

means of support been suggested, more responsive replies would undoubtedly have been tendered.

This committee has in its hands the future welfare of the members of the Ontario drug trade. It has officially been given powers which no self-associated body can secure. It occupies a representative position which enables it at all times to act when action can be performed in the interests of the trade. If a patent medicine committee, having for its sole object the devising of advertisements to publicly decry the druggist who is bold enough to sell his own goods in place of theirs, can subsist, then, surely a committee, representing twenty times as many members, can get support enough to keep it in lively defiance.

The committee has done better work than it thinks for, and, though the support so far given has not been encouraging, we sincerely hope it may continue and thrive.

Proceedings of the Meeting of the Council of the Ontario College of Pharmacy.

On Tuesday afternoon, August 2nd, the regular semi-annual meeting of the Ontario College of Pharmacy was opened, and morning and afternoon sessions were held during the three subsequent days. The meeting throughout was of a most harmonious character, every matter coming up for consideration being decided by unanimous consent and with very little discussion. One question which cannot be regarded as entirely new, but which was presented to the council in a more definite form than heretofore, was the advisability of adding a department in "Optics" to the regular course prescribed by the college curriculum. The matter was urged upon the attention of the council in an excellent paper on the subject, which Dr. Browett, of Woodstock, asked, and was given, permission to read on Thursday afternoon. Dr. Browett had, he informed the council, made a special study of "Optics" himself, and added it to his regular drug business with large pecuniary success. He contended that unless the College of Pharmacy seized the present favorable opportunity of making this department of science one recognized by the people as a legitimate adjunct to the business of the druggist it would be lost to them, as it would be taken advantage of by other branches

of trade, such as the jewellers. The question was subsequently considered by the council, and Mr. J. H. Mackenzie presented a report on the matter from the Education Committee, which suggested that a course in optics be established which would immediately follow the senior course. This suggestion received the approval of the council, and the members of the profession in the province, who will have an opportunity of taking the course, will without doubt concur in the decision of their representatives. The finance report and that of the Committee on Education showed that the college is in a highly flourishing condition. Practically the only liability against the college is an overdraft on the bank of \$1,835, while the balance of assets amounts to \$49,125.

The council met at 2.30 on Tuesday afternoon with the president, Mr. Henry Watters, of Ottawa, in the chair, and the following members present: Vice-president, Mr. W. A. Karn, Woodstock; Messrs. J. M. Hargreaves, Paisley; W. J. Graham, Ridgetown; G. McCulloch, Hamilton; A. J. Davis, Port Perry; G. A. Hunter, Sault Ste. Marie; S. Snyder, Waterloo; J. H. Mackenzie, Toronto; Isaac Curry, Toronto, and J. F. Roberts, Parkhill. Mr. J. H. Dickie, of Trenton, arrived in time for the Wednesday morning session.

A considerable number of communications, most of them of no general interest, were read and referred to the committees empowered to deal with them. Among them was the following from Elliot & Co., wholesale druggists, of Toronto:

"We are constantly asked when the British Pharmacopœia of 1898 comes into force, and it appears the Quebec College has fixed on November 1st as the date after which preparations are to be dispensed as directed by the new formulae. Would it not be well to take similar action here and have it understood that on labels and prescriptions the mark '85' will show that preparations are made or wanted as directed by the pharmacopœia of 1885?"

Another communication was from the American Pharmaceutical Association, enclosing a draft of a general form of pharmacy law for the council's consideration. A third communication raised the question of the double liability of druggists, who might be in partnership and have branch stores, towards the college in the matter of fees. It and the other communications were referred to the com-

mittees appointed to deal with the matters they brought up.

The registrar-treasurer, Mr. Isaac T. Lewis, then presented his half-yearly report. It was, as usual, a highly satisfactory document, and showed the customary increase in financial strength made by the college. Since the first of February, it stated, eleven medical practitioners had taken out registration. The number of applications of apprentices for registration had been seventy-five, a few of whom were in abeyance for the council to deal with. A detailed statement of receipts and disbursements followed. The receipts were \$11,359.91 and the disbursements \$11,215.13, leaving a cash balance on hand of \$144.78.

The auditors' report stated that the books and vouchers of the college had been examined and the accounts of the registrar-treasurer found correct. A statement of assets and liabilities was attached. The assets amounted to \$51,545.61, of which the largest items were: college building \$33,656.82; apparatus, etc., \$11,819; college lot, \$5,000. The liabilities amounted to \$2,420.31, of which the principal item was a bank overdraft for \$1,835.22.

Both reports were referred to the Committee on Finance for consideration.

When the council re-assembled on Wednesday morning, Mr. J. M. Hargreaves presented the report of the Committee on Divisional Work, but it was not read, the wording of the first clause not meeting the views of the council. It was accordingly referred back for reconstruction.

Several unimportant communications were then read. The council adjourned to allow the committees an opportunity of meeting. The afternoon session was very brief, the reading of the report of the Committee on By-laws and Legislation occupying the attention of the council during the fifteen minutes it sat. This report dealt simply with a number of individual applications for rebate on fees, for special privileges in regard to the college course, and kindred matters. In each instance the committee recommended, and the council decided, that the rules should be strictly adhered to.

At the Thursday morning's session a notice of motion by Mr. Karn, to increase the salary of the registrar-treasurer by \$100 per annum, was withdrawn, and another notice of motion, identical in intent, was substituted, which will come up in February.