

Prosecution at Winnipeg.

Mr. Walter Palford and Mr. George E. Duncann appeared before Lieut.-Col. Peebles, Police Magistrate, at Winnipeg, on the 26th ult., the former charged with carrying on a branch store on Main-street, in the city of Winnipeg, "without having employed therein a duly registered Pharmaceutical Chemist," and the latter "not being a Pharmaceutical Chemist or certified clerk with compounding a prescription of a legally authorized Medical Practitioner." Both the defendants pleaded "guilty," and the Magistrate deferred giving judgment until the 30th ulto.

On the cases being again called on, Mr. J. K. Strachan on behalf of the prosecution stated that the Pharmaceutical Association who were entrusted by the Legislature with the work of enforcing the Act, did not wish to press the matter harshly against the defendants. He pointed out how much the public were interested in having only qualified persons employed in the important work of compounding prescriptions and dealing with poisons. Although Mr. Palford had been verbally warned several times and also notified by letter that he could not be allowed to further violate the law, he, (Mr. Strachan) suggested that it would be sufficiently vindicated by imposing the minimum penalty.

The Magistrate adopting the suggestion of the prosecution imposed a fine of twenty dollars and costs in each case.

To Prevent Gelatinization of Liquor Ferri Albuminatis.

A writer in the *Pharmaceutische Zeitung* states that the addition of 5 per cent. of glycerin will prevent the tendency of liquor ferri albuminatis to gelatinize. Not only this, but if the glycerin be added to an already gelatinized solution, and the same strongly agitated, the solution will return to the liquid state.

A similar addition to other tinctures with the tendency to gelatinize, and to those containing gums (kino, benzoin, etc.), is also recommended, as it prevents their becoming muddy, and also prevents the glass stoppers from getting fast in the mouths of the containers.

Lanolin Powder.

This is prepared, according to Quaglio, by dissolving lanolin in ether, alcohol, chloroform, or acetone, mixing the solution with carbonate of magnesia, and drying up by evaporation at the ordinary temperature. The product is then finely pulverized and mixed with starch powder, equal parts. When necessary the magnesia can be replaced by zinc oxide, subnitrate of bismuth, or talc powder, according to the requirements. It is used as a dressing or sprinkling powder, and is said to be serviceable in affections of the skin.

There are said to be about 40,321 medical practitioners in Japan. The population is estimated at about 40,000,000.

The Advance in Alcohol.

The recent combination amongst distillers to advance the price of alcohol has created no small amount of grumbling amongst the wholesale and retail drug trade. The combine, which is composed of Gooderham & Worts, Toronto, Joseph E. Seagram, Waterloo, H. Walker & Sons, Walkerville, H. Corby, M. P., Belleville, have issued a circular to the trade notifying them that in future the price of alcohol will be \$3.70 per gallon, with a discount of 5 per cent. if 25 barrels are purchased during the month, and 10 per cent. if 50 barrels per month. The former price was 99c. per gallon in bond or \$3.27 duty paid, being an advance of 43c. per gallon, or nearly 19 per cent. The only reason given for the advance is that they are now obliged to keep it in bond two years as against one year under previous excise regulations, and that this costs them 10 per cent. additional. Allowing even this, and we believe the figure is about correct, the fact of an advance of 19 per cent. or thereabouts cannot be justified. No dealer buys as much as 50 bbls per month, therefore the only discount he can get is five per cent. One of the leading Toronto wholesale drug houses has issued a circular suggesting a meeting of the trade to take the matter into consideration and we trust something will be done, and that very shortly, towards meeting this unwarranted "combine."

Since the above was in type the wholesale druggists of Canada held a representative meeting August 8th, in the Board of Trade board room, Toronto. There was an excellent attendance, Mr. R. W. Elliott in the chair.

A great deal of business was transacted, dealing exclusively with questions of trade, such as credit, risks, cartage, and such matters, after dealing with which the question of the price of spirits was discussed and also the duty on spirits used exclusively for purposes of art and medicine. After discussing these matters in all their bearings the following deliverances were made:

RESOLUTIONS.

Whereas, alcohol, as a solvent or preservative of the active principles of many medicines, is an article of prime necessity in carrying on the trade which we supply; and

Whereas, it is subject to the enormous tax of 1,000 per cent. by way of customs duty if imported from abroad, or 650 per cent. by way of excise if produced at home, that is to say, that what may be bought for 33 cents in bond abroad is liable to \$3.33 customs duty or \$2.14 excise if made in Canada; and

Whereas, the regulations requiring potable spirit to be kept two years before being sold are wholly unnecessary in the case of high wines required for chemical industrial purposes, and have been used to create what is practically a monopoly, whereby existing firms are enabled to demand prices giving profits in excess of the average of other trades where competition is unfettered; and

Whereas, the direct effect of the present state of affairs has been

1. To increase the price to the sick of a large number of medicines, at a time when they can

least afford to pay a tax only intended to be collected on luxuries.

2. It has destroyed many promising chemical industries.

3. It stands as a bar against the development of many of the higher branches of technical arts and manufactures.

For which and other cogent reasons resolved, that an effort should be made to secure a supply of alcohol for use in medicine and the arts at reasonable rates in proportion to its actual cost of production.

Resolved, That Messrs. George Rutherford, John Henderson, A. B. Evans, J. W. Knox, Webb, James Douglass, with first named as convener, and with power to add to their number, be a committee to draft an agreement between drug firms willing to buy monthly specified quantities, and distillers who will supply them at equal rates for all.

Resolved, That Messrs. R. W. Elliot, John Kerry, Henry Lyman, and A. B. Evans, with first named as convener, and with power to add to their number, be a committee to represent to the Government how many lines of goods might be made from spirits paying a reasonable rate of duty, without interfering with the revenue derived from potable spirits.

Methylated Alcohol.

Methylated alcohol, which is sold only by the Inland Revenue Department, can now be obtained in iron drums of 80 to 85 gallons each, for which a charge of \$5 each is made and which may be returned at the same figure. This is done in consequence of many complaints having reached the department of shortage by leakage, etc. In future the drums will be shipped, as far as measurement is concerned at the risk of the department, and barrels at the purchaser's risk. The prices are - First grade, containing 25 per cent. naphtha, sold only to varnish manufacturers and manufacturers of chemical and mechanical products, to places west of Toronto and east of Quebec \$1.18 per gallon; east of Toronto and West of Quebec, \$1.20 per gallon. The difference in price being considered about equivalent to the difference in cost of freight. Second grade, containing 50 per cent naphtha, which is sold to every one, \$1.60 per gallon, freight payable by purchaser.

A Simple Remedy for Malaria.

We have before called attention to the use of potassium nitrate for malaria. Dr. J. D. Hunter, of New Orleans, in the *Medical World*, gives a record of 200 cases of malarial trouble in patients from childhood to old age, and in some instances complicated with other troubles; but he says nearly every case was cured with a single dose of this remedy. The dose administered was from 2 to 15 grains in a tablespoonful of water before or during the chill. If administered previous to the expected time of the chill, it in almost every instance prevented it, while when taken during the period of the chill, its severity was lessened, and in all cases the chill did not recur. Caution.—The dose of this salt should not exceed the quantity stated, 15 grains, as large doses produce distressing symptoms, and a tablespoonful of the salt would prove fatal.