, which penetrates the natural fault system of the coal, causing fragmentation without mechanical crushing. This permits removal of sulfur from coal without burning or grinding. Approximately 100 pounds of chemical are needed per ton of coal.

common-ion effect The reversal of ionization when a compound is added to a solution of another compound with which it has a common ion, the volume being kept constant.

compatibility. The ability of two or more materials to exist in close and permanent association indefinitely. Liquids (solvents) are compatible if they are miscible and do not undergo phase separation on standing. Thus, water is compatible with alcohol but not with gasoline. Liquids and solids are compatible only if the solid is soluble in the liquid. Solids are compatible if they can exist in intimate contact for long periods with no adverse effect of one on the other.

"Compazine" [SmithKline]. TM for a brand of prochlorperazine, as the maleate or the edisylate.

complement. In immunochemistry, any of a number of blood proteins that act in conjunction with antibodies to cause disintegration of invading cells. They are an essential component of immune serum.

complex compound. See coordination compound.

complexing agent. See ligand, chelate, ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid.

complex ion. An ion which has a molecular structure consisting of a central atom bonded to other atoms by coordinate covalent bonds. See coordination compound.

component. One of the minimum set of substances required to generate the composition of all phases of a system in the absence of chemical reaction of any substances in a mixture. See also constituent.

composite. A mixture or mechanical combination on a macro scale of two or more materials that are solid in the finished state, are mutually insoluble, and differ in chemical nature. The major types are: (1) Laminates of paper, fabric, or wood (veneer) and a thermosetting material (resin, rubber, or adhesive); examples are tire carcasses, plywood, and electrical insulating structures. (2) Reinforced plastics, principally of glass fiber and a thermosetting resin; other types of fibers such as boron, aluminum silicate, and silicon carbide may be used (see also whiskers). (3) Cermets, which are mixtures of ceramic and metal powders, heat-treated and compressed. (4) Fabrics, e.g., woven combinations of wool or cotton and a synthetic fiber. (5) Filled composites where a bonding material, i.e., linseed oil, resin, or asphalt, is loaded with a filler in the form of flakes or small particles; examples are linoleum, glass flake-plastic mixtures for battery cases, and asphalt-gravel road-surfacing mixtures.

composting. Aerobic bacterial decomposition of solid organic wastes, both agricultural and urban, including sewage sludge. As much as 500 tons a day can be handled in the larger installations, the waste degrading quickly without external heating. Decomposition is accelerated by adding ammonium bicarbonate. The product can be used as a soil conditioner and for landfill. The waste is piled, turned frequently to provide aeration, and to maintain a high temperature in the pile to destroy pathogenic organisms. The

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On the cover: Representation of a fullerene molecule with a noble gas atom trapped inside. At the Permian-Triassic sedimentary boundary the noble gases helium and argon have been found trapped inside fullerenes. They exhibit isotope ratios quite similar to those found in meteorites, suggesting that a fireball meteorite or asteroid exploded when it hit the Earth, causing major changes in the environment. (Image copyright © Dr. Luann Becker. Reproduced with permission.)

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mental and physical well-being. Also known as comfort standard. { 'kəm-fərt ,zɒn }

comic-strip oriented image [GRAPHICS] A microfilm image whose top and bottom are parallel to the outer, long edge of the film. { ,kām-ik ,stri:p ,ɔr-ɛnt-əd 'im-ij }

COMIT [COMPUT SCI] A user-oriented, general-purpose, symbol-manipulation programming language for computers. { 'kō,mɪt }

Comleyan [GEOL] Lower Cambrian geologic time. { 'kām-lā-ən }

comma [ACOUS] The difference between the larger and smaller whole tones in the just scale, corresponding to a frequency ratio of 81/80. { 'kām-ə }

command [COMPUT SCI] A signal that initiates a predetermined type of computer operation that is defined by an instruction. [CONT SYS] An independent signal in a feedback control system, from which the dependent signals are controlled in a predetermined manner. { kə'mand }

command and control [SYS ENG] The process of military commanders and civilian managers identifying, prioritizing, and achieving strategic and tactical objectives by exercising authority and direction over human and material resources by utilizing a variety of computer-based and computer-controlled systems, many driven by decision-theoretic methods, tools, and techniques. Abbreviated C². { kə'mand ən kən'trɒl }

command button [COMPUT SCI] A small rectangle on a graphical user interface with a command, such as open, close, OK, or print, that is immediately activated upon selection of the button. { kə'mand ,bʌt-ən }

command code See operation code. { kə'mand ,kōd }

command control See command guidance. { kə'mand kən'trɒl }

command, control, and communications [SYS ENG] A version of command and control in which the role of communications equipment is emphasized. Abbreviated C³. { kə'mand kən'trɒl ən kə'myū-ne'kə-shənz }

command, control, communications, and intelligence [SYS ENG] A version of command and control in which the roles of communications equipment and intelligence are emphasized. Abbreviated C³I. { kə'mand kən'trɒl kə'myū-nə'kə-shənz ən in'tel-ə-jəns }

command control program [COMPUT SCI] The interface between a time-sharing computer and its users by means of which they can create, edit, save, delete, and execute their programs. { kə'mand kən'trɒl ,prō-grəm }

command destruct [CONT SYS] A command control system that destroys a flightborne test rocket or a guided missile, actuated by the safety officer whenever the vehicle's performance indicates a safety hazard. { kə'mand di'strəkt }

