

Gazette, whereby the two journals have been merged into one, known as THE CANADIAN PHARMACEUTICAL JOURNAL AND GAZETTE, with Prof. Morrison in the editorial chair.

Professor Morrison is well known in pharmaceutical circles, not only in Canada, but also in the United States, as a practical pharmacist, who has been through all the grades from apprentice to licentiate, and his popularity was demonstrated at the Montreal meeting of the American Pharmaceutical Association in August last, when he was unanimously elected president, the highest gift at the disposal of the premier pharmaceutical association of the continent, and the second Canadian who has been thus honored. His journalistic experience was acquired as editor of the *Montreal Pharmaceutical Journal* during the time it was published by Messrs. Lyman Sons & Co., and since then as publisher of the *Pharmaceutical Gazette*.

The determination of the present management is to push the JOURNAL into first place, making it representative of the best there is in Canadian pharmacy. In this undertaking we want the assistance of all its old friends, and the good-will of as many new ones as it will prove itself deserving of. We are anxious that the JOURNAL shall be creditable both to the profession and the country, and be altogether such an one as the druggists will be disposed to support and encourage.

PROSPECTS FOR THE NEW YEAR.

WITH the appearance of this number a new year opens, and with it much improved business prospects. It looks as if the depression which has existed for the last five or six years has passed away, and that with the bounteous crops and increased prices of farm produce, with Manitoba wheat climbing towards the dollar mark, and a sound money policy guaranteed in the neighboring Republic, resulting in increased commercial activity, business is bound to improve all over the continent, and the drug trade will, with all others, feel the benefit of improved conditions. We can therefore confidently wish all our readers a happy and prosperous New Year.

The year 1896 has passed into history, and in looking back over the last twelve months, the most important events to Canadian pharmacy have been the organization of the Ontario Society of Retail Druggists, and the meeting of the American Pharmaceutical Association in Montreal. A year ago, we may say that we were apparently powerless to stop the ravages made by department stores and cutters generally into our business. The drug trade was demoralized, all cohesion amongst the members seemed destroyed, the outlook for the future

was most disheartening, all hope of making an honorable living seemed to be at an end. But by the efforts of a few men all this has been changed; the druggists of Ontario have been again brought into an organization powerful enough to protect their interests, influential enough to obtain the aid of manufacturers and wholesalers in support of our just claims to recognition as the natural and legitimate outlet for their products, and the result is that to-day we can look hopefully into the future, we can feel that once more we can have a chance to live in the fierce struggle of modern commercial competition, and in this work the officers of the O. S. R. D. have never spared their best efforts. From one end of the province to the other, and into Quebec, the president has travelled, organizing the members, encouraging the weak and stimulating the strong to greater efforts in behalf of union; interviewing the manufacturers and wholesalers, and impressing upon them the absolute necessity of all three branches of the trade standing together. He has spared neither time nor labor in his efforts to make the O. S. R. D. a powerful organization, thoroughly representative of the best interests of Canadian pharmacy.

It was, of course, inevitable that enemies of the society had to be encountered; the most of them have, however, been made to see the error of their ways, but some remain implacable, and of course the president has been made the point of their attacks. The cutters and their back door suppliers will spare no efforts and be chary of no means at their disposal to destroy the good results of the past year's labor. "By their works ye shall know them" is a good text to study when these attacks are made upon the officers of the society. When we find that the reliable dealers who have signed the agreement are manfully standing by it, and when we find that those concerns who have not signed it are attacking the society, then we can be certain that good work has been done, that the efforts of the president are being felt by these concerns to their detriment, and that in their desperation they will descend to any vile or base means to attain their ends. But compare the two—all with eyes to see and ears to hear, know what has been done by the society during the past year, and when we find it attacked by men who are not druggists, who have always opposed what retail druggists claim as their rights, then it is not difficult to make the choice, nor to see the objects of the attack.

Prices have not been raised to their proper level everywhere, but in many of the towns they have been, and all over they are much better than they were a year ago. Cutters find it more difficult to secure supplies, and in all directions the beneficial influences of organization and combination are being felt, and the