

TRADE NOTES.

A drug store has been opened at Crapaud, P. E. I., by Mr. J. C. Ferguson.

J. F. Aitken, of Waterford, Ont., has re-opened after the fire of last month.

Mr. F. W. James has disposed of his drug business in Glencoe to McFarlane & Co., of Durham.

Messrs. Martin & Rosser have purchased the wholesale business of the Mitchell Drug Co., Winnipeg.

J. E. H. Quipp, formerly with R. J. Devins, of Montreal, has commenced business on Wind-sor street in that city.

We are glad to note that A. W. Harrison, St. Thomas, has recovered from a serious illness and is able to attend to business again.

Dawson & Bole, formerly of Regina, have removed to Winnipeg and opened a wholesale patent medicine and druggist sundries warehouse.

Mr. C. O. Dacier, formerly of Ottawa, Ont., has moved to Montreal and opened a drug store on the corner of St. Dennis and St. Jean Baptiste streets.

Mr. J. L. Methuen, for some time with E. Leonard, St. Lawrence Street, Montreal, is about to commence business on his own account in Sherbrooke, Que.

Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co. are pushing forward the work on their new laboratory and warehouse in Walkerville, Ont., which when completed will give them greatly increased facilities for attending to their Canadian trade.

The Druggists Association for the Counties of Peel, Halton, Wellington and Dufferin met in Brampton May 10th. The following were elected officers for the ensuing year: President, Thomas Stevenson, Orangeville; 1st Vice-President, T. H. McCollom, Milton; 2nd Vice-President, R. H. Hodgson, Brampton; 3rd Vice-President, Mr. Perry, Fergus; Secretary, Wm. Colcleugh, Mount Forest, re-elected.

A good deal of feeling has been exhibited amongst Ottawa druggists over the recent prosecutions for infringement of the Medical Act, and they are thinking of asking the co-operation of the different local associations in an effort to have the act amended, for as the law now stands a druggist cannot recommend anything out of which he will make any profit, not even one of his own proprietary remedies or a patent medicine.

DISPENSING.—The *Journal de Medicine de Paris* holds that the pharmacist should never compound a prescription when he has the least doubt in his mind as to the meaning of a word, the dose, and the mode of employment of the poisonous medicine prescribed; he should always refer the prescription back to the physician, and ask for fuller instructions. In cases of manifest error on the part of a physician, either through inadvertence or ignorance, he should also consult the prescriber, and have the error rectified. The editor adds "that the chemist should never trust the compounding of poisonous medicine to inexperienced pupils."

Hints for Pharmacists.

BY A MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF CHEMISTS' ASSISTANTS.

Perhaps nothing occasioned more difficulty and vexation to the beginner in pharmacy than the apparently simple operation of

CLEANSING MEASURES, &c.

Therefore he would venture to make some suggestions in that connection. His list of detergents was not exhaustive, but he could answer for its trustworthiness.

Character of Stain, &c.	Solvent.
Aniline dyes, e. g. fuchsin, marking ink, &c.	Sol. acid, tart.
Deposits in bottles from fl. magnesia	
Parish's syrup, syr. Easton, &c.	Acid. hydrochlor.
Opium and elichona preparations	
Tr. benzoin co. storax, and most vegetable mixtures	Liq. potassae.
Tar, copal, tr. cannibis indicæ	Turpentine.
Old paint and greasy stains on clothes	Chloroform.

