

Pharmacy Abroad.

NEW PHARMACEUTICAL REGULATIONS IN HUNGARY.—A new law on pharmaceutical apprenticeship has come into force in Hungary. It provides that pharmacists are not allowed to keep a greater number of apprentices than there are qualified assistants (counting the principal as one) in the shop. The period for apprenticeship is fixed by law at three years, and must be preceded by a three months' probationership. The district medical officer must visit the pharmacists in his department periodically, to satisfy himself that the apprentices are properly taught and are making satisfactory progress. Every apprenticeship indenture must be registered at the Government offices of the district, and, in case of neglect of his obligations towards his apprentices, the authorities have the right to withdraw the pharmacist's powers of keeping any. —*Chemist and Druggist*.

HOW THE HUNGARIAN PHARMACISTS SWEAR.—When a pharmacy student in Hungary obtains his diploma of "Magister Pharmacie" he is compelled to take an oath, the formula of which has just been revised by the Minister of Public Worship and Education. It runs thus: "I swear that I shall keep, and cause my subordinates to keep, all laws, orders, and edicts relating to sanitation and pharmacy. So help me God!"

PHARMACEUTICAL LAW IN GUATEMALA.—At a recent meeting of the pharmacists of Guatemala, *La Escuela de Medicina* states, says the *Medical Record*, the governing committee directed the secretary to call the attention of the members to certain laws, the provisions of which had not been strictly observed of late. These laws provide that pharmacists shall not dispense, without a physician's prescription, any drugs except those in common use in domestic medicine, and which even physicians are accustomed to prescribe verbally. Even on a prescription they must not dispense any poison in large dose without previously calling upon the physician and ascertaining that the prescription is written as intended. The same precaution shall be taken when incompatibles are prescribed in the same mixture. Prescriptions written more than a week before being presented shall not be compounded. Finally, no druggist is allowed without the permission of the prescriber, to give a copy of any prescription to any person whomsoever, unless ordered to do so by the authorities.

DISTRESSED RUSSIAN PHARMACISTS.—The Council of the St. Petersburg Pharmaceutical Society have issued an appeal to all Russian pharmacists for contributions to enable them to alleviate the distress of the many broken-down provincial pharmacists who are drifting into the Russian capital and applying for help.

The condition of pharmacy in Russia appears to be very miserable, and, although a pension fund has been projected, funds are immediately wanted to cope with urgent distress.

MEDICINE TAXES IN SPAIN.—The Barcelona Pharmaceutical Society (we learn from *El Memorandum*) have held a meeting to consider a clause in the new Spanish Revenue Bill enacting that every packet of mineral waters or patent medicines (*especificos*) offered for sale, must bear a Revenue stamp of 10 centimos—i. e., 1d. It was decided to memorialise the Government against the Bill, in the first place, on the ground that the sale of all patent medicines is nominally illegal in Spain, and that it cannot have been the intention of the Government to levy a tax that would legitimise an illegal trade, hence the only explanation of the Bill is that it intends to include all compound medicaments under the name *especificos*, and thereby impose an intolerable tax upon pharmacists. The 10c. mineral-water tax is expected to bring in about 30,000l. a year. —*Chemist and Druggist*.

PHARMACY IN TRINIDAD.—The following regulations have been made by the Medical Council, and are published for the information of candidates for licenses:—1. Candidates for the license of Assistant Druggist will be required to produce satisfactory certificates of good character, of having attained the age of 18 years, of efficient primary education, including Latin, in some recognized public school; of having passed a three months' course of practical chemistry, or of proficiency in chemical knowledge signed by the government analyst; and articles of three years' apprenticeship to a licensed druggist or in the dispensary of a public hospital. The examination will consist of questions connected with the contents of the British Pharmacopoeia, and in practical pharmacy conducted by the dispenser at the Colonial Hospital under the supervision of a member of the Council. 2. Candidates for examination for the Druggist's License will be required to produce testimonials, signed by two or more respectable persons, of good character and habits; and to produce the license of an Assistant Druggist dated at least three years previously, or a foreign pharmaceutical license. The examination will be on the same lines, but to a fuller extent than that of the assistant druggist. The British Pharmacist registers under Cl. 44 of Ordinance 6, of 1887. —*B. and C. Druggist*.

The Cholera Bacillus

The cholera bacillus is not fond alike of all kinds of beverages. According to *Pharmaceutische Zeitung* it does not live beyond three hours in Pilsener, Patzenhofer, or Munich beer; two hours in Berlin white beer; five minutes in white and fifteen in red wine; twenty minutes in

cider. Two hours in cold coffee decoction (6 per cent.) was too much for the bacillus; but it needed five hours of a rye-and-chicory imitation to kill it. In milk which had been boiled for an hour the bacilli lived for nine days, but the tenth brought them to the end of their career. Cold tea was much the same—i. e., a one-per-cent. brew, but a two-per-cent. tea cleared the field in four days, 3-per-cent. in one day, and 4-per-cent. in an hour. The bacilli were most partial to cocoa; they did not appear to die off in that at all. From these results we suppose the inference to be drawn is what we should drink while the cholera is on. —*Chemist and Druggist*.

The Use of Cod-Liver Oil in Earlier Times.

It is probably not generally known that cod-liver oil is a remedy which has been in use for upwards of a hundred years or more. This fact is brought to light in the current issue of Mr. Hutchinson's *Archives*, in which he refers to the reputation enjoyed by the Manchester Royal Infirmary in 1776, and later, for the treatment of rheumatism by cod-liver oil. The two physicians to the Infirmary in 1807 were Drs. Perceval and Bardsley, both of whom used the remedy most extensively. They were accustomed to give it in doses of half an ounce to an ounce and a half twice a day, and they found that warm beer was the vehicle which the laboring classes most preferred to take it in. They report, moreover, wonderful cures from its use. The consumption of cod-liver oil in the Manchester Infirmary from the year 1776 to 1807 averaged 50 to 60 gallons annually. It now amounts to 400 gallons. —*Medical Press*.

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