

ferred to was about to canvas. The party who presented the circular in question to the Council of the Quebec Pharmaceutical Association instead of writing letters of this misleading character should, when he found there was no basis for the charge made, have apologized to the Council for taking up their valuable time.

The first item sent to the *Canadian Druggist* announcing the "breeze" did not embody the truth, and really the sails have been *flapping* ever since—to give an idea of the gale in nautical terms. "The one who presented the circular" ought to write to his confrere who complained to him, and find fault with him for not keeping him posted sufficiently in the matter to enable his dropping his onslaught before he reached a ridiculous and untenable position not unfamiliar to lawyers. Amusing stories have been told of clients, at critical moments, repudiating their counsel. The fees are a solace, however, in this direction, but the knight of the circular has only the pleasure of seeing himself anonymously in print to comfort him under the amused gaze of his confreres, for whom he *would do battle* when they had not the remotest requirement for it.

THE annual meeting of the Pharmaceutical Association, held June 13th, was most disappointing, at least as regards the attendance, which was very small. We certainly think that the druggists of the province should take more interest in the affairs of the Association than they take at present. Of the ninety or a hundred licentiates in the city of Montreal, only a corporal's guard was in attendance, and the members who were there were the same who religiously attend every meeting. It showed that the druggists are either very negligent or have great confidence in the officers, but the officers of the Association would be much better pleased to see a greater interest taken in society matters by the majority than there is at present.

We notice that the Association has been successful in almost all the cases of infraction of the pharmacy law which were brought before the courts, the net financial result of which was the sum of \$129 added to the funds. This shows well for the caution with which the Registrar proceeds in bringing actions into court. The Association would be much better off in every way if some preceding councils and registrars had had a greater regard for the uncertainties of the law.

The Treasurer's report showed that the financial affairs of the Association were in a most flourishing condition, the balance on hand, April 30th, being \$2,348.85, the actual increase during the year being \$430.00. Mr. Manson, as usual, has watched over the finances with his proverbial carefulness, and we notice that the members have given him a pledge of their confidence by re electing him to the treasurership which he has filled for so many years with honor to himself and benefit to the Association.

Probably the most important portion of the meeting was the President's address. As usual, it is quite a lengthy document, but its length is repaid by the wealth of material which Mr. Gray presents for the consideration of the members. We heartily coincide with his advice to the incoming council as regards legislation. As Mr. Gray says, our law at present is fairly satisfactory "barring a little ambiguity," and we should be extremely cautious about seeking additions or amendments to our Act, as the fate of the bill of the Ontario College of Pharmacy in the Ontario Assembly should be a warning to us. There can be no doubt about the Ontario College being in a worse position now in the eyes of the general public than they were before this bill was presented. The changes which were sought to be inaugurated were of such a sweeping character, and smacked so strongly of monopoly, that the whole mercantile community was aroused by it, and of course, it failed to become law—a lesson which the Quebec Association should study well when again seeking legislation, which may be necessary in a year or two, if only to clear up some of the ambiguous clauses in the present Act. The rapidly increasing evil of copyrighted medicines was also referred to, but no remedy was suggested, nor has there been an effectual remedy yet proposed by anyone, although dozens have been ventilated in the pharmaceutical press during the last ten years. The action of the American Pharmaceutical Association in publishing the National Formulary, and of the British Pharmaceutical Conference in publishing the "Unofficial Formulary" was expected to stem the tide, but it seems to have had little or no effect so far. We think a great deal could be done by the retail druggists to remedy this evil if the preparations of these formularies were more forcibly brought to the notice of physicians. If retailers do not care to manufacture these preparations, they