

CORRESPONDENCE.

Giving Copies of Prescriptions.

MR. EDITOR,—I have to take exception to the tail end of your article under the above title in the May issue of THE CANADIAN DRUGGIST. It is possibly true that some dispensers passively permit the abuse through force of habit and for gain; they may also do it to retain the goodwill of their customer irrespective of further immediate gain. Of course physicians are not like anybody else; nothing they do is through force of habit and for gain.

You say specific prescriptions should not be turned into general receipts either by the desire of the patient or consent of the dispenser. You also say that until the druggist shall adopt such a course as will enable the prescriber to carry to an intelligent conclusion, etc., etc., we shall feel privileged to justify a practice now becoming quite common, etc., etc. In this particular I think you have got the wrong sow by the ear; it needs very little intelligence to see that the physician has entirely within his power the protection of his own property, the "prescription." It is his place to protect it, and not the dispenser's, who has troubles of his own. All that is required is for the physician to write on his prescription, "Not to be repeated," or "For Mr. B— only," which should be respected as much as the directions for taking, or putting on a poison label. The patient could read, and would accept these restrictions better from his own physician than from the dispenser, who could explain the danger of taking the medicine continuously or of giving it to his neighbor, and if not satisfied let him go back to his physician and fight it out. As far as the dispensers of B.C. are concerned, we are saved from the wrath of the patient by a law which we passively obey through force of habit and for gain. The patient can demand the return of the prescription, and we dare not refuse. Once upon a time we had a medico who was a member of our Provincial Parliament, and who in his wisdom (?) introduced a clause in the act making the prescription the property of the patient. That settled it. Why did he not introduce a clause compelling the physician to give the patient a written prescription instead of mixing the dose in his own office? Also a clause making it illegal for the physician to use private

formulas so contracted as to prevent any but one dispenser from being able to understand his prescriptions. Should like to see further comment under above title.

Yours truly,

W. JACKSON.

Victoria, B.C., May 25, 1900.

Pharmaceutical Association of Quebec.

The annual meeting of the Pharmaceutical Association of the Province of Quebec was held in Laval University, Quebec, June 12, under the presidency of Mr. A. Robert. A number of Montreal members were present. The following gentlemen were elected to council for the ensuing two years: Messrs. J. Cantin, J. Lachance, R. W. McMichael, A. B. J. Moore, J. T. Picotte, of Montreal, and J. C. Sullivan, of Richmond. Messrs. J. R. W. Williams, of Three Rivers; J. E. Dube and H. Willis, Quebec; C. J. Covernton, J. E. Tremblay, and A. J. Lawrence of Montreal, remain in office, as members of the council for another year.

A handsome bronze statue was presented from the Pharmaceutical Association of the Province of Quebec to Mr. Alex. Larue, of Quebec, for his valuable services rendered to the association at different times, but more especially during the sessions of the Legislature of 1898 and 1899. The presentation was made as a souvenir on the occasion of his recent marriage.

The election of the officers for the association will take place July 21, the council electing its own officers.

In the evening the annual banquet was held in the Chateau Frontenac, Mr. Alexis Robert presiding, and about forty members of the association, and a few invited guests.

"For an Empire."

If there is one name more than another that ranks high amongst the lovers of art, especially in matters of Christmas cards and holiday novelties, it is that of Raphael, Tuck & Sons.

The imprint of this firm means excellence of design and harmonious decoration. Their collection for 1900 1901 is comprehensively Imperial, and will certainly be appreciated throughout the length and breadth of the Empire.

Messrs. Warwick Bros. & Rutter are Canadian representatives of this house, and their travellers will have a full line of

samples, from which a selection can be made. The "Empire" series will undoubtedly be the general favorites for the coming season, and the dealer who makes this a specialty cannot go astray.

Optical Students.

The following students have just completed a course in optics at the Canadian College of Optics, under the instruction of Dr. W. E. Hamill:

W. C. T. Bethel, Pembroke.

W. J. Aelick, Manitowaning.

J. D. Bower, Perth,

Major Kelley, Meaford.

A. H. Humphries, Arthur.

H. S. Hamill, Garden Hill.

The Canadian College of Optics will hold its next regular course early in September. Students purposing attending are advised to go over the work by a correspondence course during the hot weather. If you are interested write to Dr. Hamill, 11 King street west, for fuller particulars.

Staunton's New Samples.

On another page M. Staunton & Co. announce the starting away of their travellers with their 1901 line of wall paper samples, and promise the trade a bigger and a better selection of popular quick-sellers, in splendid designs and color effects, than they have ever had the pleasure of starting their men out with. They say, "the 1901 line will discount last season's by long odds." THE CANADIAN DRUGGIST readers to a man will, no doubt, see the Staunton line before placing an order for wall papers for the new season's trade.

We call the attention of our readers to the advertisement of the W. A. Lyon Co., of this city. This firm is acknowledged by all to be one of the most progressive companies in the photographic supply business in Canada. They are now of thirty odd years' standing. The first of February, 1899, the new company was formed, and it took over the management of the old business and added extensively to their premises.

This year they have gone into the manufacturing of hand cameras, and have termed them the very appropriate name of "Instimo," which means, as explained to us, *instantaneous and time*. They have utilized all their experience and put in all the best points of all known cameras, so that "Instimos" in the future may be reckoned on as leaders.

Again, knowing that the demand for cameras requires the very cheapest and the very best, therefore "Instimos" vary in price from \$1.50 to \$50. If our readers intend purchasing a camera, we would advise them to see the "Instimo."