

is, druggists, but if they could not sell druggists, they then sold the general dealer or grocer.

(2) Nothing prevented them selling merchant, groceryman, blacksmith, or any person who would again offer goods for sale, in such places as were not incorporated and had no druggist, but probably within five miles of one. In this section we are well supplied with general dealers, handling all kinds of patents, and all cut prices, and nothing the Retail Association could do would prevent it.

I have worked out one plan which I think will work most satisfactorily. To me it appears possible, but to others it may not. However, if it contains anything that may be considered of any benefit, you may publish it:

(1) We take it for granted that all patent medicine manufacturers enter the arrangements.

(2) That all remedies be put on the market at certain prices, say, \$2.50, \$5, \$10, per dozen, to each and everybody. "Let him be a general dealer or qualified druggist." And that a qualified druggist "in good standing" be given a rebate of 25 per cent. on goods upon the production of a certificate of having purchased a certain quantity, as follows:

Firm To Dr. Williams Medicine Co.,
Brockville:

This is to certify that I have this day purchased from Messrs. Evans & Sons, Ltd., 3 doz. Pink Pills at \$5 per doz., and have received from them, or am entitled to, a rebate of 25 per cent. in goods, being one dozen.

TOM. BROWN,
Qualified Chemist and Druggist in good standing.

The above certificate goes to Messrs. Evans & Sons, and is good to them with Dr. Williams Medicine Co. for 1 doz. Pink Pills, and, until they produce such certificate, the pills cost them \$5 per doz., just as they do the retailer who cannot produce a certificate. Therefore, the general dealer, not being a qualified druggist, must pay \$5 per doz., and to sell at a profit, must retail at 50c. per box. The qualified man must be bound also to sell at 50c. or otherwise erase his name from the list.

A special per cent. may be offered to purchasers in certain quantities.

(3) Purchases made direct from firms manufacturing will be on same conditions as through any wholesaler or jobber.

(4) Wholesaler or jobber may furnish rebate goods to their customers when shipping others, and when enough certificates accumulate to make a shipment worth while, forward them to manufacturer and get what they are justly entitled to.

To you this may appear somewhat complicated, but I can see nothing to prevent it being a success providing the druggists are to be made a favored class.

If you cannot understand the above, I will gladly help you by answering any question.

I believe this will be a greater success than Knapp's roller boat.

Yours respectfully,
ANGUS BUCHANAN.

Answers to Correspondents.

"F.H.W." asks how to mix the following ointment.

R.		
Iodine	2 1/2	drachms
Pot. iodid	4	ounces.
Aqua	2	ounces.
Petrolatum	3	ounces.

The petrolatum is not miscible with any quantity of water. You must proceed in the usual way, powdering the iodid. potas sum, then the iodine, and mix the other ingredients S.A. It is impossible to make a homogeneous mixture with this prescription.

SIRUP OF WHITE PINE COMPOUND

"C.C.M."—That given in "The National Formulary" is probably the most satisfactory:

White pine bark	75	Gm.
Wild cherry bark	75	"
Spikenard root	10	"
Balm of Gilead buds	10	"
Sanguinaria root	8	"
Sassafras bark	7	"
Morphine sulphate	0.5	"
Chloroform	6	Cc.
Sugar	750	Gm.
Alcohol, water, syrup, of each		
q.s. ad	1000	Cc.

Reduce the vegetable drugs to a moderately coarse powder; moisten the powder with a menstruum composed of one volume of alcohol and three volumes of water, and macerate for twelve hours. Then percolate with the same menstruum until 500 cc. of tincture have been obtained, in which dissolve the sugar and the morphine sulphate; lastly add the chloroform and sufficient syrup to make 1000 cc., and strain.

HOUSEHOLD AMMONIA.

"Enquirer."—The following makes what is also called "white ammonia":

Good white soap	4	ozs.
Rainwater	4	pis.
16° ammonia water	4	pis.

Cut or shave the soap fine, and dissolve it in the water by the aid of heat, then cool and add the ammonia. If other strength of ammonia water is used, make it to correspond with the 16°; for example, if the U.S. 10° is used, take only two pints of water, instead of four pints, and use six pints of ammonia water; if 20° ammonia is used, use five pints of water and three pints of ammonia water.

INSECTICIDE.

"Botanist."—We published a formula for this some time ago. The following is recommended by the *Jour. Soc. d'Hort de Lyon*:

Soft soap	20	parts.
Methycated spirits	200	"
Quassia	6	"
Sodium salicylate	2 1/2	"
Filter and add water	1000	"

Apply to the infested plants with a brush; allow to dry on, and the next day wash off with plenty of water.

Liability of Pharmacists

It is generally known to those who engage in the selling of drugs and the compounding of physicians' prescriptions that they are liable in damages to persons who are injured by the substitution, through mistake, of a person where a harmless article is indicated by the prescription, or asked for by the purchaser. Frequently the person who makes such a mistake may be prosecuted criminally also, but in this paper only the question of liability to pay money damages will be considered. The knowledge of the general legal principles upon which this liability rests will be useful to the druggist and the apothecary, not alone for the mere possession of the knowledge, but also from a practical standpoint. Unless one knows what are the duties which the law casts upon him under given circumstances, it is only by good fortune that he keeps clear of a failure to observe them in some particular. The necessity of knowledge by every man of the duties laid upon him by the law is increased by the fact that his ignorance of them does not relieve him from the penalty of their violation. The law requires every man, at his peril, to know what are his duties to his fellows, as well as to fulfil when he does know them; hence the maxim, "ignorance of the law excuses none."

Speaking broadly, the law takes the generally accepted notions of the community as its standard of duty, and consequently every man does know, in a general way, what his obligations are in his dealings with others. A generalization is rarely, if ever, accurate, and such is true of this statement of the standard of legal duty. The law is practical, and since it would be impossible for it to enforce all the duties which religion and ethics impose, it does not make the attempt. Human tribunals cannot compel men to observe the rule, "Do unto others as ye would be done by." Therefore, the law is narrower, not only than the highest code of morality, but also, for the same reason, than even the ordinary standard of the community. On the other hand, the law in many instances creates duties where strict morality imposes none. It does this because in the particular instances to take into consideration the question of moral blameworthiness would open the door to evasions and fraud, or would be against public policy for some reason. Thus a carrier of freight must pay for merchandise destroyed or damaged while in his hands, whether the loss occurred through his fault or not. The law treats him as an insurer for its safe delivery. It is in this latter class of cases that the individual runs the greater danger of failure to realize the standard of duty by which the law will judge him. Where his obligations are only such as ordinary justice dictates, he can scarcely fail to know them; but if he happens to fall in one of the classes on which a special standard, beyond that of common