

Pharmacy Abroad.

'TURKISH PHARMACY STUDENTS' PICNIC.—The Sultan is the father of his people, verily. He is accustomed to give students of the government schools a picnic on the beautiful meadows of the Sweet Waters at Kiathané. Amongst those so treated recently were the professors and students of the veterinary and pharmacy schools. It may interest pharmacy students in England to know what they did. They met in the morning near the Kiat Haneh bridge, whence they marched, with bands playing, to the spot appointed for the picnic. On their way to the Sweet Waters they made a short halt before the Mausoleum of Eyoub, and heard a prayer recited by an imam. General Ismail Pasha, aide-de-camp of the Sultan, represented his Imperial Majesty at the picnic, and Marshal Zeki Pasha, Grand Master of Artillery and director-general of military schools in the capital, was also present at the *fete*. Three speeches were made in the course of the day—namely, by the Sultan's representative, by Marshal Zeki Pasha, and by one of the pupils.—*Chemist and Druggist*.

NOTE ON THE NORWEGIAN PHARMACOPŒIA.—Amongst the additions and alterations in the new edition of the Norwegian Pharmacopœia, we note the following: Acetanilid: This body is described as melting at 114° (the German Pharmacopœia gives 113°), and soluble in 200 parts of cold water. The maximum daily dose is given as two grammes. Antipyrin: The limits of melting point here allowed are 110° — 113° , which, in our opinion, is unnecessary. Salicylic acid is given as melting at 156° , as against 157° in the German Pharmacopœia, and 155° in the B.P. Hyoscine (hydrobromide) is retained as the name of the alkaloid known formerly under that name, in spite of Schmidt's researches, which caused the Germans to substitute the name scopolamine for this body in their new Supplement. The formula is given as $C_{17}H_{23}NO_3$, instead of $C_{17}H_{21}NO_3$, as would have been expected. Glycerine is to be tested for copper, lead, arsenic, oxalic acid, lime, sulphuric acid, ammonia, sugar, and butyric acid. Lanoline should not lose at 100° more than 30 per cent. of its weight. Saccharin is to be examined for sugar. Under the ordinary galenicals there is nothing worthy of special note, except that tincture of digitalis is to be made from dry leaves, whereas the German tincture (*Fingerhuttkur*) is made from the bruised fresh leaves.—*British and Colonial Druggist*.

PHARMACY IN DENMARK.—In an article in the *Journal de Pharmacie et Chimie*, by A. Wunsch, a Danish pharmacist, it is stated that there are 169 pharmacists in Denmark, Iceland, and

the adjacent islands, *i.e.*, about 1 per 13,577 of the population. Copenhagen, the capital, with a population of 312,859, has but 21 pharmacies, or 1 per 14,898 individuals. The licenses to carry on business are either "real" or "personal." The former, none of which have been granted since 1842, number 89, and are identified with certain pharmacies which may be sold and bought with the licenses attached. The purchaser must in any case be 25 years old, and possess a satisfactory diploma. Pharmacists in Copenhagen must have their diplomas endorsed "very good," whilst those who simply have the mark "good" may practise pharmacy anywhere else throughout the country, and those whose diplomas are marked "medium" only must be examined anew before they can practise.

The course of study insisted upon extends over six years, three years as pupil in a pharmacy, one as assistant, and eighteen months at the school of pharmacy. According to the most recent legislation, all licenses granted in future will be personal only, expiring with the death of the holder. The widows of deceased pharmacists are allowed, however, to carry on business provisionally, though for a long period, if a properly qualified pharmacist is in charge, and 18 out of the 81 businesses with personal licenses now belong to widows.

PHARMACEUTICAL EXHIBITION AT BRUSSELS.—The *Société royale de pharmacie de Bruxelles* will celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of its foundation, on August 15th next, by a national congress of pharmacy at Brussels. In connection with this there will be an international exhibition of pharmaceutical apparatus and products. Both the congress and the exhibition will last for three days. The five sections of the congress will deal with pharmaceutical legislation and ethics, theoretical and practical pharmacy, professional interests, the analysis of foodstuffs and commercial products, and hygiene and toxicology, respectively. The six sections of the exhibition will be devoted to fixtures, appliances, drugs, pharmaceutical preparations, accessories, and special products. Particulars may be obtained of M. L. Van Hulst, pharmacien, 12, rue Malibran, Brussels.—*Pharmaceutical Journal*.

A PHARMACY IN CHINA.*—The premises occupied by the Chinese pharmacist usually consist of a shop on the ground floor, a storeroom at the back, and a gallery which is reached by a winding staircase leading upwards to the roof, which is flat and forms a terrace; the back room also serves as a laboratory. Both the gallery and the shop, which are connected, are filled with all possible articles relating to pharmacy and surgery. By the side of the gallery are built two smaller rooms, which seem to be equally used as storerooms, and at the same time as

sleeping rooms for the assistants. On the terrace itself various herbs and roots are laid out to dry in the sun.

The proprietor of the business does not live on the premises, but spends his leisure time at his house outside the town, while the assistants are left in charge of the shop. The streets in China are very narrow, so that the shop is almost always cool throughout the day. The doorway is remarkably high. On the right and left of this a counter extends along the whole length of the shop, terminating at right angles, so that it is impossible for the public to see what the assistants are doing. A row of seats is placed in the body of the shop for the convenience of customers, and the walls are decorated with advertisements and mottoes relating to pharmacy. Of these maxims only a few deserve special record; for instance, a favorite motto is, "Two eyes are needful to the druggist when buying drugs; the doctor only needs one eye, and the patient should be blind." Special attention is paid to the furthest end of the shop, immediately opposite the entrance. Here the pharmacist places neat rows of porcelain jars, while in between carefully labelled drawers are fitted, and on the top of the whole is an eight-sided urn of tin or some other bright metal, usually surmounted with a board bearing the owner's name. In a corner of the shop stands an altar dedicated to the memory of the owner's ancestors. On it perfumed candles are burnt and a number of the favorite dishes of the departed are spread out. At certain times of the year bits of colored paper are burnt on the altar, which are supposed to represent different utensils and articles of apparel needful to the deceased in his after-life. This tender thoughtfulness for the comfort of the departed comprises nearly the whole of the Chinaman's idea of religion.

The proprietor is generally seated at the entrance of the shop, from whence he directs the management of his business. All prescriptions are brought to him. He examines them and hands them to his assistants to be made up subsequently. At the entrance, too, all consultations take place, and prices are agreed upon. A Chinese laboratory is not by any means overstocked with apparatus. The whole plant consists merely of a few big marble or granite mortars, a set of sieves, and a couple of fire bricks, in fact, the Chinese make no distinction between the sciences of chemistry, physics, and natural history. A certain number of chemical preparations are certainly concocted by the native pharmacists, but their manufacture is not based on the slightest scientific principle. Thus, methods of employing specific weights are entirely unknown to the average Chinese operator. A few exceptions may be found among those who have come frequently in contact with Europeans, and may have thus learned to place some value on apparatus and appliances which they have previously despised.

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