For cleaning greasy ointment slabs nothing is equal to S. V. M. on cotton, followed by thorough washing with soap and water. The opaque film that occasionally forms in the water bottle, being chiefly of an organic nature, is at once removed by sulphuric acid, which also diluted— instantaneously dissolves off the dirty scum so often found on opal pots, the process being attended by a very palpable evolution of H₂S. Two of the dirtiest bottles in every shop are those for liq. plumbi subacet. and tr. ferri perchlor. For the former strong acetic acid is recommended, but iodide of potassium in small quantity, forming iodide of lead, and subsequent rinsing out with ammonia, answers admirably; while for the latter, although hydrochloric acid helps, nothing but hard rubbing makes a good job. The dark stains left in a mortar in which Ethiops mineral has been made is only partially erased by hydrochloric acid, but a liberal application of elbow-grease and a piece of pumice stone are needed to complete the renovation. The dimness observed in old liquor potassae bottles being due, as was explained at the last Pharmaceutical Conference, to the chemical action of the alkali on the glass, is not removable. Greasy ointment pots are best treated with dry sawdust, and bone tallies, ink stained and yellow, are converted into blanched blanks with the aid of dilute hydrochloric acid. For

TAKING OFF SOILED LABELS

from customers' bottles—always a crucial test of a druggist's taste and conscientiousness in details—the most expeditious and effective plan is first to wet the label thoroughly, and then cautiously hold the bottle over a gas flame, when as a rule the label will peel off. In some high class pharmacies a steam jet is used for this purpose, but the humbler method is quite as successful. Labels on liniment bottles, &c., are often so soaked with oil that when a repeat is wanted the prescription book number is indecipherable; in that event rub label lightly with piece of cotton, then moisten with benzene, and dry above a gas flame, when in nine cases out of ten the figures will become legible. These exhaust most of the commoner stains, and it only remains to add a few odds and ends.

A GOOD DESICCATOR

for pills, soft leaves, &c., can be devised by taking a Peers' soap box, laying a few pieces

of quicklime on the bottom, and resting a jujube tin, holding the substances to be dried, on the quicklime bed, the lid of the box being, of course shut. Quicklime is likewise of great service in preserving books stored in a damp place, several small lumps, occasionally renewed, in a book case being an infallible protection to the books. For enamelled goods use Brooks' soap, and finally, if your apron string breaks off at an inopportune moment, take any button-shaped lozenge, wrap it in the corner of your apron and tie the tape round it. This is a splendid makeshift, and gives the washerwoman a little innocent amusement, picking out the knot to discover what the knob contains. *Chemist and Druggist.*

Prescription Difficulties.

We invite communications from druggists either in the form of queries as to the solution of difficulties which may arise from apparent incompatibilities or errors in prescribing, or giving their experience of any such difficulties with the result of their labours. A co-operation of the profession in this regard cannot fail to be mutually advantageous to all our readers.

F. L. T., Mitchell, Ont., asks "how to dispense the following prescription so as not to make an incompatible mixture and if essentially incompatible, what the incompatibility is?"

R.	
Quinine Sulph	25 grs.
Ac. Nit. Mur. dil.	3 drs.
Acid Tannic	30 grs.
Tr. Chlor. Co.	4 drs.
Aqua ad.	4 oz.
Mix.	

As the prescription stands it is essentially incompatible, however it is mixed. Tannate of Quinine is formed, which is not only nearly insoluble in water, but makes a gummy mass which adheres to the side of the bottle in such a way that it is impossible to get an evenly divided dose. Quinine is frequently dispensed with Tannic acid for the purpose of forming this insoluble and consequently comparatively tasteless compound, but in such cases some viscous substance should be added to suspend the precipitate or to make it diffuse easily through the liquid on shaking. Simple syrup or syrup of lemon answers the purpose well, the latter also aiding to disguise the taste. A perfect solution, however, can be made with this prescription by the addition of glycerine, say ten drachms to the mixture. Dissolve the Tannic acid in half the glycerine and a little water, add the balance of the glycerine to the Sulphate of Quinine previously dissolved in the diluted acid and mix the two solutions.

WOMEN AS CHEMISTS. The chemist's business, says the *Daily Graphic*, is so suited for a woman's neat touch and accuracy that it is a wonder it does not attract more, and it can only be supposed that it is because it is not generally understood to be open to the sex. Lady doctors would naturally support lady dispensers, and there seems no reason whatever that it should not become a fully recognized outlet for female industry.