

TRADE NOTES.

A. Pope is opening a drug store at Melita, Man.

A.B. Cunningham, druggist, Annapolis, N. S., is dead.

G. W. Mingay, Parkdale, is opening a branch at Mimico.

Crowe Bros., drugs, Truro, N. S., style is now H. W. & W. Crowe.

E. Bannister, druggist of Brampton, has assigned with liabilities of \$1,500. He has been in business nearly 12 years.

W. M. Kirkland, formerly of Springfield, Ont., has purchased the drug business of the McBean Estate, Hespeler, Ont.

Mr. Butchard is opening a drug store at Cypress River, Man. There is said to be a good opening for a physician there also.

Emil Poliwka & Co., 36 Front st. East, Toronto, report a constantly increasing demand for sapolio, and their other specialties.

A. B. Petrie, jr., Guelph, has just returned home after an eight months' course at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, having passed the examination with honors.

A disastrous fire occurred at Alliston, Ont., on May 6th, by which six blocks of buildings were destroyed, the drug store of T. McMahon being burned amongst the number.

T. Stewart, having sold his business, cor. Broadview ave. and Gerard st., to Mr. C. R. Sneath, has purchased the branch store of C. H. Conen, cor. Wilton ave. and Parliament st., Toronto.

A credit insurance company with a capital of \$500,000 has been formed in Boston under the title of the "Manufacturers' Guarantee Credit Co." Its business will be the guarantee of the payment of accounts by retail merchants to their suppliers.

The directors of the Wallaceburg Glass Co., who are ready to begin operations as soon as a suitable site can be procured, complain that although there were plenty of good sites to be had very reasonable before the company was organized they have all risen in value since.

Nova Scotia Notes.

Two well known figures have disappeared from the ranks of Nova Scotia pharmacy. Dr. A. B. Cunningham was probably the first, and for long the only druggist in the old historic town of Annapolis. He had a considerable dental practice and a prosperous drug business, and made money.

Charles T. Cochran, of Kentville, was formerly connected with Forsyth & Co., of Halifax, afterwards with R. S. Masters, of Kentville, and for a number of years has carried on business on his own account.

Other changes during the past month

have been the closing up of the business of H. L. Atkins, at Truro, whose stock has been sold out, and the withdrawal from the drug business of Mr. M. F. Eagar, long one of the leading druggists of Halifax, but who has now sold out his stock to Messrs. Brown & Webb, and gone into the wholesale grocery business.

Manitoba Notes.

Messrs. Fleming & Sons, Brandon, have moved into their new store. No pains or expense have been spared to make this one of the handsomest drug stores in the Dominion, and their attempt has not been in vain, and they are to be congratulated upon the beauty and harmony of fittings and furniture, all of which are the best obtainable. The building and store is alike a credit to Messrs. Fleming & Son, and the city in which it is located.

Mr. and Mrs. Carman, Moosomin, are visiting friends in Winnipeg. We hope Mr. Carman, who has not enjoyed the best of health lately, will be benefitted by the change.

Mr. Robt. Martin, Regina, received the contract from the N. W. T. Council for the supply of strychnine for the destruction of gophers.

Mr. and Mrs. Moneton have returned from California where they spent the winter.

The annual meeting of the Pharmaceutical Association of Manitoba was held in Winnipeg on Wednesday, 8th inst. All the members being present.

Mr. J. H. Pope, formerly with W. E. Cowan, Deloraine, is about starting in business in Melita.

Antipyrin and Mercuric Chloride

THE behavior of antipyrin in the presence of mercuric chloride forms the subject of a communication by Mr. Petsche (*Pharm. Rund.*, February, p. 31.) He states that upon mixing cold aqueous solutions of antipyrin and mercuric chloride, a white precipitate is formed. This disappears upon heating the liquid to boiling, but after keeping it at that temperature for a time a brown resin-like substance is deposited, which, when separated, dissolves in nitric acid, and is colored scarlet by sulphuric acid. This resinoid substance dissolves in boiling alcohol, and is partially deposited again from the liquid on cooling. The insoluble portion when dried yields a reddish-yellow powder, acid in reaction and bitter in taste. When heated on platinumfoil it melts and takes a scarlet color before charring. It dissolves in nitric acid, and the yellow solution becomes scarlet when sulphuric acid is added, but upon being heated turns yellow again, and eventually evaporates with a white fume, leaving no residue. With hydrochloric acid it gives a yellow solution that becomes red upon being heated, and leaves a yellow residue upon evaporation. A solution in hot alcohol gives a white

precipitate with ammonia water, but not with water acidulated with hydrochloric acid. The portion of the original resinoid substance soluble in cold alcohol is obtained upon evaporation as a white, readily-powdered resin, acid in reaction, and very bitter, and giving color-reactions very similar to those of the insoluble resin. It differs, however, in dilute hydrochloric acid throwing down a white precipitate from an alcoholic solution. *Pharmaceutical Journal and Transactions.*

Shellac.

SHELLAC is a resin obtained from gum lac, which is very brittle at a cold temperature, and is moderately hard, being, moreover, free from taste and smell. It melts under the influence of heat, this being even partially the case on the homeward journey from India; the so-called blocky shellac being thus produced. When heated it gives off an odor of a not unpleasant character, and burns with a bright flame. It is insoluble in spirit of wine, borax and carbonate alkalies. In addition to its well known use in connection with the hat trade, it is employed in the preparation of varnish, etc. In commerce it is an important speculative article, the fluctuation to which it is subject being attributed to this circumstance. India is the source of supply. Until about ten or fifteen years ago the trade was concentrated in London, Hamburg and Bremen only sharing to a moderate extent in the imports, the quantity of which has increased from 20,000 cases in 1860, to about 65,000 or 70,000 cases at the present time. Since the opening of the Suez Canal the supplies of Southern Europe and Austria have been received through Trieste and Genoa. When prices have been high, the question of manufacturing shellac in Europe has been discussed, but it has been found that the production of the gum-lac, from which it is prepared, is so dependent upon the climatic conditions existing in India, that the scheme has never assumed practical form.—*O. P. and D. Review.*

A thousand different shades of color can now be obtained from the materials the color maker has at his command, and the necessity for great skill and knowledge in his business is thus apparent. The man who can cheaply and expeditiously produce any color or shade of color is very valuable to his company. Experience is a large factor in this, as indeed it is in all processes, but as a general thing the greater the chemical knowledge of the color maker, the easier it is for him to produce the result desired. In itself the method of mixing or preparing the color is simple, it is in the kind and quantities of the substance to be mixed that the experience and knowledge is valuable.

California in 1890 disposed of 15,000, 000 pounds of borax and 23,000 flasks of mercury, the total value of both being about 500,000/.