

measure. Our measures of capacity, though not related to the measures of weight in the way in which in the cubic centimetre is, are very simple, being small multiples of each other. You cannot muddle one, not a hopeless dence, on the number of pints in a gallon; but we have seen fairly intelligent men at sea when asked how many cubic decimetres there are in a cubic metre. The cubic measure is the source of difficulty here. If we were to measure in common transactions by cubic inches, there would be the same difficulty. This, of course, would not apply where multiples and fractions of a litre were used, but it shows how objection would be raised to the exclusive use of the metric system in the B.P. Whilst thus setting forth an objection to the system which seems to have been little noticed, we do not thereby indicate our wish that the metric system should not be used in the next edition of the Pharmacopœia. We only desire to bring up the obstacles in its way.—*British and Colonial Druggist.*

Therapeutic Serums.

The following is the text of the law in France relating to the preparation, sale, and distribution of therapeutic serums and other analogous products, promulgated on the 25th of April last:

Article 1. Attenuated virus, therapeutic serums, modified toxins, and analogous products that may be used for the prophylaxy or therapy of contagious diseases, and injectable substances of organic origin not defined chemically, that are applied to the treatment of temporary or chronic affections, shall not be distributed gratuitously or otherwise unless their manufacture or place of origin shall have been the object of an authorization of the government given with the sanction of the Consulting Committee of Hygiene of France and of the Academy of Medicine. Such authorization shall be temporary and revocable. The said products shall be submitted to the inspection of a commission appointed by a competent minister.

Article 2. These products shall be delivered to the public by a pharmacist upon medical prescription. Each bottle or receptacle shall bear the mark of its place of origin and the date of its manufacture. In urgent cases physicians are authorized to furnish their patients with the said products.

When the said products are destined to be delivered gratuitously to the poor the vials containing these products shall bear, stamped upon the glass, the words, "Public Assistance—Free." They may then be deposited, under the control of a physician, at such public establishments as may be authorized by the administrator to procure these products direct.

The foregoing provisions shall not apply to Jennerian vaccine, either human or animal.

Article 3. The sale and distribution of the substances mentioned in Article 1 shall be regulated by and come within the provisions of Article 423 of the Penal Code and of the law of the 27th of March, 1871. Any fraud as to the nature of the said substances, knowing them to be falsified or adulterated, or any fraud or attempt at fraud in regard to the quality of the article delivered will be punishable in accordance with the provisions of Article 423 of the Penal Code and of the law of the 27th of March, 1871.

Article 4. Any infraction of the present law will be punished with a fine of from 16 to 1,000 francs.

Salts of Potash.

The consolidated industries which mainly supply Europe and America with the various salts of potash are located in an alluvial plain west of the River Elbe, and to the south and southwest of Magdeburg, in the province of Saxony. This mineral region is bounded on the south and west by the Hartz mountains, and for many centuries it was worked as a source of common salt, which was obtained by evaporating the natural brine, pumped up from driven wells that reached only to the upper stratum of the vast deposit. This deposit is now known to have a thickness of nearly 5,000 feet, and is estimated to have been not less than fifteen thousand years in process of formation.—*Foreign and Colonial Importer.*

The Columbia Chemical Works, of Brooklyn, N.Y., write us that the words "Houshold Ammonia" were registered as their trade mark in Canada, May 11th, 1886. As they believe some dealers in this country are selling preparations under this name, presumably in ignorance of its being copyrighted, they desire to warn them that such infringements will be prosecuted if their manufacture and sale is not abandoned.

Carotin has been discovered by Schrotter in the arillus of the fruit of *aspelia luangensis*. Schrotter suggests (*Zeit. All. Oest. Apoth.*) the generic name *lipoxanthin* for all yellow vegetable-coloring principles.

To preserve fresh lemons it is suggested to rub them over thoroughly with a wad saturated with paraffin oil and then to wrap them in tin foil.

A NATURAL TOOTHACHE GUM.—The natives of west Africa use the gum from an undetermined species of *combretum* as a remedy for toothache. A decoction of the root of the same tree, which is known to the natives as "topp," is used as a remedy in gastralgia.

Bleached wax is now made by reducing the beeswax to powder instead of drawing out into fine threads previous to exposure to light and moisture. To produce the powder the liquefied wax is sprayed by suitable means, into cold water.

Business Notices.

As the design of the CANADIAN DRUGGIST is to benefit mutually all interested in the business, we would request all parties ordering goods or making purchases of any description from houses advertising with us to mention in their letter that such advertisement was noticed in the CANADIAN DRUGGIST.

The attention of Druggists and others who may be interested in the articles advertised in this journal is called to the special consideration of the Business Notices.

Gananoque, April 10th, 1895.

To Dr. Hamill, Toronto.

DEAR DOCTOR,—Allow me to say that only one like myself can appreciate the great benefit a course of optics with you really is. Instead of now guessing what spectacles my patrons require, the whole subject has been so cleared up that I think I can now go about fitting intelligently, with a certainty of results sure to please the buyer as well as the seller.

I shall be glad to give any information to any one writing me about the course you give.

Yours truly,

G. N. ASSELSTINE.

Orangeville, April 26th, 1895.

Dr. Hamill, Toronto.

DEAR SIR,—In reference to the course in optics and refraction I took with you, all I can say is that I was more than pleased that any one of my age should be able to pick up the science so quickly and thoroughly. Your method of teaching is so simple, and yet so complete, that I have no hesitation in stating that any one with ordinary intelligence can, in two weeks under your instruction and guidance, fit spectacles correctly. I would not have missed the course for twice the cost.

Yours truly,

JOHN C. FOX.

P.S.—Should you wish to refer any one to me, I shall be pleased to give them my opinion of your ability as a teacher of optics.—J.C.F.

Brussels, Ont., April 16th, 1895.

To Dr. Hamill, Toronto.

DEAR DOCTOR,—I wish to express my gratitude for the very thorough manner in which you imparted the theory and practical working of fitting spectacles. When I commenced with you, I knew absolutely nothing about spectacles, and, after a two weeks' course under your teaching, I find it very easy to suit customers who before puzzled me entirely.

I shall not fail to recommend your course to any one who may ask me about refraction.

Yours truly,

H. J. McNAUGHTON.

AN OLD-ESTABLISHED DRUG BUSINESS for sale in a good Western town; proprietor retiring from business. Apply to "W." care of CANADIAN DRUGGIST.

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