

attached. Jamaica gets most of its supplies from the sources indicated below.

Of the smaller islands Barbados is one which has a legislative assembly of its own, but as yet it has no act controlling pharmacy or the sale of poisons. The population of the island is about 180,000, and the industries are similar to those in Jamaica. There are several towns, but the single word Barbados suffices to describe the whole. Mr. W. Julian Knight, one of the leading pharmacists of the islands, informs us that there are about seven or eight "druggists' shops" kept by men who have had training of from five to fifteen years before starting for themselves, but there are a good many smaller businesses carried on by persons of less experience, owing to the absence of a Pharmacy Act. All sell drugs, patent medicines, and druggists' sundries, but very few of the smaller shops undertake dispensing. Grocers, spirit dealers, &c., also sell a good many of the more popular patent medicines, and a few of the commoner drugs in packets.

Most of the drugs and chemicals are imported from London through two or three of the leading wholesale houses there, but a little business is also done with America and Germany, the latter principally for chemicals. The prices for prescriptions are below those obtained by the better class of chemists in London and other large towns, but by no means so bad as in many of the "cutting" towns; although in the matter of the more popular patent medicines, toilet articles, &c., chemists in Barbados have to contend with very keen competition from the co-operative and other stores. A very fair business is done in the cheaper toilet articles, patents, &c., but the island being rather poor and very densely populated, the higher-priced articles do not find a ready sale. Out of about twelve doctors only one dispenses his own medicines; the rest allow their patients to take the prescriptions where they like, except in one or two cases where the doctor is interested in some particular drug-shop, when the patient is requested to go there. This does not apply to homoeopathic practitioners, all of whom dispense their "pilles" and "drops" themselves, as there is no homoeopathic pharmacy in the island, although a good deal of that kind of medicine (put up in phials by such houses as Ashton & Parsons, of London, and Humphrey, of New York) is sold by general dealers. The British Pharmacopœia (1885) is the recognized standard, but some physicians who have graduated in the United States take the Pharmacopœia of that country as their guide. These remarks apply equally to Jamaica, where the conditions of practice are similar.

Of the Leeward and Windward Islands (Antigua, Dominica, St. Lucia, Grenada, St. Vincent, &c.) the only one which need be mentioned is St. Vincent, which is typical of the whole in many respects, especially in regard to population, which, in the case of no island exceeds 50,000.

Thus, Grenada has 42,000 and St. Lucia 41,000.

Kingstown, the capital of St. Vincent has a population of nearly 6,000. The ratio of whites to blacks in these islands is about the same as in Jamaica. Some time ago we had an interview with Mr. B. K. Bidley, of St. Vincent, in the course of which he informed us that five or six years ago an Act was passed by the legislative assembly to regulate the sale of poisons, and retailers of poisons are required to pass an examination similar to the Minor. This examination is conducted by medical officers as in Jamaica, the fee being £10 for the license. English and Irish diplomas are accepted in lieu of it. The pharmacy of the island is in the hands of English chemists; there are a few Americans, but the British Pharmacopœia is the recognized standard for medicines. It is significant that licentiates of pharmacy have the exclusive sale of chemicals, drugs and medicines, but they are not allowed to prescribe, and the only dispensing done is for the better-class people. Prices are fairly good—2s. to 2s. 6d. for 8-oz. mixtures, for instance—and there is a fair demand for specialties yielding ordinary profits. England supplies the druggists with their stocks, one London house having an agent in the island, and others sending a traveller occasionally.

Push.

Success is a big word, and one that may be variously defined. It means one thing to one man and another thing to another. In one walk of life its interpretation is entirely different from that in some other, and what is success from one point of view is almost failure from another. But there is this in common to all kinds of success, it comes as the result of effort. Whatever falls at one's feet, whatever comes by inheritance, whatever is natural endowment, or comes by bequest is not success, however much of good fortune there may be about it. Success is that which is striven for—that which comes as a victory to the warrior, or that which is as laurel on the poet's brow. To achieve success, therefore, effort must be put forth. Very generally it must be persistent, aggressive, persevering effort—that kind of effort which is so happily summed up in the little word "push." To be a prosperous merchant or manufacturer requires push. To be an acceptable clerk or bookkeeper requires push, and to be really useful in any walk of life, from the most exalted to the most commonplace requires push. "Push" is a word also with as many different shades of meaning as there are persons to whom it may be applied. It is wonderfully elastic, but in all its definitions there is this idea about it: To drive forward. Strength and energy of whatever kind the individual may possess, are to be used as he is able to use them and as circumstances permit, to drive something forward. Very generally this something is the work or

duty in hand, or the business venture upon which he is engaged, or the social project he has in view. To be unsuccessful in this world—for failure may come however hard we strive—commands pity, but to be without push is to be contemptible. When we want to say something extremely severe about a young man, when we want to condemn him unconditionally, when we want to convey the idea that he will never achieve success or be of any particular usefulness in the world anywhere, we say "He has no push about him." Without push, one floats with the tide, driven hither and thither by the winds and currents. He may get into port, but the chances are that if he does accidentally drift that way he will not be able to anchor so as to remain there. With push one is like a steamship, with full complement of machinery under the guidance of a captain; the port is reached in spite of wind and tide, the anchor is cast and success is achieved and held.

A New Oil Flash Test.

A simple but effective method of determining the flashing point of lubricating oils consists in the use of a capsule placed in a hemispherical sand-bath to protect it from air currents, the light being applied from time to time to the uncovered surface of oil in the capsule. While this method suffers from the disadvantages of all open-test methods, the results show that it is sufficiently accurate for most practical purposes. Even the elaborate apparatus that is frequently employed is not free from error.

FACTS ABOUT IODINE.—We have on several occasions referred to investigations which have recently been made, and which shows that the iodine in brown solutions exists in a different molecular form from that in the violet solutions. A practical point is now deduced from this by Gautier and Charpy, who have been studying the affinities of iodine in solution. They have noticed that where pure mercury is shaken with any solution of iodine green mercurous iodide is formed, but if another metal is present as an impurity the mercury is not acted upon at all, if alcoholic or similar solution is used, until the impurity is converted into iodide; but with chloroform mercurous iodide is always formed at first. It would be of considerable interest if these experiments were extended to the pharmaceutical side, using chloroform instead of alcohol for damping the mercury and iodine in making mercurous iodide, and noting the results.—*Chemist and Druggist.*

Pretty Compliment.—Although Doctor Johnson had—or professed to have—a profound contempt for actors, he succeeded in comporting himself towards Mrs. Siddons with great politeness; and once, when she called to see him at Bolt Court, and his servant could not immediately furnish her with a chair, the Doctor said, "You see, Madam, that wherever you go there are no seats to be got."