

## Editorial.

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### THE AMENDMENTS TO THE PHARMACY ACT.

The amendments to the Pharmacy Act which will be again submitted to the Legislature, after recess, have been considerably modified since the Bill was officially printed, last year. At that time the measure was reproduced, in full, in the JOURNAL. This had the effect of eliciting an opinion from the English and continental scientific press, and in all cases was the Act favorably received, and in some instances the most commendatory notices were given. The leading English pharmaceutical authority characterized the new measure as being one of the most complete which had appeared in any English-speaking country.

The Committee on Legislation appointed by the present Council, have, however, given to the Act a great deal of thought and attention, during the last six months. It was doubted whether the very element of thoroughness was, after all, a recommendation. Our country is yet immature, and perhaps not ready to receive legislation of so rigid a character. There can be no doubt but had the original measure been passed the cause of pharmacy in Ontario would have been much advanced, but it is possible that this progress would have been made in some degree at the expense of the convenience of pharmacists doing business in the more remote settlements. Taking into account the possibility of such a sequence, we are pleased to think that matters have been so arranged as to render the future working of the Act free from anything even verging on oppression.

We append a summary of those points in which the present draft differs from that of last year :

The first section requires that every person desirous of being apprenticed to a pharmaceutical chemist shall, before his term of apprenticeship commences, furnish to *his employer* a certificate of his having attained a certain grade of education. No further condition is imposed save that of serving an apprenticeship of four years.

Before entering upon the duties of an assistant, or on commencing business as a chemist and druggist, the applicant must furnish to the Registrar evidence of his having served said term of appren-