command-driven program [COMPUT SCI] A computer program that accepts command words and statements typed in by the user. { kə'mand ,driv-ən 'prō-grəm }

command guidance [AERO ENG] The guidance of a missile, rocket, or spacecraft by means of electronic signals sent to receiving devices in the vehicle. [ENG] A type of electronic guidance of guided missiles or other guided aircraft wherein signals or pulses sent out by an operator cause the guided object to fly a directed path. Also known as command control. { kə'mand ,gid-əns }

command interpreter [COMPUT SCI] A program that processes commands and other input and output from an active terminal in a time-sharing system. { kə'mand ,in'tər-prə-tər }

command language [COMPUT SCI] The language of an operating system, through which the users of a data-processing system describe the requirements of their tasks to that system. Also known as job control language. { kə'mand ,lɑŋ-gwɪj }

command level [COMPUT SCI] The ability to control a computer's operating system through the use of commands, normally available only to computer operators. { kə'mand ,lev-əl }

command line [COMPUT SCI] On a display screen, the space following a prompt (such as \$) where a text instruction to a computer or device is typed. { kə'mand ,lɪn }

command list See CLIST. { kə'mand ,list }

command mode [COMPUT SCI] The status of a terminal in a time-sharing environment enabling the programmer to use the command control program. { kə'mand ,mōd }

command module [AERO ENG] The spacecraft module that

carries the crew, the main communication and telemetry equipment, and the reentry capsule during cruising flight. { kə'mand ,mɔj-ʊl }

command net [ORD] The several points that may exercise control over airborne guided missiles. { kə'mand ,net }

command processor [COMPUT SCI] A computer program that converts a limited number of user commands into the machine commands that direct the operating system. Also known as command shell. { kə'mand 'prəses-ər }

command pulses [ELECTR] The electrical representations of bit values of 1 or 0 which control input/output devices. { kə'mand ,pʌl-səs }

command set [COMMUN] A radio set used to receive or give commands, as between one aircraft and another or between an aircraft and the ground. { kə'mand ,set }

command shell See command processor. { kə'mand ,shel }

Commelinaceae [BOT] A family of monocotyledonous plants in the order Commelinales characterized by differentiation of the leaves into a closed sheath and a well-defined, commonly somewhat succulent blade. { ,kə-mə-lə'nās-ē-ē }

Commelinales [BOT] An order of monocotyledonous plants in the subclass Commelinidae marked by having differentiated sepals and petals but lacking nectaries and nectar. { ,kə-mə-lə'nā-lēz }

Commelinidae [BOT] A subclass of flowering plants in the class Liliopsida. { ,kə-mə-lī'nə-dē }

commensal [ECOL] An organism living in a state of commensalism. { kə'men-səl }

commensalism [ECOL] An interspecific, symbiotic relationship in which two different species are associated, wherein one is benefited and the other neither benefited nor harmed. { kə'men-sə,liz-əm }

commensurable motions [ASTRON] Mean motions of the planets, or of the satellites of a planet, which satisfy simple arithmetic relationships. { kə'mens-rə-bəl 'mō-shənz }

commensurate orbits [ASTRON] Orbits of two celestial objects about a common center of gravity so that the period of one is a rational fraction of that of the other. { kə'mench-ər-ət 'ɔr-bats }

comment [COMPUT SCI] An expression identifying or explaining one or more steps in a routine, which has no effect on execution of the routine. { 'käm,ent }

comment code [COMPUT SCI] One or more characters identifying a comment. { 'käm,ent ,kōd }

comment out [COMPUT SCI] To render a statement in a computer program inactive by making it a comment. { 'käm,ent 'aʊt }

commercial diesel cycle See mixed cycle. { kə'mər-shəl 'dē-zəl ,sɪ-kəl }

commercial harbor [CIV ENG] A harbor in which docks are provided with cargo-handling facilities. { kə'mər-shəl 'hɑ:bər }

commercial lecithin See lecithin. { kə'mər-shəl 'les-ə-thən }

commercial mine [MIN ENG] A coal mine operated to supply purchasers in general, as contrasted with a captive mine. { kə'mər-shəl 'mɪn }

commercial ore [MIN ENG] Mineralized material profitable at prevailing metal prices. { kə'mər-shəl 'ɔr }

commercial-type vehicle [ORD] A motor vehicle designed to meet civilian requirements and used by the armed services, without major modification, for routine purposes in connection with the transportation of supplies, personnel, and equipment. { kə'mər-shəl ,tɪp ,və-ə-kəl }

commingled yarn [TEXT] A yarn in which two types of materials are intermingled to form a single yarn. { 'kō,mɪŋ-gəld ,jɑrn }

commingling [PETRO ENG] Blending of petroleum products with similar properties; usually performed to facilitate transportation in a pipeline. { 'kō,mɪŋ-gliŋ }

comminution [MECH ENG] Breaking up or grinding into small fragments. Also known as pulverization. { ,käm-ə'nū-shən }

comminutor [MECH ENG] A machine that breaks up solids. { 'käm-ə,nüd-ər }

commissioned [NAV] Pertaining to an aid to navigation which, after it has been constructed, tested, and placed in operation, is declared suitable for use by vessels or crafts. { kə'mɪsh-ənd }

commission ore [MIN ENG] Uranium-bearing ore of 0.10%