

# PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION OF MANITOBA. — PROCEEDINGS OF FIRST ANNUAL CONVENTION.

The annual meeting of the Pharmaceutical Association of Manitoba, which took the form of a convention, for the first time, was held on Friday, the 23rd inst., in the Sons of England hall, Portage avenue, Winnipeg. The gathering, though well representing numerous parts of the province, would have been larger had there been fewer attractions for strangers on that day in the city.

Proceedings were opened by the president (Mr. Flexon), who extended, on behalf of the council, a cordial welcome to visiting members, and thanked them for their attendance. He remarked that the council had for some time realized an attitude of indifference on the part of the Association, and had made this desperate effort to bring, if possible, all the members of the Association together to discuss matters of importance, commercial as well as pharmaceutical. Some papers of much value, he stated, would be read and discussed, and he was sure the writers of the papers had given their subjects thorough attention. He was equally sure the same gentlemen desired free criticism of the views contained in the papers. He lamented the fact that the annual meetings of the past had been attended by very few of the members, and felt aggrieved and ashamed that such indifference should exist. The council had taken the utmost pains to do its duty to the Association, and had it transacted the work of the Association with carelessness, or apathy, it could not have been blamed; but fidelity had been constant, not for the mere love of the work, but for the sole desire to bring the Association to a standard of recognition by the older and larger Pharmaceutical Associations of Ontario and Quebec. In concluding his preliminary remarks the president took occasion to tender the thanks of the council and of the Association to Messrs. Martin, Bole & Wynne Co. for their generous invitation to dinner at the Clarendon hotel.

The order of business then began, and, after the statement of the treasurer, and the reports of the registrar and auditors had been disposed of, the president, in his address, briefly reviewed the present conditions and declared himself well satisfied with the financial affairs of the Association, pointing out the large increase in the assets, and the steady decrease in the liabilities up to March 1st of this year, and which have been since reduced by \$175. He believed the future prosperity of the Association was assured, if the members were true to their charter and lived up to its principles and were faithful to its by-laws. A comparison of the Acts of Quebec and Ontario was made, and though perhaps the Manitoba Act lacked the clearness of expression and the comprehensiveness of that of the first-named province, he considered it had so far well-suited their needs. A few examples of clearness, showing not only the absence of vagueness, but the impossibility of misinterpretation were then read. On turning to the Ontario Act he found therein some features unlike anything in their own. Sub-section 2 of Section 4, for instance, requiring every member of the council to be actively engaged in business for himself, and the following sub-section relating to the territorial divisions of Ontario. By-laws 13 and 15 of the same Act were read to show that while in that province there are six examiners appointed on a salary of \$20 each, for the six subjects, the Pharmaceutical Association of Manitoba employed but three examiners at a salary of \$10 each. He proceeded to say that however well or indifferently framed Acts and by-laws may be they do not and cannot control the ebb and flow of the drug trade. Causes are at work which will undermine any branch of commerce, one of the foremost and hardest to deal with in the drug trade being the alarming proportions of druggists to given populations, and while he could not understand the druggists of the lower province complaining with about one druggist to every 6,000 people,