

any ætiological conclusions, as many have done. The liver cells, too, give the reaction with iodine. Dr. Mosher found nothing in the heart, spleen, or intestinal tract, of pathological interest. Most writers refer to the fatty condition of the blood in this disease. While this is not constant, it has been so great as to give the blood a milky appearance, so lipæmic that when placed in a glass, and left standing, a thick layer of fat formed on the surface. The presence of fat emboli in these cases is apparent. Is this lipæmic condition of the blood dependent on lesions or interference with the functions of the pancreas? That such is a fact in a certain number of cases, is apparent from the pancreatic changes found at autopsies.

"Facts bearing upon the relation of pancreatic disease upon diabetes have been accumulating since Cowley first discovered calculi in the pancreas of a diabetic, and Bright's pancreatic cancer in a similar case" (Tyson). In a case seen by Dr. Mosher in the Berlin Pathological Institute, an aneurism of the arteria pancreatica was found. Atrophy of the pancreas is not infrequent; hypertrophy and fatty degeneration of the gland cells are sometimes seen. It must be admitted, however, that these cases (atrophy, hypertrophy, and fatty degeneration) are not so clear as those mentioned above; that the factors which bring about these changes, as well as the pathology of those cases in which the organ remains unchanged, are problems yet to be solved.

WRONG TO A MANUFACTURING FIRM.

It is to be regretted that our contemporary, *The Toronto World*, allowed its columns to be used to the injury of the well-known and reliable firm of Parke, Davis & Co., of Walkerville. The statement was published that the above firm was seeking to introduce a low-grade alcohol into their Canadian laboratory for the manufacture of patent medicines. Following this was the statement, that the low grade alcohol was desired "for the manufacture of pharmaceutical preparations to be used for the making up of prescriptions."

The statements published in *The World* were mistakes, and that journal retracted them, on learning the true inwardness of the case. In

justice to Parke, Davis & Co., it should be known to the profession that what they wanted was simply permission to introduce pure, standard, rectified spirits in bond, for the manufacture of pharmaceuticals, designed for export on a large scale to foreign countries. Such standard spirit can be imported in bond at the price of 25 cents per Imperial gallon. At present they are greatly hampered by the high market price of alcohol in the Dominion—\$1.17 per Imperial gallon in bond; and to this must be added the excise duty of \$1.50 per proof gallon. Their proposition to the excise authorities was cheerfully complied with, and will enable them to compete with European manufacturers in the markets of the world outside the Dominion; and will not involve in any degree the sacrifice of quality or potency in the finished preparations.

We believe that there is practically no such thing on the market as "low-grade alcohol," unless this term be applied to dilute alcohol. Inasmuch as every manufacturer is perfectly free to purchase pure spirit (94%) and dilute it in accordance with the needs of the product manufactured, it would be absurd to talk of low-grade alcohol in this connection. The only other form of "low-grade alcohol," is a certain crude product supplied exclusively to establishments manufacturing vinegar under bond. The well-known "wood alcohol" could not possibly be used in the manufacture of pharmaceuticals, owing to its obnoxious odor.

Of course every physician knows that Parke, Davis & Co., do not manufacture patent medicines, and it is in justice to a firm doing a large volume of business in the Dominion, as well as carrying on a manufacturing establishment within our borders, that the above remarks are made.

THE BILL TO AMEND THE ONTARIO MEDICAL ACT.

We have before us the proposed Bill to amend our Ontario Act. No doubt our readers have been kept posted as to the main provisions of the Bill, by the public press. We have not time, as we go to press this morning, to do more than mention the utter absurdity of the proposed amendments. There seems to be no possibility, however remote, of this unspeakable attempt to