

a method of keeping a solution of hypo permanent! If developing and fixing are only occasionally performed one nearly always finds the solution of hypo-sulphite both discolored and fungoid. Perhaps the best method in this case is to use the granulated "hypo," put up in small packets of 2-oz. or 4 oz. all ready for solution, as by the addition of the contents of a packet to a pint of water the solution is made fresh in a few moments. Hypo is largely sold in this manner just now, and is very convenient for the amateur. In connection with this subject the "Year Book of Photography" for 1899 is a useful publication, brought out annually by *Photographic News*, at 25 cents, and is most valuable to those who are called upon for explanations, new formulæ, etc.; whilst the latest price lists of both the Ilford Company and the Imperial Company have numerous hints, processes and practical facts.

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The election of a part of the council of the Pharmaceutical Society had more than ordinary interest from the fact that owing to the new Pharmacy Act the number of voters was greatly increased. In spite of this the result has been that six out of the seven members have been re-elected, the only unsuccessful old member being Mr. Bottle, of Dover. This seems rather ungracious, as he is one of the oldest members of former councils, but is probably a hint to the "father" of the old council that his days of retirement from active work have arrived. There was an impression abroad that a sweeping change was likely to take place, but this has proved erroneous. Only a determined effort on the part of the members of the Proprietary Articles Trade Association has secured the return of Mr. Glyn-Jones, who, as secretary to the association, has bulked larger in the eyes of the trade during the past few years than any other non-official pharmacist. It is some return for the courageous and oft-times thankless work that Mr. Glyn-Jones has been conducting. Briefly, during the past four years Mr. Glyn Jones has been the champion and mainstay of the first organized attempt to prevent extreme cutting. To do this he has secured adhesion of some 2000 members, who are pledged to obtain full prices, and the agreement of some two dozen manufacturers of proprietary preparations that their articles shall be protected from excessive cutting. The

*This was omitted last month on account of the crowded state of our columns.

list is not very formidable, but includes Collis Brown's chlorodyne, virol and a few other well-known articles, and the membership is not very large when we remember that there are upwards of 14,000 qualified pharmacists in the register. It is not anticipated, even by his admirers, that the new councillor will be able to effect reforms at Bloomsbury Square, but it is an undoubted success for those who favor protection in pharmacy.

Under the somewhat pompous title of British Analytical Control an association has been formed on the lines that similar associations exist in several European countries, with the express objects of showing up adulteration of food stuffs and drugs, and also of conferring analytical reports upon articles worthy of notice. The former is carried out in a publication called "British Food Journal," and the latter is supposed to be attained by affixing the official stamps upon all packets or packages of articles that have been submitted to and approved (for a consideration) by the analysts of the association. The association is professedly run by a judicious mixture of public analysts and medical officers of health, but in spite of its good intention has been severely attacked. At a recent meeting of the Institute of Chemistry it was considered in the official view that the association was embarking on an unprofessional course, as it was feared that it was intended to convey analyses to the experts of the association instead of allowing them to go in the ordinary manner. Naturally any attempt to filch away customers is resented by the bulk of professional analysts. But it must be admitted that there is not the slightest indication of this, as up to date the idea has fallen very flat and I have not heard of a single article that is flaunting itself with these precious stamps. The stamp itself is not likely to raise admiration in the breast of a philatelist. It is printed in blue and red and is decidedly common looking. I fancy the idea, altogether, is not so bad as it has been painted. It would be a great advantage if the public could buy butter, milk and other articles guaranteed genuine, but it seems to me that the proper authority to carry this out is the local council in whose hands rest the authority of the Food and Drugs Acts. Again, if this same authority would arrange for cheap analyses of these ordinary articles, it would be a boon to the community, but it is hardly likely that people will pay \$2.50 for the satisfaction

of learning if the cow has been assisted by the pump or margarine has got mixed up with butter. The International Commission on Adulteration has Dr. Brouardel, of Paris, as president, and Prof. Hilger, of Munich, as vice-president, and the official English organ is run by the public analysts and medical officers of health already referred to, who also form the consulting scientific staff of the British Analytical Control. It will be interesting to note what progress is made, the date of the first issue of the journal being January, 1899, and it is apparently a monthly review.

Amongst the "side lines" frequently suggested to country chemists those of bicycles, photographic outfits, and veterinary remedies have proved here most successful. Recently I visited a brother pill in a little Sussex village and learned that he was quite an authority on bicycles and photography, whilst on another day when I called I found that he had improved on the early closing of a Wednesday afternoon by closing at one o'clock. Outside were two farmers who were forcibly expressing their chagrin, as they required veterinary remedies and would have to send in again the next day. My friend does an excellent little business in all these, but just then he was doing better business by water-analysis. It appears that many of these Sussex farm-houses are let for many weeks during the summer months to London families who are always anxious to know that the water is beyond reproach. To facilitate this, the chemist takes a sample himself from the well and it is analyzed by a well-known London analyst, who allows him a substantial discount, and in this way he has become an essential feature in the letting of the principal farm-houses in his neighborhood. The only drawback to trade in bicycles is that he is frequently called upon to do mechanical work, but he does not mind it in the least, and repairs punctures at 25 cents, adjusts wheels and fixes on refractory tires at similar rates, and assures me that it pays well. This and photography are hobbies, and consequently are taken up as much for amusement as profit.

Sugar-coating of compressed drugs has now attained something like perfection and in the leading pharmacies drugs like quinine, cascara, etc., are always sold sugar-coated. There can be no question that the patients much prefer these sweet-coated elegant specimens of pharmaceutical art, and medical opinion favours them