

Correspondence.

Editor CANADIAN DRUGGIST:

SIR—Just a line endorsing the remarks of J.E. in your July issue, regarding the B.P. 1898. The Council of the British Columbia Association have passed a resolution recognizing the new edition on and after January 1st, 1899. What conclusion have the medical men of B.C. reached? Have they studied the situation and what will they recognize at that date? Imagine the danger to life when the physician prescribes without stating from which edition, and that will invariably be the case. By all means let us have a "Canadian Pharmacopœia," or adopt the U.S.P. Why not have an American Pharmacopœia, common to Canada and the United States? Without doubt the Canadian druggist is in closer touch with the American than with the British druggist.

Victoria, B.C., July 22.

T.M.H.

Making Emulsions.

M. C. Metzger (Proceedings Ill. Pharm. Asso.), reports that an emulsion as good as the best may be made in a very few minutes by following these instructions:—Take one-half as much water as you have oil and acacia—no matter how much oil and acacia are employed. Thus, put the acacia, say one ounce, in a mortar, put three ounces oil in a graduate and two ounces water in another graduate (half as much water as oil and acacia). Now take the graduate with oil in one hand and the graduate with water in the other hand, pour the oil and water on the powdered acacia at the same time (not separately), stir thoroughly a few minutes, then add the balance of the water and the syrup, or whatever it may require, to complete the emulsion. Here are some formulas in detail:—

EMULSION CASTOR OIL.

Castor oil.....	5 ounces
Powdered acacia.....	2 ounces
Syrup vanilla.....	3 ounces
Water enough to make.....	16 ounces

Put the powdered acacia (2 ozs.), in a mortar; put the castor oil (5 ozs.), in a graduate and $3\frac{1}{2}$ ounces of water in another graduate; pour the castor oil and water on the acacia, mix thoroughly, then add the remainder of the water and strain.

EMULSION TURPENTINE.

Oil turpentine.....	$\frac{1}{2}$ ounce
Powdered acacia.....	2 drams
Cinnamon water enough to make.....	4 ounces

Place the powdered acacia (2 drs.), in a mortar; put the oil of turpentine ($\frac{1}{2}$ oz.), in a graduate and 3 drams of water in another graduate; pour the oil and water on the powdered acacia, rub thoroughly, add the remainder of the water and strain.

EMULSION COD LIVER OIL.

Cod liver oil.....	8 ounces
Syrup tolu.....	2 ounces
Powdered acacia.....	2 ounces
Water enough to make.....	16 ounces

Flavor to suit.

Place the powdered acacia in a mortar; take the cod liver oil in one graduate and 5 ounces of water in another graduate; pour the oil and water on the powdered acacia, mix thoroughly, add the remainder of the water and syrup, flavor and strain.

PETROLEUM EMULSION.

The following formula yields a satisfactory product (Meyer Bros., druggist). Take of:

Liquid petrolatum.....	iv. Fluid Ounces
Powdered gum arabic.....	ii. Ounces
Glycerin.....	i. Fluid Ounce
Water, ad.....	xvi. Fluid Ounces

Mix the petrolatum and acacia intimately in a mortar, then add, all at once, four fluid ounces of water. Triturate this mixture until a good primary emulsion shall be formed. Finally, gradually add the glycerin and the remainder of the water. The glycerin is not essential, but it improves the taste of the mixture. It is much less repulsive than cod-liver oil, but its use as a substitute for it is as yet very limited.

Drug Store Trifles.

When I was an apprentice of but a few weeks' growth my preceptor came into the shop one afternoon and called my attention to some scraps of twine about half an inch or less in length, which had accumulated at my feet. I had been busy packing up some stock packages of Epsom salts, and, in my ignorance and desire to get the job finished, had so tied the packages that there was always a little to cut off. "There," said my dear old boss, "there is waste which should never occur; if each piece were laid end to end you would be surprised, my boy, how long a piece of twine you have wasted; never waste anything." That lesson, learned early in my experience as a druggist, has never been forgotten, and if this allusion to the incident has the effect of setting one other young apprentice thinking, as it set me years ago, it has not been futile.

Did you ever realize how much is wasted in the average drug store? Apparently insignificant things in themselves and not worthy of consideration, yet, when taken in the aggregate, a no small item in the year's expenses. I need not repeat the twine incident only to suggest that, cheap as twine is, there is no necessity to use more than is necessary to hold the package securely and to always tie so as to leave none to be cut off. Paper is a very important item in the expenses of the druggist. A druggist is often judged by the quality of his wrapping paper, hence the necessity of having it of the best quality consistent with his means. But how much of this paper is wasted by his employees, or possibly by himself, thoughtlessly! Every scrap of paper may have its use; if a piece of paper is taken too large for the bottle or article to be wrapped, the excess should not be thrown carelessly to the floor, but placed in a drawer or box kept for the purpose, to be sorted out at leisure and used in packing pill boxes, single seidlitz powders, ointments, etc. Never use an abundance of paper when packing. It is not appreciated by your customers; for I have actually heard objections raised on account of extra weight and bulk. Then, again, take care of every bottle that enters the store. There is not a bottle or pot but that may be turned to some account if only properly cleansed. It is not the object of this paper to point out how the cleansing may be accomplished, as this is known by almost every second-year apprentice; but attention is not paid to this apparently insignificant source of expense, and hence these remarks. The corks of used bottles should not be thrown away; they may also be cleansed and used in many horse liniments and other things which experience will suggest. It is a good plan to keep as much of one's stock under glass as can be done without interfering with business. Small packages, when exposed to the incessant dust from the street—no matter how carefully the duster may be used—become dirty and less likely to attract a customer. So keep all toilet and proprietary articles under glass. I have seen numbers of stores in this country with all their proprietary articles exposed to the action of the sun and weather. Do these druggists ever think that the sale of a bottle of S—— Remedy is possibly lost because it is fly-specked? Yet such is often the case. It is a little thing, but it counts. When the junior is filling up the stock