

label in colors make a very attractive and saleable line. The article known as toilet lanoline sells by the gross, and many chemists who will not bother to put up their own line find it a good seller. It is a mistake to suppose these preparations only sell during the summer months, as I learn that during cold weather, if properly pushed, there is just as large a demand, because the effects of the cold winds, chaps and roughness of the skin are as much in evidence then as the unpleasant effects of hot weather are felt during the summer months.

Influenza has been prevalent during the past month and the cold snap has led to a demand for the usual remedies. Anomiated tincture of quinine is still popular both as a prophylactic and also during some of the stages of the disease. Some chemists now put it up combined with syrup of lemons and this forms a great improvement on the tincture itself besides paying better. It can then be diluted with water without precipitation occurring and the bitterness is largely masked. Salipyrin has again been boomed as a specific for la grippe; but medical men rely very much upon salicylate of sodium as the best remedy where pyrexia and pains in the limbs occur.

A recent lecture by Dr. Luff, who was formerly a pharmaceutical chemist and then became one of the official medical analysts retained by the government, indicates that for some time past he has turned his attention to the cause and treatment of gout. As a gout specialist Dr. Luff has many advantages and his chemical knowledge has enabled him to attack many of the problems that beset the uric acid storm that is so well known to pathologists. Dr. Luff supports the theories of Sir A. Garrod as to the constitution of the uric acid salts deposited in the joints and tissues from the blood and which give rise to the specially painful nature of attacks of gout. He has also devised a new and more perfect method of determination of uric acid in urine and confirms former observations as to the action of alkalies, colchicum and copious draughts of warm water in clearing uric acid and its soluble salts from the system. Some years ago another well-known specialist used to make his patients drink gallons of hydrogenated water. Considering how slightly soluble hydrogen is in water it is now apparent that it was the water that did the trick. Dr. Luff has done good service already in clearing away some of the empirical

methods that had a vogue. Thus the vegetarian treatment has been shown to have no advantages, except that the mineral salts in the vegetables have some slight action. He is not in favor of the indiscriminate use of salicylic acid and salicylates, another sheet anchor of certain schools. If he can only discover the seat of formation of uric acid in the blood and tell us how to prevent it, gout will soon be as amenable to direct treatment as many other diseases where the cause more than the effect is the object of the physician's treatment.

#### Amendments to the Pharmacy Act of Great Britain.

A Pharmacy Bill has been introduced in the English House of Lords (March 24th), which seeks to give the same privileges to companies, or, in other words, departmental stores, as those enjoyed by chemists. The preamble states that "The object of this bill is to allow a company to carry on the business of a chemist and druggist on the condition that they employ a duly qualified manager or assistant, that is to say, to place a company in the same position as the executors or trustees of a deceased chemist, and to provide that, subject to this provision, anything which would be an offence under Section 15 of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, if committed by an individual, shall be an offence if committed by a company."

The bill provides that: "A company may carry on the business and use the description of a pharmaceutical chemist, or chemist and druggist, if and so long only as the business is *bona fide* conducted by a manager or assistant, being a duly registered pharmaceutical chemist or chemist and druggist, as the case may require, but, subject to this provision, anything which would be an offence under Section 15 of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, if committed by an individual, shall be an offence if committed by a company."

A companion bill has also been introduced which prevents companies carrying on "the profession or business of a physician, surgeon, dentist, or midwife."

It is said that Lord Lytton was anxious lest he should be buried alive, and induced his medical attendant to promise that a long needle should be run through his heart after death, a promise which was duly kept.

#### News Items.

Theodore D. Buhl has been elected successor to the late H. C. Parke, president of Parke, Davis & Co., Detroit, Mich. Mr. E. G. Swift, manager of the Canadian branch at Walkerville, Ont., has been chosen a director of the company.

The United States Dye Wood and Extract Company, of Camden, N.J., has been incorporated, with a capitalization of \$10,000,000, of which \$6,000,000 is to be 6 per cent. cumulative stock; and the balance, \$4,000,000, common stock. The incorporators are F. W. Garvin, of Toronto; Jas. B. Dill, of New York, and Henry T. Willis, of Boston.

The fifth annual chemists' exhibition, organized by the *British and Colonial Druggist*, will be held at the Agricultural Hall, London, England, from June 19th to 23rd, 1899.

The "Turnover Tax" Bill, introduced at the recent session of the Legislature of Ontario, which sought to levy a tax on the amount of the "turnover" or sales of each individual business, was withdrawn by its promoters on the promise being given that a committee would be appointed by the House to consider taxation of stocks, etc. The schedule submitted by the Retail Merchants' Association as a suggestion named a tax ranging from one-half of one per cent. for the first \$50,000, but not any when it exceeded one and a-half per cent.

#### Watched.

Mr. W. E. B. Lindsey, who has been in the employ of the Lyman Bros. & Co., Limited, for the past seven years, was presented with a gold watch on Friday, April 7th, by his fellow-employees on the occasion of his leaving to take a position on a fruit estate near Kingston, Jamaica, for which point he sails from New York on Saturday the 15th inst. "Willie," as he was generally called, will be missed very much in the warehouse, and also by the customers who had occasion to meet him in the Waited on Order Department. With his affable manner he will be sure to succeed. The CANADIAN DRUGGIST joins his many friends in wishing him success in the South.