

observed. For instance, if care be not taken, it will produce similar results to those of chloroform or ether, should it be inhaled. Again, the adjacent healthy teeth must be protected, and the spray only directed to the base of the tooth. It has also been successfully employed in veterinary practice. Chloride of Ethyl is inflammable, and when burning gives rise to hydrochloric acid, which is very irritating.

Headache powders are quite a household remedy now, and for this we have to thank acetanilide. The most successful formula is composed of 70 per cent. acetanilide, 20 per cent. of sodium bicarbonate, and 10 per cent. of caffeine citrate, and is really very efficacious. The directions usually require the patient to rest in a recumbent position for some time after taking the medicine, and this is no mean factor in the treatment of the nervous form of headache so often met with. The powders are sold as low as 2 cents each, but these are usually acetanilide alone in about 7 grain doses. A more elegant and slightly more expensive form is to dispense the remedy in cachets upon which is stamped in color the title, headache cure, and the name of the chemist. In any case, they should be neatly boxed and labelled. A small circular should accompany the remedy, and attention drawn to the varieties of headache, other than nervous, such as neuralgic, when a neuralgia mixture of bromide of quinine and tincture of gelsemium could be recommended in addition to the powders. Compressed tablets are not so satisfactory for this purpose as powders and cachets, as they make so small a package.

The successful flotation of Kodak, Limited, with the enormous capital of £1,600,000 (\$8,000,000) is a proof of the sound condition of the trade of photography, especially that part which caters for amateurs. With considerable business acumen and foresight an early copy of the prospectus was sent to the trade customers of the Eastman Photographic Materials Company, and, although authority to offer a preferential allotment was specially disclaimed, it was intimated that if a special form were filled up the board would do their best to procure preferential allotment. And this was duly carried out, many of the dealers taking the opportunity of securing small interest in the goods which they sell other than as mere retailers. This has

been found to be the soundest policy as was clearly shown in the case of Bass & Co., where shares were judiciously distributed first among the trade and afterwards the investing public. Whereas a good deal of the want of success in Allsopp's has been attributed to the reverse condition having been allowed to happen. Kodak Limited, comprises all the English, German and French Eastman Companies and fully ninety-five per cent. of the shares of the American Eastman Kodak Co., and the net profits for 1897 were \$926,000 and the first six months of 1898 show an increase of twenty-seven and a half per cent. upon these receipts.

Since the introduction of Kutnow's effervescing salt, there has been some demand for a palatable effervescing sulphate of soda, and there is, no doubt, plenty of scope for such a preparation. The pharmacopœial article is not sufficiently sweet, but with the addition of sugar a preparation is obtained that is most suitable as a laxative and can be taken even on an empty stomach by the most fastidious. Glauber's salt is the active ingredient in several natural aperient waters and is not so bitter as Epsom salts, whilst its action is less griping. The latest and best form of granular preparation is not in the usual bold granules, but a small crystalline powder obtained by rubbing the granules, whilst still damp, through suitable sieves. The advantage claimed is that effervescence is brisker and not too sustained, which is often the case with large granules as they are not attacked by the water quick enough. Consequently the customer is apt to either wait until effervescence is nearly over or gets some of the granules in the mouth.

Competition in the drug trade bids fair to become even more keen in 1899. Already new departures are being arranged and scope extended. Ferris & Co., have appointed a traveller in the West Indies, who, besides covering that large field and cultivating trade with South America, is to hold stock of their goods in Kingston, Jamaica. Bush & Co. have opened depots, or arranged for them, in Calcutta, Cape Town, Buenos Ayres, Rio de Janeiro, etc. Horner & Sons have fresh agencies in India, and contemplate a depot in Melbourne or Sydney. Hewlett & Sons have appointed an Australian representative; Burgoyne & Co. are sending a fresh man to South Africa, and Evans & Co. are

pushing their Canadian business as a depot for English specialties. So far I have not heard of any arrangement for China, but when the open door is fixed something may be done, in the meantime it is evident that the enterprise of the manufacturers in the home country is not on the wane, and that they are determined to push business all over the world.

Pharmacy Students' Association.

The Pharmacy Students' Association of the Montreal College of Pharmacy have elected the following officers for the term: President, H. Guerin; Vice-President, J. Bisailon; Secretary, J. Bourbonniere; Treasurer, A. Dastous; Committee, Mess. F. Leduc, P. Leduc and W. Dubois.

Syllabus of Materia Medica.

Revised in accordance with the B. P., 1898. This pocket reference book, revised by W. Martindale, F.L.S., F.C.S., joint author of "The Extra Pharmacopœia," is in accordance with the plan of the originators, Drs. Harvey and Davidson, and has been now made to meet the requirements of the new Pharmacopœia.

This work has been used by students at University College, London, and is a valuable aid in concise form. The well-known ability of the revisor ensures the accuracy and thoroughness of the work. It is published at one shilling by H. K. Lewis, 136 Gower St., London, W. C.; Carveth & Co., Toronto.

Calcium Hydride.

Calcium hydride is prepared by Moissan by heating pure, crystallized calcium with hydrogen in a tube, under pressure. At a dull red heat calcium burns in a hydrogen atmosphere with the formation of a white substance of the composition CaH_2 . In operating with 1 to 2 gm. of calcium, the reaction may be performed in a glass tube. Calcium hydride is a white mass of the specific gravity 1.7, stable at 600° C. in vacuo, not changed in an atmosphere of chlorine in the cold, but burning in it at an elevated temperature with a bright flame, forming calcium chloride. With bromine and iodine the reaction is still more violent.—*Ch. Centrali.*

Acetol, a remedy for toothache, is made with acetic acid S.46, alum 3.07, and water 88.5 per cent. Sage, peppermint and clove oils are used in flavoring,