



**A PHARMACEUTICAL Career  
OR  
LET FOOLS BEWARE.**

*By  
Syndicate  
Canadian  
Jubilee*

**THE ILLUSTRATION.**

"Hydrastis Canadensis" sends us a pen picture of his view of the outlook for the drug trade, combined with the professional career of the aspirant. We reproduce it for the benefit of our readers.

in alcohol, and has been also found to contain caproic, caprylic, capric, and other volatile acids. Its tendency to become rancid is small, and on account of its ready absorption when rubbed on the surface of the body it is largely used in Germany as an ointment base, and in this country in the massage treatment. It is further claimed to be less liable to produce chemical changes in the substances with which it is associated than lard, and also preserves them better than the animal fat. The United States Dispensatory states the ointment of iodide of potassium, when made with lard, becomes yellow in a few days, while if made with coconut oil remains unchanged for two months or more. The melting point of coconut stearin being low, in order to form a satisfactory base for suppositories the addition of some more solid body is necessary, and for this purpose, after experimenting with several substances, I

have found white wax answer the purpose best.

The following formula gives a satisfactory result:

Coconut stearin	4 ozs.
White wax	340 grs.

Melt with gentle heat over a water bath.

The product is of a firm and fairly hard consistence, with a melting point of 98° F., becoming solid at 64° F., and will be found admirably adapted for a suppository base. The melting point, if considered too high, may easily be lowered by using less wax. It mixes well with vegetable extracts: does not go soft on keeping: does not become rancid when in contact with metallic salts, and cools more rapidly than cocoa butter.

Cocoa butter is now so generally used, and so admirably answers the purpose of a suppository base in almost every respect, that it is a difficult matter to suggest a rival or a body more suitable.

From a pharmaceutical point of view I have found the coconut stearin base answer equally well. It has the further advantage of being cheaper, and can be made at a third the cost of cocoa butter. It cools very rapidly, and at ordinary temperatures is set and ready to be taken from the mould in about ten minutes.

Suppositories have been prepared with this base from all the U. S. P. formulae, also with belladonna, hamamelin, boric acid, carbolic acid, and many combinations, and in each case it has proved most satisfactory.

Two medical practitioners who kindly undertook experiments with both suppositories and pessaries prepared with the proposed base, report as follows:

"The result has in each case been satisfactory and rapid, showing that they have been readily absorbed. As regards the suppositories themselves, they appear to be excellent, and have a very good appearance."—*British and Colonial Druggist.*