

who would lend himself to such a glaring injustice to both the public and those members of the profession who, after years of study and considerable expenditure of capital, have become members of it. There might be some shadow of reason for such an act when qualified medical men were few and far between, but now when there are rather a superabundance of them in the Province, with well regulated machinery existing for turning out any number when required, the impudence of this application to the Legislature is too glaringly apparent. Not only every member of the profession but the entire public should veto it. But we feel sure that, though the application may be made, the good sense of the gentlemen composing the present Legislature may be relied on to deal with it as it deserves.

#### MANITOBA PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of this Association was held at Winnipeg. We notice in the account of this meeting given in the daily papers that reference was made to the fact that members of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Manitoba were carrying on a drug business without registering, as required by the Pharmaceutical Act, and that a letter from Messrs. Hough & Campbell, solicitors for the Association, expressed the opinion that it was absolutely necessary for all medical gentlemen dealing in drugs to register. Now this opinion is calculated to lead the Pharmaceutical Association very far astray, and before they take any action on the strength of it, it will be well for them to ascertain the powers granted by the Colleges of Surgeons of Great Britain to their licentiates and members, and the express provisions in the by-laws of these several colleges, sanctioned by various Acts of the Imperial Parliament, empowering their members and licentiates to recover fees for attendance and medicine or attendance or medicines and appliances supplied by them. We would also draw the attention of the Association to the fact that there are thousands of medical practitioners in Great Britain who dispense *all* their own medicines, and further

that the holders of licenses and dozens from the recognized colleges of the old country are, by special Act of the Imperial Parliament, entitled to practice in every colony of Great Britain and enjoy the same privileges as they are entitled to by their licenses or degrees in the United Kingdom. If such a law exists in the Province of Manitoba it can have no effect as it would be in direct contravention of an Imperial statute, and further it would in the interests of the public be one of the most mischievous laws that could be enacted, were it possible to enforce it. A medical man supplying his own prescribed medicine can, under no circumstances, be considered as a dealer in drugs. He does not pretend to be a chemist or pharmacist, though probably he is far better posted in the science than many who appear before the public as such. It would be a most unwise proceeding for the Pharmaceutical Association of Manitoba to attempt to arrogate to themselves any such power, as it would seem by the report of this meeting they lay claim to. Medical men are entitled to charge and recover in a court of law for medicines supplied to their patients, and it would be absurd for any provincial legislature to attempt any infringement on this long-conceded right.

THE United States Mercantile Protection Association, which has its head office at 53 Tribune Building, New York, was established in 1882. This Association has extended its operations to the Dominion of Canada, and has now established an office in Winnipeg under the supervision of Mr. W. T. Gibbins. The plan which the Association adopts for the collection of outstanding accounts is one which renders it eminently fitted for adaptation by the members of our profession. We quote the words of the circular which will explain the system on which it works:—"Our system is not designed to annoy or distress an honest but poor debtor, who would but cannot pay. It is solely for that much larger class who can pay and do not, simply because of lax laws." That members of the medical profession are more victimized than those of any other calling is, unfortunately, a too long and well established fact, and we