

a haphazard, hit-or-miss and uncertain method. But can one afford to be less exacting with ergot when facing some desperate emergency? Are digitalis, strophanthus and cannabis indica such mild and innocent drugs that it matters not whether a given parcel be two or five times as powerful as a lot bearing the same maker's label? And are you content to take your chances simply because certain drugs are unamenable to chemical assay, when you know that the pharmacological test is abundantly accurate and reliable?

Can it be denied that scores and hundreds of conscientious practitioners have wholly renounced the use of such powerful drugs as ergot and cannabis indica in the disgust and chagrin inspired by frequent failure to obtain curative results, by the utter worthlessness of many preparations on the market, by the inferiority of numerous parcels, and by the equally dangerous potency and toxicity of yet others occasionally encountered when least expected? There has been no uniformity, no certainty, only doubt and distrust, culminating in the extinguished or lessened vogue of a useful agent.

We believe that the principle of physiological standardization is in every respect salutary and beneficent, and are convinced of its value—nay, its absolute necessity—in the manufacture of the curative serums and the preparations from drugs which, like ergot, can be judged only by their reaction on living tissues, and we strongly recommend pharmacists to look into and recognize the advantage both to the pharmacist and physician of preparations physiologically assayed.

SULPHUR IN CALIFORNIA.—A discovery of sulphur was recently made in San Diego County, Cal., which is likely to prove of great importance. The vein, which is nine feet deep, is said to be 90 per cent. sulphur and about the purest natural sulphur in the world. The claims are located on a spur of the far east point of the Laguna Mountains and have been bought by the United States Government. —*Omaha Druggist.*

The New Argentine Pharmacopœia has been completed. It contains 746 articles relating to chemical, pharmaceutical, and botanical products, special attention having evidently been given to the latter subject.

Pharmaceutical Association of Manitoba

The following is the address given at the annual meeting by the President of the Association:

To the Members of the Pharmaceutical Association of Manitoba:

In the presentation of this annual address those matters contained in it of first, and therefore urgent, importance, it is sincerely to be hoped will receive the prompt consideration and despatch which they demand.

No address, indeed, should deal with unimportant questions, but there are such questions often affecting a community which are sometimes aggravating and puzzling, and, though regarded as secondary, are yet of sufficient moment to need serious thoughts and discussion.

COMMITTEES ON WAYS AND MEANS.

If the association members present find the hour too late for a proper discussion of the urgent questions at issue, your chairman would recommend that the committee which was formed at our last meeting to consider the question of more suitable accommodation act immediately, and present its report at a special meeting of the Council on or about the 15th of June. The same committee should be empowered to revise the curriculum, and also the poison list. It is absolutely necessary that the association should provide, without delay, books in which druggists may register the sales of poisons.

THE LABORATORY.

It is very important not to lose sight of the probability that the association will be obliged at an early date to secure new quarters for their teaching staff. The laboratory now occupied by us at the Medical College, and for which we have been paying a fair rent of \$250 a year, your chairman has been informed by Dr. Hutton will be needed by the college faculty, as the medical students have requested more room. The severance of the close friendship that has existed between the medical and pharmaceutical students while studying under one roof must be regretted; but there is no reason why, under separate roofs, friendship should not continue, and even become firmer. The saying of a wise man, that "we sometimes lose friends whom we re-

gret more than we grieve for," cannot be appropriately used by the medical and pharmaceutical students against each other in this city. But putting aside sentiment, our removal into another building in which can be given to our coming graduates better accommodation, improved teaching facilities, and modern laboratory equipment, is the sole object in view which we would earnestly and immediately strive to redeem.

At our last meeting a letter from Mr. Bletcher was read concerning the difficulties of furnishing proper instructions under the conditions which prevailed, and which to a large extent have not been remedied. These conditions will most likely continue until we are by ourselves. Quite recently your chairman had an opportunity of noting the justice of Mr. Bletcher's observations. In pursuance of a promise to criticize the answers of an examination paper, he began quietly and confidentially his private business before the class. It was, to say the least, not particularly interesting, amusing, instructive or convenient to have a medical student intrude upon the secrecies of the occasion. No doubt the gentleman was innocent and helpless enough in entering the room for some chemical reagents required by him. But it was irritatingly evident to the speaker that the medical and pharmaceutical supplies were too much mixed up. In thinking afterwards of the occurrence, it was apparent that no line of demarcation could be made in such a building under such circumstances. What would be thought of a pharmaceutical student unceremoniously entering a class-room at the moment the professor was demonstrating some difficult problem to his medical students?

It is possible that the medical staff at the college are more desirous for separation than are the pharmaceutical staff. The intimation coming from the registrar of the Medical College perhaps indicates such. If this supposition be well founded it would, to say the least, be undignified of the Pharmaceutical Association to seek better terms.

Dr. Hutton, who has endeared himself so much and has been so helpful to the students in the past, sincerely regrets the situation. At all times suggestive, and always competent to judge, he has from