

PUBLISHERS' NOTICE.

The CANADIAN PHARMACEUTICAL JOURNAL is issued monthly from the office of publication on the Fifteenth of every month. It will always contain information invaluable to Druggists, Chemists and others interested and connected with the sale, compounding, and dispensing of drugs and medicines. The present number will be sent to every druggist in the Dominion, all of whom, it is hoped, will show their appreciation of the enterprise by giving it substantial support. Members of the Canadian Pharmaceutical Association will receive the paper free as of right.

To Advertisers this Journal offers the best and indeed the only medium of reaching by a single advertisement every Druggist in Canada. Our rates, published on the first page, will be found low, and will be strictly adhered to in all cases. Advertisements in order to secure insertion should be in the publisher's hands not later than the end of the month preceding each issue.

The Journal will be under the control of the following Committee, who will be responsible for the due performance of all advertising contracts:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| W. H. DUNSPAUGH, Chairman. | |
| J. T. SHAPTER. | H. P. BRUMELL. |
| JOHN COOMBE. | N. C. LOVE. |
| CHARLES HOOPER. | ROBERT W. ELLIOT. |
| | H. J. ROSE, Secretary. |
| E. B. SHUTTLEWORTH, Editor. | |

All Communications connected with the paper to be addressed, post-paid,

J. M. TROUT, PUBLISHER,
Canadian Pharmaceutical Journal,
Toronto.

CANADIAN PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.

PRESIDENT, - - - WM. ELLIOT, Esq.

The regular meetings of the Society take place on the first Wednesday evening of each month, at the Mechanics' Institute, when, after the transaction of business, there is a paper read, or discussion engaged in, upon subjects of interest and value to the members.

The Society admits as members, Chemists and Druggists of good standing, and their assistants and apprentices, if elected by a majority vote, and on payment of the following fees:

Principals - - - - \$4 00 per Annum
Assistants & Apprentices, 2 00 "

The JOURNAL is furnished FREE to all members.

Parties wishing to join the Society may send their names for proposal to any of the members of the Society. A copy of the Constitution and By-laws of the Society will be furnished on application.

HENRY J. ROSE, Secretary.

THE CANADIAN

Pharmaceutical Journal.

TORONTO, ONT., DEC., 1868.

THE PROPOSED PHARMAOY BILL.

The frequent occurrence of cases of accidental poisoning, and the many serious mistakes made by unqualified persons in the dispensing of medicine, render it necessary that some step be taken at once to protect the public safety. Scarcely a week passes without its chronicle of death resulting from the incompetency or carelessness of those persons, whose business it should be to protect human life. Nor can the evil ever be fully told, as only the grossest cases come to light. The so-called complications of disease, or its sudden and fatal termination might, in too many instances, be traced to the pestle and mortar in unskilled hands.

In order to remedy an evil we must first ascertain its cause, and, in this case, it is clearly traceable to that lack of law which permits any man,—no matter how ignorant, or how devoid of experience, to come before the public and by the mere assumption of the title "Chemist and Druggist" to poison all within his reach, by wholesale or retail, as his circumstances permit, or his cupidity tempts. This may be startling, but it is nevertheless true; and it is equally strange that in other callings where no risk is incurred in regard to human life, should a mistake occur, and where property only is involved, the most rigid requirements are enforced by law. There is no profession or occupation— if we except that of physician—in which the power of life and death is so controlled, as in the case of an apothecary.

In European countries the most stringent regulations exist as to the dispensing of medicine. Not only must the druggist have long experience, but also a thorough theoretical knowledge of those branches of science involved in the profession. In Great Britain the recent Pharmacy Act, passed last July, insures adequate qualification by requiring those commencing business to pass a most rigid and thorough examination before the Pharmaceutical Board. This Act has been found to give general satisfaction to the public, as well as to the legitimate druggist; and taking this fact into account, a committee, appointed by the Canadian Pharmaceutical Society, have drafted a Bill, based upon that of Great Britain, and which we have the pleasure of presenting to our readers in a supplement to this Journal.

We give a brief resume of the chief features of the Bill:

The Act commences by declaring it un-

lawful for any persons, except registered chemists, to keep open shop, or dispense, or compound poisons, or assume the title of "Chemist and Druggist," "Apothecary," etc. Poisons within the meaning of the Act, are defined and enumerated in a schedule. They must be properly labelled; those contained in the first part of schedule "A" can only be sold under certain restrictions and to certain persons; but articles enumerated in the second part may be sold by registered chemists without restriction.

Section 4 relates to the formation of a society for carrying out the purposes of the Act, and relates to persons eligible for membership. These must be actually in business on their own account; while clerks, assistants and apprentices may be enrolled as Associates, and, on passing examination, may be admitted as members.

Sections 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 relate to the incorporation of the Pharmaceutical Society, the formation of a Council, election of officers, and other details connected with the internal working of the society.

The Council are authorized to hold two sittings a year for the purpose of granting Certificates of Competency to those about to commence business. These certificates can only be obtained by passing examination before the Council, or a Board appointed by them, and when obtained, the candidate's name is at once entered on the list of Registered Chemists, by a duly appointed Registrar, and he takes the title of "Pharmaceutical Chemist," which designation is forbidden to all others, except such as are actually in business at the time of the passing of the Act, and who by the payment of two dollars are entitled to registration. Sections 12 to 17 include particulars of the above.

Section 19 places the subjects for examination at the supervision and disallowance of the Lieutenant Governor, together with other details relating thereto.

The dispensing of spirits, wines or cordials, on the prescription of a legally authorized medical practitioner, is provided for in section 23.

Any person transgressing any of the provisions of the Act, shall, for the first offence, incur a penalty of \$20 with costs, and for every subsequent offence \$50. No charges can be recovered in Courts of Law or Equity.

Section 27 reserves the rights of physicians and surgeons, who are not to be held amenable to the requirements of the Act. Nor does the Act interfere with the making or dealing in patent medicines, or with the ordinary business of wholesale dealers. On the death of a registered chemist the business may be carried on by his executors.