

OIL IN LEAVES.

Herr S. Rywosch has made a series of observations on the oil contained in the leaves or other green organs of a number of plants, and finds that its function is entirely different from that of the oil contained in the stem of woody plants. In stead of being stored up in the winter and disappearing when the period of vegetative activity recommences, it remains and even increases in amount during the spring and summer, being very large even when the leaves have turned yellow in the autumn. It cannot, therefore, be regarded as a reserve food-material; its purpose appears to be to take up the xanthophyll. The author was unable to determine the chemical nature of these oils, whether they belong to the fatty or to the essential series—*Berichte der deutschen botanischen Gesellschaft*.

OXALIC ACID ON CORKS.

O. Wentzky states that recently he detected the presence of quite an appreciable quantity of oxalic acid on a lot of corks just received by him. On inquiring of the manufacturers as to the cause of the presence of this acid he was informed that its use in the manufacture of corks was quite common, and that the excess noted in this particular lot was due to the fact that the workmen had used an excess of oxalic acid. The same author had observed the presence of oxalic acid in corks coming from another manufacturer, although in this case the quantity was not so large. It is stated that the acid is used to free the cork from tannate of iron, which is formed by treating the corks with ferrous sulphate for the purpose of removing the excess of tannin on their surface.—*Apoth. Zeitung*.

THE DECOMPOSITION OF IODOFORM BY LIGHT.

Fleury points out that when a solution of iodoform is exposed to light, either the direct light of the sun or to diffuse daylight, decomposition sets in, but ceases when the solution assumes a brown tint of a certain depth due to the liberated iodine. This, he suggests, is due to the fact that the violet and ultra-violet rays are those which effect the decomposition in question, and that these are arrested at the surface of the liquid, which is now of such a colour as to prevent their penetrating it. An experiment in support of this theory was performed as follows: 1 gramme of iodoform was dissolved in alcohol and ether, and excess of powdered silver was added. The mixture was exposed to sunlight and frequently agitated; the liberated iodine, of course, combined with the silver. At the end of several days the solution was still colourless. Practically, the whole of the iodine originally present was found as iodide of silver, showing that when the free iodine was removed and the liquid thus kept of its original colour, decomposition by light proceeded steadily.—*Journal de Pharm. et de Chimie*.

A USEFUL SOLVENT FOR DRY PAINTS.

Is—according to Gruning—carbolic acid, the crude 50 per cent acid being used, or if a more energetic action is required the so-called 100 per cent. or 90 per cent. pure acid. The article to be freed from paint is coated over with the acid by brushing, and the greasy mass removed by wiping with a cloth. Brushes caked with paint may be cleaned by steeping for a few days in the crude 50 per cent. acid, and then washing in water. The advantages exhibited by carbolic acid over caustic soda for this purpose are a more energetic and rapid action on the paint without corrosion of the wood or brush; in addition to which any excess of acid that may have been absorbed by the wood, stone, or other painted surface soon evaporates, and leaves the article in a suitable condition for receiving another coat of paint.—*Pharm. Zeits. für Russland*.

The Proprietary Association.

At the annual meeting of this association, held at Richmond, Va., the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President—Thomas Doliber, Boston.
Vice Presidents—Dr. V. Mott Pierce, I. S. Coffin, New York.
Secretary—Joseph Leeming, New York.
Treasurer—Herbert B. Harding, New York.
Executive Committee—Alfred E. Rose, Lowell, Mass.; W. T. Hanson, Schenectady, Charles H. Pinkham, Lynn, Horace M. Sharp, Philadelphia; Thomas F. Main, New York; Mahlon N. Kline, Philadelphia.
The association will convene in St. Louis in October, 1898.

National Wholesale Druggists' Association.

At the annual meeting of this association, held at Richmond, Va., October 11th, the following officers were chosen:

President—Chas. F. Weller, Omaha.
First Vice-President—Thomas C. Peek, Macon.
Second Vice-President—Jas. McCord, La Crosse.
Third Vice-President—A. W. Claffin, Providence.
Fourth Vice-President—Chas. A. Jerman, Milwaukee.
Fifth Vice-President—Geo. A. Kelly, Jr., Pittsburg.
For Secretary—A. B. Merriam, Minneapolis.
For Treasurer—E. L. Strong, Cleveland.
Board of Control—W. J. Walker, Albany; J. R. Owen, Chicago; I. Solomon, Savannah, W. J. Walding, Toledo, C. F. Shoemaker, Philadelphia.

Manitoba Notes.

Joseph Taylor, druggist, Portage la Prairie, was in Winnipeg last week on business.

John Warne, druggist, Rat Portage, has recently bought a new and complete stock of drugs and druggists' sundries in Winnipeg for his new business in Rat Portage.

Dr. R. L. Morrison, formerly in the drug business at Glenboro, and late at Carman, Man., is likely to give up his medical practice and study theology. His many friends will wish him success in his new profession.

Mr. W. Hamilton has opened a drug store at Neepawa.

Mr. Walter Pulford, druggist, Main street, Winnipeg, has made arrangements to open a branch store at Carman, Man.

Mr. J. Wright, representing Lyman Sons & Co., Montreal, has just returned from the west, and will go east in a few days.

Mr. L. G. Christie, representing R. L. Gibson, Toronto, is touring the province in the interest of maltine preparations.

Dr. S. H. Snider, of Napinka, is reported as leaving the province.

Dr. A. W. Argue has succeeded Dr. Hutchinson in drugs at Grenfre.

The Pharmaceutical Association are after offenders. A doctor in Shoal Lake was recently fined for running a drug store contrary to statute.

Messrs. A. J. Wallin & Co., druggists, have moved into their new store corner Graham avenue and Main street. It is a great improvement on the old store, new fixtures and a clean stock make the store a credit to the south-end business portion of the city.

Mr. H. E. Bletcher, formerly with Flexon & Co., Winnipeg, will manage Mr. Pulford's branch store at Carman, Man.

Correspondence.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for the opinions of correspondents. Correspondents must in all cases send name and address, not necessarily for publication.

KEMPTVILLE, Oct. 19th. 1897.

Editor CANADIAN DRUGGIST:

DEAR SIR,—I have carefully read the three plans, as published in your October number, for the prevention of cutting in patents, and, while plan No. 3 may work in some places, it will not give universal satisfaction.

I have applied my self, probably as much, if not more, than the majority of country druggists, to devise some means whereby the great evil ("we may call it") may be overcome. As a retail country druggist, and at one time favorable to the Retailers' Association, I must say that it only took me about one month, "as I understood it," to observe that it was of no use in a country town, for the following reasons: (1) The jobber was supposed to sell only to druggists in villages and towns where they were located, that