

that he locked up the premises at 12 o'clock.

The crooks, it would appear, must have awaited the opportunity afforded them by the constable on duty being at the far end of his beat, for that official did not see any person in the neighborhood, nor did he hear the crash of breaking glass.

A gang of drug thieves are evidently operating in that part of the city, for within less than a month four drug stores have been entered. The list is as follows: Little's, corner King street and Spadina avenue; Kennedy's, corner Queen and McCaul streets, and an attempted entrance into Gibbard's drug store on the corner of King and John streets.

It is thought that the same gentry who last month used the telephone to order parcels of goods from the wholesale houses and who stopped that plan after a couple of days' successful operations are at the bottom of this new phase of rascality. On those occasions only staple stock was ordered and in such quantities as to excite no suspicion, while in the recent burglaries only the choicest goods in perfumes and drug sundries were taken, showing that the thieves are as expert in judging as in stealing. So far the police are said to have no clue whatever as to the perpetrators.

#### To Remove the Ammoniacal Odor from Solutions of the Polybromides.

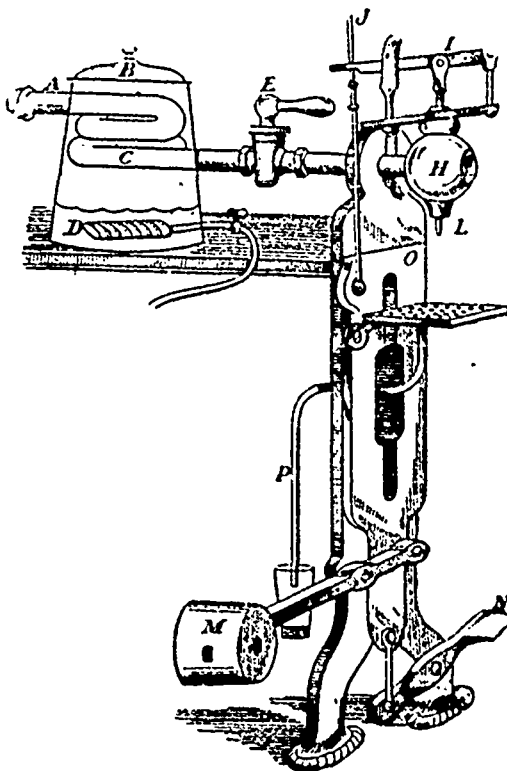
When, says M. Dugung, in the *Union Pharmaceutique*, a solution of the three bromides (potassium, sodium and ammonium) is prepared by the cold method, it gives off a very unmistakable ammoniacal odor, and it is easy to determine the presence of free ammonia by the use of a rod carrying a drop of Nessler's test. The same phenomena is produced when an ammoniacal salt is brought into contact with the alkaline iodides, or with the bromide and iodide of strontium. The freeing of ammonia in these cases is due, evidently, to the alkalinity of the bromides and iodides used. According to the researches of the author the quantity of ammonia is very feeble, and the therapeutic value of the medication can be diminished only very slightly, if at all. In order, however, to obtain a solution that does not present the phenomenon spoken of, it is necessary merely to dissolve the salts in a small quantity of distilled water, and to bring this concentrated solution to active ebullition for a moment. You can then finish the operation by adding the necessary volume of water to the solution. In this manner you can prepare an inodorous solution, and the method has the advantage of neutralizing the free alkali of the bromides and iodides used.—*Nat. Druggist*.

Small incandescent lamps, using secondary batteries weighing about half a pound, are used in the German army for night duty.

#### Apparatus for Filling Bottles.

The accompanying sketch, taken from the *British and Colonial Druggist*, is that of a machine devised for rapidly filling bottles with thick liquids, such as Castor Oil, Glycerine, or other heavy oils. The machine is simple in construction and appears to be very easy to work.

It will be noticed the machine consists of a one inch feeding pipe, which can be readily attached to the tank, tin or vessel containing the liquid it is desired to bottle. The pipe passes into a coil, covered with a sheet-iron jacket, lined with asbestos; beneath this is a specially-designed Bunsen burner, by means of which the liquid passing through the coil can be



A. Feeding pipe. B. Cover for coil. C. Copper coil. D. Bunsen burner. E. Stop valve. H. Valve. I. Lever for valve. J. Rod attached to slide to open valve. K. Stand and dripper. L. Nipple. M. Balance. N. Foot lever. O. Slide which raises bottle and dripper. P. Pipe to convey drippings.

rendered thinner in cold weather if necessary. The coil is connected by a one-inch pipe with the main upright stand, the pipe being divided by a stop-valve to regulate the supply of liquid, and prevent waste by accident. The stand supports the main cut off valve to which nipples of various sizes, from  $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch aperture can be screwed in order to fit the neck of the bottle. This valve is controlled by a lever to which a rod is attached connecting it with a slide arrangement supported by the main upright stand. The slide is raised and lowered by means of a foot lever, which opens the valve to release the liquid on pressure, and closes it by means of a weighted balance. The connecting rod also carries two nuts, by means of which the opening of the valve may be regulated to a nicety. Affixed to the

slide is a stand and dripper, from which a pipe runs to convey any drippings into a receptacle placed behind the machine. The pipes are lined with block tin, and the machine may be easily cleaned by passing steam, spirit, or any liquid through it, according to the nature of the body which has been used. It may even be employed for bottling liquids as viscid as diamond cement. The inventor claims that 1,500  $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. bottles of glycerine or castor oil can thus be filled in the course of an hour, 4-oz. bottles being filled at the rate of 16 to 24 a minute. The machine has been patented by the inventor, Mr. Robert, of Bolton, England.

#### Limeseed Oil.

The *Vossische Zeitung*, in an article dealing with this oil, says: "More than a hundred years ago the importance of the fine sweet oil made from the seeds of lime trees was mentioned, but no attempts were made to procure this oil on a large scale, and later on the matter was forgotten. A few years ago limeseed oil was, as it were, discovered for the second time, and the experience then acquired justified great importance being ascribed to the industry. Lime trees blossom so abundantly every spring and produce such a multitude of seeds, which fall to the ground in autumn, that it would be easy to collect large quantities under every lime-tree avenue. The seeds possess 58 per cent. of oil, and are in this scarcely surpassed by any other seed; only slightly by the para-nut, the coconut, and the hazelnut. The percentage of other important oil yielding seeds is far less. The oil of the lime-tree seed, which can be pressed in 11 sorts of ways, is distinguished by a beautiful clear color and fine taste, has not a trace of bitterness or aromatic flavor, and may be justly compared to the finest olive oil. It never becomes rancid, and can be left exposed to the air in open vessels without the slightest change in taste or state of preservation. It is an oil that does not dry, and has not the least inclination to combine with oxygen. It is, therefore, not only valuable as a food oil, but also for industrial appliances. It does not freeze at any degree of cold temperature known to us, and is not changed at even 21° Centigrade. It is remarkable that this valuable oilseed has not been more utilized, for it would not be difficult to find the proper places for obtaining the seed in quantity, and collecting it cheaply. The lime-tree produces the same enormous quantity of seed almost every year, and therefore there would be no stoppage in the regular manufacture of the oil."

An English surgeon says that people who use rocking chairs become deaf the soonest, and that rocking also hurts the eyes and makes people nearsighted.