

us the benefit of your knowledge and advice when we ask for it in a general way.

We care nothing for ourselves in this matter, but we are most anxious to make the columns of the journal of practical use to every druggist in Canada. We seek to make the DRUGGIST a medium through which pharmacists may convey to one another up-to-date ideas and thus mutually assist each other to rise above the tide of depressing influences which have so seriously affected the retail drug trade of Canada during the past five years. Give us your hand, your thought, your mind. Give us your influence, your energy, your zeal. Give us your knowledge, your ability and your faith, and we can in unison make the drug business something to be proud of.

#### Reciprocity with Quebec.

The offer made by the Pharmaceutical Council of the Province of Ontario to give unrestricted reciprocity with graduates in pharmacy of the Province of Quebec was an act which we believe every right-thinking Canadian pharmacist will applaud. Regardless of the laws which govern the Provinces in pharmaceutical affairs, the offer was a step towards a better understanding between the two leading pharmaceutical bodies of the Dominion, which we hope will not only bring them into co-operation, but also the votaries of pharmacy in the other Provinces as well.

The thoughtful leaders in medicine in Canada are at the present moment agitating for the bringing about some regulation which will secure to all licentiates mutual recognition of right to practise; and there is not the least doubt but that all liberal-minded practitioners will uphold them in their efforts.

It seems exceedingly appropriate that medicine and pharmacy should be agitating along similar lines at the same time.

On a former occasion the Province of Ontario made the same offer, but, unfortunately, it was rejected on the ground that the requirements of the Quebec Pharmacy Act, being in some respects different from the Ontario Act, would not permit the pharmaceutical body of that Province to grant mutual recognition of graduates on the terms suggested. The Quebec Pharmacy Act has always required four years' apprenticeship, while the Ontario Act, prior to 1889, only required three. This, in the opinion of the Quebec body, introduced a barrier which

they could not see their way clear to surmount.

In our opinion the obstacle is too trifling to be allowed to stand in the way of co-operation between the two bodies, but, even granting that the strict wording of this Act should be maintained regardless of college training and examination tests, we should be inclined to suggest that reciprocity on a mutual basis be granted in both provinces to all who have graduated since 1889, or failing an understanding on this basis, that recognition of mutual merit date from the day upon which they agree. The fact of agreement is of very much more importance than the date of agreement.

Just at the present moment the governing body of the Pharmaceutical Society of the Province of Quebec is considering how it can best impart training to its certified clerks, and a diversity of opinion exists which would not long remain were the province to join hands with Ontario in adopting the educational system which prevails there. Some of her own men advocate the turning over of the Pharmacy College to McGill or Laval University on the ground that the expense of maintaining a college is greater than her graduates and undergraduates can bear. Is the statement true? We think not. Prior to 1886 the Province of Ontario had no college under direct control of her graduates nor any funds to endow or equip one. To-day she has probably one of the best and most modernly equipped colleges on the continent, worth in the neighborhood of \$55,000, and practically free from debt.

What Ontario has done Quebec can do. With faith and hope in her future she can not only use some of her talented French and English pharmacists to teach her own future generations of pharmacists, but she can intercept the young men from the north and east, many of whom now come to Ontario for tuition. There is as much room in Montreal for a good college of pharmacy for the eastern part of Canada as there is in Toronto for the western part. Neither need be jealous of the other, as there is ample room for both, if both can unite in a kindly way to further the best aims in pharmacy for the broad and rapidly growing Dominion of Canada.

Broad-minded, intelligent men are what are needed in the government of bodies, political, commercial or pharmaceutical.

#### Assorted Queries.

Answers to which any of our readers are invited to contribute :

What percentage of profit should a remedy need when sold wholesale to warrant the manufacturer in placing expensive advertising contracts?

What percentage of ordinary patent remedies can reasonably be displaced by preparations put up by the druggist himself?

What form of baking powder produces the lightest and most palatable bread?

What ingredient can be added to castor oil to sweeten and flavor it so that it will be pleasantly sweet and palatable and yet retain its natural color.

Why do druggists keep on paying increased prices for alcohol and tinctures, and maintain the old price when retailing by the ounce?

Is a druggist ever justified in labelling a bottle prescribed by a physician poison? If so, when? When is the druggist justified in refusing to return the prescription to his customer, or in refusing to refill the same?

Can a drug apprentice claim any time during business hours for study? If so, how much?

#### Business Location.

It is very doubtful if many of our young druggists who desire to engage in business consider carefully the situation of the place into which they are tempted to go, yet nothing is of more real importance to the beginner than this. The first thing they usually think of is the attractiveness of the building or the sum which is demanded as a cash payment. They fail to ask themselves why the public will be apt to buy from them or, if they do, fail to profit by the answer. There are but two reasons which influence the customer to induce him to become a regular patron, the first being his personal convenience and the second his confidence in the dealer from whom he purchases. The masses of the public suit their conscience always and for that reason the location about which the homes are most densely clustered and where the thoroughfares are most frequently travelled is the one which ought always to be sought. A poor building in a good locality is vastly better than a good building in a poor locality. The additional cost for rent will never prove much of an article if the volume of busi-