

## TRADE NOTES.

Hood's Sarsaparilla is to be put up in Toronto.

Jas. B. Sutherland, River John, N. S., has sold out.

P. L. Lafond, Prince Albert, has sold out to Geo. R. Russell.

T. G. Ryley, formerly of St. Marys, was bought out W. Atkinson, Oshawa.

J. R. Seymour, of St. Catharines, will open his branch drug store, at Grimsby Park, July 1st.

Alfred A. Woodill, Halifax, and Reuben D. Stiles, Pictou, are reported in business difficulties.

C. McCallum & Co., of London, Ont., wholesale druggists, have moved into more commodious premises on Dundas street West.

Mr. J. Taylor has been admitted into the firm of John Taylor & Co., of the Dominion Dye Wood and Chemical Co. and Morse Soap Co. Style of firm unchanged.

In the Common Pleas Divisional Court, May 27th, A. B. Aylesworth applied for an order quashing the conviction against Thomas Flynn, druggist, of Chesterville, Ont., for selling whiskey to a man named O'Grady while intoxicated. The grounds urged were that Flynn, not being a licensed seller, the Ontario Liquor Act did not apply to him. Order made to quash conviction.

We are pleased to welcome back from a two months' stay in the United States the energetic President of the O. C. P., Mr. Clark. Although absent upon business of a personal nature we are credibly informed that Mr. Clark spared no pains to become conversant with the systems of the various institutions of pharmacy with which he could come in contact, and we feel safe in predicting that the experience thus gained will be utilized for the promotion of the best interests of our own college.

### The Flavoring Agents of the Pharmacopœia.

Dr. Wm. Murrell, Weymouth street, W., writes to the *British Medical Journal*: As the question of the publication of another addendum to the British Pharmacopœia is occupying the attention of the Pharmaceutical Committee of the Medical Council, it may not be out of place to call attention to the paucity of flavoring agents in our official compilation. It may be that, thanks to the introduction of special preparations of various drugs, the old fashioned mixtures are less commonly presented than formerly, but there seems to be no valid reason why we should not have at our disposal means for making them at all events decently palatable. Patients have learnt by experience that medicines need not of necessity be nasty, and expect to have them prescribed

in a form in which they can be taken without exciting loathing and disgust. If we look over the official list of flavoring agents we find that our choice is extremely limited. There are a few syrups, such as the syrup of orange peel, the syrup of orange flower, the syrup of lemons, and the syrup of tolu; there are one or two infusions, such as the infusion and the compound infusion of orange peel, and that is about all. Spirits of chloroform, it is true, is a useful adjunct to many mixtures, but patients are frightened when they see the word "chloroform" in a prescription, and raise all kinds of absurd objections, necessitating explanations which they neither understand nor appreciate, whilst the synonym "chloric ether" is equally liable to arouse their susceptibilities. The liquid extract of liquorice is useful in covering the salt and pungent taste of chloride of ammonium, but can hardly be said to be a palatable preparation.

If we glance at the foreign pharmacopœias we find that they are much better off in this particular than we are. The French Codex, for example, simply teems with flavoring agents. Looking down the list it is seen that there are considerably over 100 syrups alone; many of these, it is true, are complex—the *sirup d'armoise composé* boasts of no fewer than eighteen constituents—and others contain active ingredients, but the great majority are simple palatable preparations, useful as vehicles for the administration of other drugs. Why should not our pharmacists give us something on the lines of the *sirup de violettes*, the *sirup des pensées savages*, the *sirup des fleurs de pêches*, or even the *sirup de guimure*!

In the United States elixirs of all kinds are largely prescribed, although as yet only one, the elixir aurantii, has been made official in the United States Pharmacopœia. They are described as aromatic, sweetened, spirituous preparations, containing only small quantities of medicinal substances. In the United States Dispensatory directions are given for the preparation of twenty five simple or compound elixirs, all of which are said to be in constant demand. In Kihn's "Compendium of Modern Pharmacy" the list is much more extensive, no fewer than 302 formulae being given. It appears that what is known as "simple elixir" may be prepared according to eight different formulae, so that the choice is ample. The chief ingredients are fresh orange peel, alcohol, syrup, and water, but oil of cinnamon, coriander seed, star anise, nutmeg, caraway, cassia, canella, and a number of other more or less aromatic bodies, are occasionally employed. The simple elixir is colorless, but to produce various tints small quantities of cochineal, eudbear, or carmine may be added. The elixirs of most drugs are prepared by a very simple process, for example, the elixir of bromide of potassium is made by dissolving the salt in the simple elixir, so that each drachm con-

tains 10 grains. Directions are given for making an elixir of arsenic and quinine, an elixir of pepsin, bismuth, and strychnine, and various others. In addition to the elixirs, Kihn gives directions for making three "flavorings," all of which are useful in disguising the taste of nauseous medicines.

The subject appears to have occupied the attention of the "Unofficial Formulary Committee," appointed by the British Pharmaceutical Conference, formulae being given for the preparation of five elixirs—a simple elixir, an elixir of saccharin, an elixir of caseary sagrada, an elixir of guarana, and an elixir of phosphorous. Good working formulae are also given for the syrup of Virginian prune, one of the best of the flavoring agents, and for syrup of tar. It is to be hoped that some of these preparations—many of which have undergone a long period of probation—will find a place in the British Pharmacopœia. *Brit. and Col. Druggist.*

### Toronto Retail Druggists' Association.

One of the most interesting features of the meetings of this association is the "Question drawer," certain questions being prepared and forwarded to each member to be discussed at the regular meetings.

The following questions were discussed at the meeting held on Friday, June 6th, 1890:

Resolved, that it is neither expedient or necessary for the druggists of Toronto to keep their places of business open on Sunday, to the extent that it at present appears to the public.

Should toilet and sundry articles be sold on Sunday by the trade.

Under what circumstances should druggists refuse to accommodate applicants use of telephone, etc.

### Huron, Bruce and Grey Pharmaceutical Association.

The Pharmaceutical Association, of Huron, Bruce and Grey, met in Wingham, Ont., on Wednesday, May 21st, 1890. The officers elected were: President, De Witt H. Martyn, M. D., Kincardine; 1st Vice President, J. Wilson, Seaford; 2nd Vice President, R. Wightman, Owen Sound; Treasurer, W. F. Eby, Port Elgin; Secretary, R. S. Muir, Port Elgin. Committees—Messrs. G. M. McKendrick, J. Wilson and H. Parker on chemistry and pharmacy; Messrs. R. S. Muir, C. E. Williams and J. H. Combe on finance, trade and commerce; Messrs. R. Wightman, J. F. McCallum and W. Cameron on grievances.

Measures were also taken to further the work of organization and increase the membership. R. S. Muir, Secretary.

Gum Ghatti, one of the present adhesive substitutes of acacia, though less soluble, is more adhesive, and is being largely used for production of mucilage.