

them to guarantee the article which they dispense, as meeting at least the minimum strength officially required.'

In 1908, 63 per cent of the collection was found to be adulterated, 3 samples containing no nitrous ether whatever. The present collection shows 43 per cent adulterated with 5 samples containing no ethyl nitrite.

It is clear that the retail dealer is to be held responsible for the character of the drug in this case. He may be able to throw back responsibility upon the manufacturer if he holds a warranty under section 33 of the Act; but in this case he would naturally be required to prove that the article had not deteriorated while in his possession.

The following synoptical table shows the results of inspections in 1908 and 1911:—

Date.	Bulletin.	Total Samples.	Genuine.	Adulterated.	Percentage of Adulteration
1908.....	167	77	28	49	63
1911.....	234	74	42	32	43

In view of the unsatisfactory character of this important drug, as found on the Canadian retail markets, it is desirable that another inspection be made at an early date.

One sample (No. 47847) contains 24.55 per cent of ethyl nitrite, and is therefore much too strong for safe administration as sweet spirit of nitre. I have judged this to be adulterated, since sold under the name quoted.

A concentrated solution of ethyl nitrite is mentioned by Squire (Companion to B. P., 18th edition, p. 1140) as sold under the name *Itrosyl*. It is said to keep better than the pharmacopoeal spiritus, and is diluted with 95 per cent alcohol to proper strength for immediate preparation of this last.

I beg to recommend the publication of this report as Bulletin No. 234.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. MCGILL,

Chief Analyst.