

unfortunately one which makes him less likely to promote future plans for organization. The principle of co-operation is grand in theory, but unless effective in practice it loses its charm.

The principle of self interest is base in theory, but those who steadfastly pursue it are usually satisfied with the results. Exponents of co-operation ask help from others, and do not get it, while exponents of self interest help themselves and get all that is within reach. Those who never seek rarely find, so if our brethren in the trade are to get more and better legislation than they now have, they will have to strive for it. Be selfish enough to seek your own interests, and if these can be best secured by union with your fellows, and we think they can, then join in the effort.

The drug trade is certain to have a future of some sort. Those who are now engaged in it will determine its course and its success. The machinery is complete, but at present somewhat rusty. It needs considerable brain oil to lubricate it, and to run it so that will and work will not bring want.

#### Slandering the Drug Trade.

It seems to be an established custom with some persons to point out the misdoings, imaginary or real, of others, either in order to cloak their own offences or to divert the attention which might be directed towards their own business methods.

The patent medicine manufacturer who has adopted a name for his specific, closely following that of a rival maker, or intends to replace, if possible, his rival's goods (we refrain from using the word *substitute*), endeavors to make the druggist a scapegoat on whom he can cast reflections of "fraud," "substitution," "imitation," and such-like epithets, is amongst the worst offenders in this way, and is acting a part not only unbusiness-like, but also dishonorable, to use no stronger word. Why sections of these manufacturers should adopt such a policy seems surprisingly strange—we say sections, because it is only some amongst the many who adopt such tactics—and to those this article applies. That any of them, however, should endeavor by any such untoward acts to create enemies of those with whom it should be their first interest to enlist as their friends, and on whom depends in a large measure their financial success, as pointed out in

a recent issue in these columns, seems to call for an explanation.

The druggist is not bound by any law, either moral or statutory, to supply any special line of goods to his customers. He is not, or at least should not be, the slave of any body, corporation, or set of men. He is a free agent, and if he declines to sell "Smith's Sure Cure" the said Smith has no right to complain or to call naughty names, because of this man's stubbornness, or short-sighted policy, or whatever it may be termed, and because this druggist sells something else that Smith does make, it is not only indecent but it is dishonest to accuse the druggist of wrongdoing for such an act.

Substitution is something very different from this and substitution where it exists is wrong in principle and in the sight of the law, and the man who deliberately substitutes an article under the pretence that it is the one asked for, is or should be held criminally responsible, both as a robber and an adulterator, whether it be in the matter of medicine, food, or any article of commerce.

But when manufacturers continually hold up to the general public, the druggist as a "fraud," "substitutor," etc., he does what is unjustifiable and despicable. There are some men in all ranks of life (even amongst patent medicine manufacturers) who misrepresent things, who by statements in the press or other give utterance to words untruthful and intended to deceive, but that does not say that all, in any class, are guilty of such misrepresentation. So amongst the drug trade, whilst we regret to acknowledge that there are men who are guilty of wrongdoing, still all druggists do not come under this category and are not deserving of any such censure. It certainly is time for druggists to repel the statements and insinuations that are being made as to their business methods and make that man who would dare utter them, feel that the drug trade of this country is composed of men who will not submit to such slander, but will teach them a lesson affecting their pockets which perhaps will be most salutary to them.

#### The Ontario License Act.

As a result of our recent communication to the Attorney-General of the Province, in reference to the wording of the Amendments to the License Act passed by the last legislature of Ontario, the following circular has been sent, ac-

companying the usual instructions to the license inspectors throughout the province:

With reference to the interpretation to be given to Section 5 of the Act of 1897, being an amendment to sub-section 1 of section 52 of the Liquor License Act, I beg to say that the intention was not to prohibit the sales of established and well-known patent or proprietary articles containing liquors without the prescription of a qualified medical practitioner. Prosecutions for sales of this kind by druggists should not therefore be instituted. I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant.

RICHARD HARCOURT,  
Provincial Treasurer.

#### The San Jose Scale.

(ASPIDIOTUS PERNICIOSUS.)

This new enemy to fruit growing has unfortunately made its appearance in Ontario, and from its marvellous powers of reproduction it will be seen how very necessary it is to prevent its spread beyond the present infected district. It is said that a single female may sometimes be the progenitor of the almost incredible number of 3,000,000,000 in a season, there being four generations in one season, the adult giving birth to living young for five or six weeks, the progeny of these bearing young when about thirty days old. The Ontario Agricultural College has issued a bulletin (106) in which the necessary remedies are given for its extermination, the first being the hydrocyanic acid or gas treatment, which is said to be very effectual, but difficult to use, and accompanied with considerable danger to the person from the probable inhalation of the gas. The second remedy which the bulletin says is "one of the most effectual" is the use of whale oil soap, two pounds in one gallon of water. This is to be applied in the fall just as the leaves drop off before the scales harden, and again in the spring just before the trees bloom. Kerosene Emulsion diluted with nine parts of water, or whale-oil soap, one pound to four gallons of water, is used for summer treatment.

Pure kerosene is destructive to the scales, but is very apt to kill the trees also. Our readers, especially in the fruit growing districts, will do well to bear in mind these suggestions, as they may prove of value to themselves and their customers.

OSSIN.—A dark-brown, bitter fluid, which is intended to be used in treatment of diabetes.