

made herself master of the situation. At present it is against the law to order or make use of any German wares, and under this law falls the use of German-made drugs and German patent names. On the other hand it has been questioned whether a pharmacist is at liberty to replace a substance ordered under its fancy German name by the same substance sold under its true scientific name. It is perhaps debatable, but the remedy is in our own hands. To-day quite a number of these really useful synthetic drugs are manufactured in England, France and Switzerland, and a few in Canada and the States, and have been placed on the market under their chemical names. It behooves us in writing our prescriptions to avoid the use of all patented names and to use only the name given in the *British Pharmacopœia*, or the chemical name. For this reason in prescribing we should write,

Acetanilid, not antifebrin;  
Phenazone, not antipyrin;  
Acetyl-salicylic acid, not aspirin;  
Theobromine sodio-salicylate, not diuretin;  
Methyl sulphonal, not trional;  
Diacetyl-morphine, not heroin;  
Barbitonum, not veronal;—and so forth.

The list is a long one.

Much more objectionable even than the patented names of new synthetic drugs are the proprietary names representing the semi-secret and patented preparations of many large manufacturing drug houses, American, Canadian, and English. To these I have already referred, but desire to make one more protest against the prescribing of such nostrums by any well-educated and right-thinking physician. All use of such prescriptions I regard as unethical, tending not to the honor but to the dishonor of our profession, and not to the advancement of true knowledge, but to the benumbing of research and as a retrogression towards the therapeutics of the dark ages.

When the war is over there is little doubt but that Germany will again make the attempt to dump large quantities of these drugs and chemicals in every civilized country with the hope of again ruining the chemical laboratories which to-day are trying to supply us with the synthetic drugs of which we stand in need. I must appeal to the patriotism of every physician to favor either the home-made or the British-made product. And to our government we would say that no industry is more important for our