

owing, no doubt, to the fact that the retail trade had been more than usually cautious in their purchases.

For the coming year the prospects are for the most part bright and the outlook promising. In certain localities, notably in Ontario, the unfortunate "cutting" of prices and the inroads on trade made by the department stores are still to be encountered, facts which will have to be considered and some means devised in order to re-imburse the retailer for his losses from these causes.

The retail druggist must now be more aggressive and wide-awake to any opportunities that present themselves for adding to his money-earning devices, not contenting himself with allowing business to be quietly drawn away from him, but in self-defence strive to nullify any designs against the business which he is engaged in, and branch out into whatever will be appropriate and at the same time lucrative additions. Business problems are presenting themselves which time alone will solve, and the drug trade must be wide-awake to the changing condition of affairs and keep in touch with those opportunities that present themselves for the improvement of existing conditions.

License Law Legislation.

As announced last month the response to the petitions asking for an amendment to the License Act was very general, and there is no doubt but to it is due in some measure the Bill which has been presented to the Legislature. A delegation of a large number of Toronto druggists waited on the Premier December 23rd and presented him with facts in reference to the grievances under the amendments of last session. Premier Hardy received the deputation very graciously, and told them that although he could not promise them all they asked for, yet they were willing to meet a special deputation and do what they could to meet their views. Accordingly a deputation consisting of Prof. Heebner, O.C.P., and Messrs. F. Holgate and J. H. Mackenzie with the solicitor, Mr. E. T. Malone, met members of the Cabinet by appointment, the result of which was the submitment to the Legislature of the Bill as given below, and which obtained its first reading December 30th, and its third reading January 12th.

BILL.

An Act respecting the sale of patent and other medicines, and of alcohol for the purposes of the arts and manufactures.

Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario, enacts as follows:

1. The words "pharmaceutical chemist," or the word "chemist," when used in this Act shall mean a duly registered pharmaceutical chemist; the word "alcohol" shall mean "ethylic" or absolute alcohol; the word "spirits" shall mean proof spirits or spirits under proof; the word "liquor" or "liquors" shall mean intoxicating liquor; and the words "original and unbroken package" shall mean the package in which the patent or proprietary medicine is put up by the manufacturer.

2. Nothing in the Liquor License Act contained shall prevent the sale by a pharmaceutical chemist, or a merchant or company who deals in patent or proprietary medicines, of any patent or proprietary medicine in the original and unbroken package, which contains only sufficient alcohol to hold the medicine constituents thereof in solution or to prevent fermentation.

3. Nor shall anything in the said Liquor License Act contained prevent the sale by a chemist, merchant or company dealing in drugs and medicines of any tincture, fluid extract, essence, medicated spirit containing alcohol, prepared according to the formula of the British Pharmacopoeia, or other recognized standard work on pharmacy, or medicine or other similar official compound or preparation, or perfume, nor the sale by such person or company for purely medicinal purposes of any mixture prepared as aforesaid containing alcohol or other drugs or medicines; nor shall the said Liquor License Act prevent the sale thereof in the original packages, as put up by a chemist, or manufactured by a merchant or company dealing in drugs and medicines; nor shall the said Act prevent the sale by a chemist, merchant or company dealing in drugs and medicines of alcohol in quantities of not more than one gallon at any one time for use in the arts or manufactures or for illuminating purposes.

4. Nor shall anything in the said Liquor License Act contained, apply to or prevent the sale by a pharmaceutical chemist, merchant or company dealing in drugs and medicines of any drug or medicine for strictly medicinal purposes, notwithstanding the mixture with such drug or medicine of alcohol as one of the necessary or *bona fide* ingredients there-

of, provided that the quantity of alcohol so sold at any one time does not exceed six ounces.

5. Nor shall anything in the said Liquor License Act contained prevent such chemist, merchant or company dealing in drugs and medicines from selling, without the certificate of a duly registered medical practitioner, liquor in quantities of not more than six ounces at any one time when the same shall be required owing to a serious injury, or to the fainting of a person who may be brought or shall come into the premises of the chemist, or be in the immediate neighborhood of such premises or into contiguous premises, or in or upon premises adjoining such last mentioned premises, and the same is urgently required for the relief of such person.

6. Sub-section 2 of section 52 of said Liquor License Act is amended by adding immediately after the word "prescription," in the seventh line thereof, the words "when one is required"; but the said sub-section is not by this Act otherwise affected.

7. Where the Stipendary or Police Magistrate or Justice or Justices before whom a complaint is heard, find that any patent or proprietary medicine mentioned or referred to in section 2 of this Act, or any other medicine, preparation or mixture mentioned or referred to in sections 3, 4, or 5 of this Act, has been put up, manufactured or sold as a colorable device for the evasion of The Liquor License Act, the offender shall incur the penalties imposed by The Liquor License Act as in the case of sale of liquor without the license therefor by law required; and it shall not be necessary in the information, summons, warrant, conviction, distress warrant, commitment or other process or proceeding, save only in the finding or judgment, to set out that such patent or other medicine, preparation or mixture was put up, manufactured or sold as a colorable device for the evasion of The Liquor License Act, but it shall be sufficient if the complaint and all other necessary statements of the offence allege or refer to the sale of liquor without the license therefor by law required, as in the case of a prosecution under the said Liquor License Act for the sale of liquor without the license therefor by law required.

8. Nothing in this Act contained shall affect sections 26, 27 and 28, and Schedule A of the Pharmacy Act or the restriction upon the sale of poisons therein imposed.