

gists, together with a very large concourse of citizens, making one of the largest funerals ever seen in this city. A large number of floral wreaths from friends as well as from the Medical Students' Association, from the Pharmaceutical Association, and the St. George's Snow Shoe Club, of which he was an active member. I am sure the heartfelt sympathy of all will flow out to Mrs. Neelands and two children who mourn the loss of husband and father.

The quarterly meeting of the Manitoba Pharmaceutical Council was held in their rooms in Winnipeg, on Thursday, 13th ult. Present—J. F. Howard, president, in the chair, G. W. McLaren, of Morde; B. N. Canniff, of Portage La Prairie; E. Casselman, of Emerson; C. Flexon and J. C. Gordon, Winnipeg. A large amount of business was transacted.

The semi-annual examinations were held on the 12th and 13th ult. But fifty per cent. of those presenting themselves succeeded in obtaining the requisite number of marks.

Our druggists are beginning to hope for a short breathing spell as the gentlemanly commercial travellers have about all returned east. They are nice fellows and we like to meet them, but my what a lot of time they waste for you. Think of four drug men, two pharmaceutical specialties, one non-secret, one patent medicine, five drug sundry, one plaster and one truss man, all spending a week with you.

Mr. Martin, of Regina, has moved into his new store in which he is able to display his large stock to advantage.

W. W. Bole, of Moosejaw, is about to move into the store he has just completed. He will have comfortable quarters and the luxury of a handsomely fitted store.

John Dawson, late of Dawson, Bole & Co., is about to open a drug store in Regina.

Prince Edward Island Notes.

Mr. George E. Hughes, of the Apothecaries' Hall, has purchased the stock and book debts of the drug store at Victoria lately owned by Mr. J. C. Milford, who is back again at the Apothecaries' Hall in succession to Mr. Chas. Hughes who is managing the branch business at Victoria.

Mr. E. Heffer, traveller for Messrs. Lyman, Sons & Co., is lying dangerously ill at the Hotel Davies and grave doubts are felt as to his recovery.

Mr. W. C. Blundell is soliciting orders for Messrs. Kerry, Watson & Co. in place of Mr. D. Watson who is laid up ill at Shediac, N. B.

Busy people never like to disturb a merchant when he is swapping yarns with a loafer.

The best judge of human nature is the person who can read his own face in the looking glass.

Notes From England.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Some very strong terms were recently applied at the opening ceremony of the School of Pharmacy of the Pharmaceutical Society by Dr. Ernest Hart, editor of *The British Medical Journal*, upon proprietary medicines in general and secret remedies in particular. He maintained that prescribing and dispensing would, as arts, soon disappear owing to the whole of the work being practically done for physicians by the wholesale druggists and manufacturing chemists. Of course, this is a ridiculous exaggeration and I only refer to it to point out the small amount of underlying truth. Recent years have unquestionably produced a vast number of compound medicinal bodies which are prepared in laboratories by skilled chemists and foisted upon the medical market as a speculative business. The principal part of these come from Germany and those who receive them with open arms are the medical men. It is a fact beyond all dispute that pharmacists would not encourage this craze if the medical men did not order the articles, which frequently only overload the chemists' shelves and augment his bad stock. Conservative medical men are not extinct, as I remember calling upon one of our medical baronets not long ago and having to sit and listen for the best part of a quarter of an hour to an indignant protest against new remedies generally. What I had done to deserve it I cannot imagine, as I had only called to draw his attention to the fact that he had omitted the directions from a prescription. Physicians have the matter of prescribing entirely in their own hands and can please themselves, which is more than the unfortunate druggist can do.

The modern treatment of myxœdema is instructive as a record of the progress of medical science. The disease, which is one of the most obstinate to combat, is accompanied with tumor-like swellings on the trunk and extremities, and as anatomical examination has shown on post-mortem the complete destruction of the thyroid. This immediately suggested that the destruction of the thyroid produced myxœdema, and an attempt was made to graft the thyroid gland of the sheep into the peritoneal cavity. This suggestion was made by Prof. Victor Horsley, F. R. S., and was carried into effect by Von Eiselsberg and also by M. Lannelongue. Distinct improvement followed, but after a time it was found that the engrafted thyroid was absorbed and thus gradually destroyed. The matter was then dropped as it was feared that no success could permanently accrue by this method. Quite recently interest has been excited again in the subject by the announcement that a glycerine solution of the crushed thyroid gland injected subcutaneously has all the desired effects. This has now been succeeded by a further communication by another medical man that if the gland be minced finely and gently cooked

the result is quite equal to the injection method. It would almost appear probable that this gland will be ultimately found to possess a ferment such as pepsin, but having specific action upon the mucous or pus contained in the swellings so distinctive of myxœdema.

The Lanoline—or as they prefer to call it, Lanolin—proprietarys are taking action against more than one English firm for infringing their patent, as it is alleged, in purifying wool fat. It appears that several samples of wool fat in various stages of purification have recently been offered to the principal wholesale druggists. Most of these probably emanate from Germany, but one firm here is supposed to have obtained the crude fat and to have purified it themselves. It is hardly possible that the proprietors of Lanolin have been able to do more than patent their method of purification and register the name, although it seems as if they claimed to have patent rights to the use of purified wool as an ointment. I have had an opportunity of examining one or two of these so-called purified wool fats and must say that the article in each case was in no way very creditable. One was hard and tough, faintly alkaline and smelling strongly of chloride of lime which had evidently been employed to bleach the fat with. Another was of better consistence, but strongly acid, and examination showed that either oleic acid had been added or had not been removed during the purification. Besides the Pharmacopœia tests for either hydrous or anhydrous wool fat, it may be as well to determine the specific gravity at 100° C, and the iodine absorption and saponification equivalent. This, in the case of Lanoline, I have found to be about .899 at 100° C, the iodine absorption (Hubl's method) to be equivalent to about 38 and the saponification with potash equal to 10.3 per cent. or equivalent 544.

The Pharmacopœia has probably designedly left the door open to the introduction of purified wool fat, other than Lanoline, if the product should equal the latter in purity and other characters. So far, however, it may confidently be stated that no preparation has yet been placed on the market that will answer these requirements.

Considerable interest has lately been taken in the position of bromine and the bromides. Most of the readers of THE CANADIAN DRUGGIST are aware that until the last year the bromine market was under the control of a syndicate representing the two countries that produce bromine in quantity, viz: Germany and the United States. When this syndicate dissolved a war of rates resulted and each threatened the other's market. A few shipments of American bromide did actually reach here and found purchasers, but not to any large extent as the American bromide contains more than the B. P. allowance of chloride. The retort was made by sending several tons of European bromide to New York, but, before it had