

The bill referred to has been amended down to a poison bill now, and is to be subjected to still further amendment at an early date, so as to be ready for next session.

Several interesting departures have been made in trade circles lately, conspicuous above others is the conversion of Messrs. B. G. Lennon & Co., Ltd., into Lennon Limited, with an extraordinary increase in capital. It is understood that this company will now go in for retail trade to an unlimited extent, and this can only have one bearing on drug stores already established. Writing of Lennon reminded me of a visit I paid to the Algoa Bay store. The object of my call was to find out who Lennon was, what he was, and to see him, if possible. And I did see him, in the person of Mr. A. Walsh, the resident director. The average man accepts Lennon as a sort of necessary organization—a machine on ball bearings made to run well. And so it does. But there is human machinery, too, running equally as well. Of this I am convinced, for I have seen Mr. Walsh, and spoken with him, and got business impressions from him, and he is very much a man indeed.

The town of Port Elizabeth is the most up-to-date business place in South Africa. The bulk of the trade passes through there, and the export of merchandise is far and ahead of all rivals. And all this without even so much as a harbor or dock of any kind. If by chance you are a passenger and want to go ashore there and the weather is rough, the port authorities just push you into a basket arrangement, and before you recognize what's being done you are hauled half-way up the mast of the ship, then pushed over the ship's side, and dumped down on the tug's deck as if you were undesirable and the ship was well rid of you. Another thing the town can boast of over all other colonial towns, and that is a decent hotel, although they charge you just the same as in the capital, \$3 a day.

About 110 miles from Algoa Bay is a small inland town known as the "City of the Saints"—Grahamstown. It takes just 11 hours to get there by train. Some people like slow travel, some don't. I don't, especially on the luxuries extended to you by the C.G.R.R., both by way of accommodation and food. Sausage rolls are mysteries at the best, but such as are supplied on the railroad system must have been cornered by the cook by way of opening the new year

with a view to improvement in three months hence. Think of it, ye travellers of Montreal and Toronto. Fancy a trip over a 100 miles of the C.P.R.R. at 12 miles an hour on sausage rolls and beer, with the thermometer 110 in the shade.

A Cape editor recently said: We suffer from the three R's in this country, Rhodes, Raids, and Rinderpest. Of the first two I can say nothing further than Rhodes is S. Africa and that Africa would cut a small figure without him; the second fails as often as not; the third—Rinderpest—has destroyed cattle to the tune of millions of dollars and is still rampant, notwithstanding the efforts of Dr. Koch, the great German scientist, to control the plague with bile and serum. In Grahamstown there is a Bacteriological

Laurance in reference to the drug business in Mexico, he gave us some very useful information.

It appears that every drug store has two or three doctors supporting or patronizing it, and in each store there is a consultation room, where these doctors prescribe free for the poorer patients. They pay for the medicine, but the doctors receive nothing for their advice. Possibly this might be an idea worth entertaining by some of our own pharmacists.

The range of goods kept in drug stores in Mexico is very much the same as in this country, with the exception that they deal but little in fancy goods. Proprietary medicines, of which large quantities are sold, are principally English, French, and American. The United States pro-



Interior of Drug Store of L. Emill Lafon, Chihuahua, Mexico.

Institute under the control of Dr. Eddington, who also turned his attention to rinderpest during 1896-7, and from the reports published only 8 per cent. of cattle inoculated by the Eddington Bile and Serum Process, died. The main reason of my mentioning this fact is that the doctor was once a chemist in the employ of a well-known Scotch house.

#### Druggists and Drug Stores in Mexico.

Mr. B. Laurance, so well known to the most of our readers, has just returned from a three-months' trip to Mexico.

He reports business there as being phenomenally good and money plenty. In the course of conversation with Mr.

proprietary medicine manufacturers are, as usual, to the fore in advertising their preparations, not only in newspapers, but in every conceivable place where they can attract attention. The largest trade in proprietaries seems to be in those of French manufacture, the English and United States patents having about equal shares of patronage come next.

Mr. Laurance tells us that in all his experience of twelve years' business with Mexican druggists, he has never yet made a single bad debt, and he says it is characteristic of the people there, that it is a matter of honor and that they are uniformly straightforward in their business transactions.

All druggists must pass an examination