

reasonably increase his profits. Their existence does not depend upon their merits, but upon the fact that disorganized and therefore ineffective competition is all they have to contend with. They have nothing to fear from *individual* competition from the druggist, but when the competition can be so established as to create in the minds of the public the idea that any druggist will do as well for them, then the bread and butter of these caterers is gone and their retainers forced to seek new avenues of labor to insure a livelihood. We offer these suggestions in the hope that some energetic druggist may be induced to elaborate from them a plan which will free the drug trade from the lethargy into which it has fallen and from which we would gladly see it speedily escape.

Pharmacy in Canada.

Within the last few months the various Pharmaceutical governing bodies of the different Provinces of Canada have held their annual meetings, full accounts of which have appeared in these columns. And right here we might digress to say, that it is *only* in the CANADIAN DRUGGIST, that full reports of the proceedings of all these bodies appear. Our readers being the druggists of the Dominion, we make it a point that our reports will embrace the whole of the provinces, thus being distinguished from contemporary publications.

In June the Pharmaceutical association of Quebec met in Montreal and the report then presented showed a gratifying state of affairs in that province. Not only does the financial statement show a large balance on hand, but the work done in the interest of Pharmacy was such that must please those whose interests the members of the Council so zealously guard.

This is the only province in which as yet, the Pharmacist has gained a decided victory over the departmental store, the test cases submitted in each instance having been decided in favor of the Pharmaceutical Association. The act in that province provides, what unfortunately it does not seem to in others, protection to the pharmacist.

The British Columbia Association held its annual meeting the same month. The custom prevails there of holding the meetings alternatively in Victoria, Vancouver and New Westminster, a plan which we think might be adopted with

advantage in the other provinces. There can be no doubt that the centralization of such organizations tends in many cases to do away with the interest in the gatherings, and a change in the places of meeting creates a more intimate association of pharmacists with their representatives and a more united feeling in working for a common purpose.

Although the B. C. Association is small in numbers compared with some of the older provinces, yet it is not behind any in the interest taken by its members and in safeguarding the profession as well as looking to the general welfare of the public by judicious legislation. The association financially is in first-rate shape, notwithstanding that during the past year the fees have been reduced.

The Nova Scotia Pharmaceutical Society also makes a good showing for its last year's operations. Mr. Frank C. Simpson, the president of the society is indefatigable in his endeavors to help the cause of pharmacy, not only in his own province, but elsewhere, and he is ably seconded by the council over which he presides. The report presented by the secretary shows still further progress, and indications point to continued harmonious action on the part of the drug trade of the province.

The thirteenth annual session of the New Brunswick Society held at St. John, showed that activity in Pharmaceutical matters which begets success in every instance. During the year seven meetings of the council were held, thus lightening the labors of the registrar and preventing the accumulation of business. The financial statement shows a comfortable balance to the credit of the society. Matters apparently run smoothly in that province as there were no prosecutions for infringement of the Pharmacy Act. Legislation was obtained exempting druggists from serving on juries. Evidently there is fear of the "cutter" as this formed the subject of considerable discussion at the meeting. In the president's address allusion was made to the lack of interest taken by some of the members. How would it do to change the place of meeting as in B. C.? It is worth a trial. An interesting feature of the annual meeting of this society was the reading of two excellent papers by some of its members.

The Prairie Province, although having one of the youngest organizations of the kind in Canada, has a very active one. The Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association has, from its inception, been the

means of very materially forwarding the interests of pharmacy in that province and the North-West. The annual meeting, held last month, was a particularly interesting one, as the report, which appears elsewhere this month, shows. In this province the number of druggists is increasing rapidly, but at the same time the population shows a rapid growth, and the present number in business cannot be said to be out of proportion. The next few years will undoubtedly witness a much greater development of this portion of Canada, and a very largely increased population, so that the future of pharmacy will be very much on the lines of what the present members make it, and careful anticipatory legislation should be one of the features to be looked after by the association.

The Ontario College of Pharmacy stands in relation to this province what the association does for the others. The Council of the College is the governing body in all matters pertaining to pharmacy, and all legislation is obtained by or through them. The report of the first meeting of the newly-elected council, which appears in this issue, is a very comprehensive one, and as nearly *verbatim* as possible.

Our special reporter is detailed to take full notes of the regular meetings of this body, as the minutes which are published by the council and sent to the druggists of the province in pamphlet form, give only the finished business of the meetings without any detail as to expression of opinions by individual members, a point most necessary in a body representing such a large number of druggists. Thanks to the large number of students who pay in their fees to the college, combined with the annual fees from the druggists of the province, the finances are in a flourishing condition.

The druggists own a college second to none on the continent in point of equipment and adaptability for the purpose, a piece of property situated in the heart of the city and valued, together with the fittings, etc., at over forty thousand dollars. On this there is a small mortgage, which, it is hoped, another year will see paid off—\$5,000 of it having been discharged during the past year.

In this province, more than in any of the others in the Dominion, have the evil effects of the "departmental stores" been felt. In nearly section of the province these hindrances to proper business methods exist, and nowhere are they as