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CONTENTS.

DRUG CLERKS. Turpentine in Cholera. TRADE NOTES. Montreal Notes. Prince Edward Island Notes. Manitoba Notes. New Patents. Department Stores. Pharmacy in England. Relative Volume of Powders. CORRESPONDENCE. The Educational Side. National Wholesale Druggists' Association. Concerning Ricine. A Consideration of the Pharmacist of To-day. Practical Value of Pharmacognosy.

A. Retrograde Movement.

EDITORIALS. The New Officers.

Cod Liver Oil. What is the Association Doing Now? Ontario College of Pharmacy Council Meeting. A Good Advertisement.

The Output of Gum Arabic in the Soudan. British Columbia Pharmaceutical Association.

PHARMACEUTICAL NOTES.

Druggists and Photography.

Palatable Medicine.

Losser and Loaks in the Drug Business, and How They may be Prevented.

Effervescent l'owders. FORMULARY. PHOTOGRAPHIC NOTES. PAINTS AND OUS. BUSINESS NOTICES BOOKS AND MAGAZINES. DRUG REPORTS.

A Retrograde Movement.

We cannot but regret the decision arrived at by the newly-elected Council of the Ontario College of Pharmacy at their first meeting, held last week, in reply to the letter of the Pharmaceutical Association of Quebec in reference to the formation of a Dominion Pharmaceutical Association. The following resolution was passed: "That while your committee is in sympathy with the objects of the proposed Dominion Pharmaceutical Association, it is of the opinion that in the face of a failure of the druggists of this province to maintain a provincial association on somewhat similar lines we cannot look for any great measure of success from the attempt to form a Dominion association, and we cannot therefore recommend the co-operation of this council."

Looking over the names of those druggists who were present at the inaugural meeting of the Ontario Provincial Pharmaceutical Association we find that, outside of the members of the council then in session, only one other member of the present council attended the meeting. Eight out of the thirteen members took no part whatever, neither sharing their "sympathy" by their presence, nor by any words of encouragement.

If the remainder of the druggists of Ontario were as apathetic in pharmaceutical matters, we should say, abandon the idea, at least as far as this province is concerned: but we feel that such apathy does not exist, and we trust the promoters will not accept this resolution as representing the voice of the pharmacists in this premier province. In marked contrast was the resolution passed by the former council, who at the regular meeting held in August, 1893, on motion of Messrs. D'Avignon and Jordan, adopted the following recommendation of the special committee:

"Your special committee have considered the communication of the Pharmaceutical Association of Quebec referred to them,

and beg to report, recommending that the registrar-treasurer be instructed to reply to the letter, stating that this council affirms the principle that a uniform standard should be established for all pharmaceutical preparations used in Canada; and that we approve of the suggestion that steps should be taken to form a Pharmaceutical Association of the Dominion, with the view of striking a committee of representatives from the various provinces for taking such action as will prove of advantage to the druggists of the Dominion, and that the council authorize the president and vice-president, with power to add to their number, to act as a committee, in conjunction with the committees from other colleges and associations, and that such conference should be called together by the association of the Province of Quebec at as early a date as possible."

(Signed.) J. E. D'AVIGNON, Chairman.

Our report of that meeting shows that "the speakers were unanimous in urging the necessity of the action proposed therein." There certainly is as great reason, if not greater, for the formation of a Dominion association now as there was when this latter resolution was passed. Can it be that they were able to take a larger view of affairs than their successors in office? We are inclined to the belief that the resolution passed by the present council must have been passed on the recommendation of a committee who failed to take the time necessary to consider a matter of such vital importance to the druggists of Canada. In the meantime, the resolution must be taken only as representing the opinion of the council, but not that of the druggists of Ontario.

PARACHLORSALOL, A DISINFECTANT.— The production of a compound bearing to salol the same relation as is borne by parachlorphenol to phenol has been announced by Prof. Girard ("Corresp. bl. f. Schw. Aerz.," xxv., p. 403). The pharmacological and clinical tests to which it has been so far subjected seem to show that it surpasses salol in its disinfecting power, without possessing any of its secondary toxic properties.—Merck's Report.