

# Canadian Druggist

Devoted to the interests of the General Drug Trade and to the Advancement of Pharmacy.

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## Canadian Druggist

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### Prostitution of Position.

The institution of a drug department in some of our large city departmental stores has brought about a condition of debasement which is discreditable to the participants, and to the calling which they represent. When young men enter the drug business as *bona fide* principals, they do so with some prospect of attaining an honorable position in society, and of securing the respect of their confrères; but when they ignobly lend themselves to capitalists to lower the standing of the calling they are supposed to be worthy members of, they have taken a step from which they cannot recover, and which may, in later years, retard their own advancement. At the present moment several of our young Ontario graduates are employees of owners of businesses of the character referred to. They have foolishly and thoughtlessly, we believe, taken such positions as a temporary opportunity for employment, forgetting that in so doing they are giving their talents for hire to undermine a profession which it is their duty, and should be their chief aim, to support. Those who demean themselves in this way are assuredly either thoughtless, selfish, or devoid of any of the finer feelings which induce the strict observance of an unwritten code of ethics. Their reasoning faculties are not of the highest order when they can only anticipate the result of their week's work as so many dollars on pay day. When a day of retribution does overtake them, their first plaint is that the college is at fault because it doesn't protect them against the very kind of trade which they have been the means of fostering. Such men are unworthy of being retained on the roll of licensed graduates, and we believe that we are voicing the general opinion of the trade when we say that it is a pity they are lawfully permitted to continue a debasement of the profession which gave them birth.

### The Camphor Trade of Tainan, China.

The last year shows a satisfactory development of the camphor trade, 13,971 cwts. having left the port, as against 7,530 cwts. in 1893, an increase of eighty-five per cent. The best camphor forests are situated on the borders of savage territory, and the Chinese operatives, when cutting down trees and camphor distilling, are liable to attacks by the savages. The hazardous nature of the occupation suggested to the Chinese authorities the levy of an impost, known as "fang fei," or protection tax, on all camphor produced, to pay for the maintenance of frontier guards to protect the camphor workers. Recently, owing to the exigencies of coast defence, the camphor districts have been largely denuded of troops, whose services are required elsewhere. The continuance of the levy has caused a certain amount of discontent on the part of the foreign merchants, as they say that their operations are at present receiving merely nominal protection. Some outrages by savages have recently been reported at places called Bakhialang and Kato Ke, in the district of Chip Chip. The camphor stills have been destroyed, and operators murdered, and, so far, the savages have not been punished. — *Oil and Colorman's Journal.*

### Asbestos Towels.

These are one of the curiosities of the market. When dirty it is only necessary to throw them into a red hot fire, and after a few minutes draw them out fresh and clean.

### Finely-Balanced Scales.

Wonderful stories have been told concerning the extreme delicacy of the scales used by the mints at Philadelphia and London. That at the first-named place is said to tell the exact weight of a hair. The London wonder shows a difference in the weight of a card after a name has been written on it. The most accurate scale in the world is now being discussed in England. It is so finely balanced that it shows the weight of a candle or taper to be less after the flame has been extinguished.

KOCHERIN.—Synonym for tuberculin.