

## EDITORIAL.

**Correspondence** and general communications, of a character suited to the objects of this JOURNAL, are invited, and will always be welcome. The writer's name should accompany his communication, but not necessarily for publication.

**Subscriptions** will not be acknowledged by letter, as our sending the paper may be taken as sufficient evidence of the receipt of the money.

All communications connected with the paper to be addressed, post-paid,

"EDITOR CANADIAN PHARMACEUTICAL JOURNAL,  
TORONTO."

### ANSWER TO ENQUIRIES REGARDING THE PHARMACY ACT.

As we have received a number of enquiries in regard to certain clauses of the Pharmacy Act, we purpose offering a few explanations on those points on which doubt appears to exist, or which might not be at first readily understood. While thus expressing our opinion, we advise our readers to give the Act—which will be found entire in another part of the JOURNAL—a careful perusal. If this is done we think there will be no difficulty in arriving at the true meaning of any of its passages.

The first point which suggests itself is that in reference to the sale of poisons. According to the first section of the Act, it is not until the first day of July next that the new regulations can be enforced, while, by the thirtieth section, the old law was done away with at the time the Act received the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor—Feb. 15th. At the present time, and up to the first of July, there is, therefore, no legal restriction on the sale of poisons, and the druggist is at liberty to exercise his own discretion in regard to the disposal of such articles. The matter is doubtless in safe hands, but we should advise that a memorandum be made of all such sales, to which the attestation of the purchaser be affixed. This will prevent any difficulty in case of accident or misuse, and will, at least protect the druggist from that censure to which he would justly be subjected in case of trouble arising from such cause. We may say that the Society will have the Poison Books, specified in the Act, ready as soon as possible, and when these are procurable, we advise that they be at once employed.

Some misunderstanding has arisen in regard to the fourth section. From the fact of the first meeting of the Council taking place in July, it has been questioned whether that body has, at present, an official existence. We believe that the appointment of the Council holds from the date of the passing of the Act; and not only this, but that at that period the old Society was merged into the newly incorporated College. It is ob-

vious that the Registrar, who is one of the Council, must have the greater part of his work accomplished before the July meeting, and, as there is no special provision in regard to the matter, we may reasonably infer that, as the Registrar forms part of the Council, and at once enters upon his duties, the whole body must not be considered inactive.

It has been thought that it would be unjust to those persons who at present belong to the Pharmaceutical Society, or College of Pharmacy, and who have paid their fees for the current year, to require the fees payable under the Act on the first of May next, and it has been decided that all such shall be credited with their subscriptions from the latter date. Members in good standing will therefore be accounted as belonging to the College, and, as such, will be entitled to registration, and will receive, on the first day of May next, a certificate to that effect.

In regard to members who have not paid their fees to date, it has been resolved that the law regarding such shall be enforced, and the names of defaulters be dropped, if by next meeting the necessary remittances do not come to hand. In next JOURNAL will be published a complete list of members in good standing, and all others will consider themselves as having no further connection with the College.

All other persons will require to send to the Registrar sufficient evidence that they were actually in business, as chemists and druggists, on the fifteenth of February last. This, with a fee of four dollars, will entitle them to registration as members of the College, and as qualified Pharmaceutical Chemists. Or if they do not desire to become members of the College, but merely to be qualified to sell poisons, they may be registered without involving membership, and can obtain a certificate to that effect. The fee is, however, the same.

We believe the Registrar has been authorized as to what he may consider sufficient evidence that persons applying for registration are *bona fide* druggists. The fact that the names of such persons may be found, in connection with their business or profession, in the last provincial directory of John Lovell, and a certificate from a legally authorized medical practitioner, will be accounted sufficient.

Persons who have conducted business on their own account for three years, at any period previous to the passing of the Act, and can show evidence to that effect, are also entitled to registration as members of the College, provided their application be made, and fees paid, before the first of July next.

Assistants who have served an apprenticeship of three years, and acted in the capacity of assistant for one year previous to Feb. 15th, may also become members of the Col-

lege, provided the conditions specified in the last paragraph be complied with; but registration must be effected before the period named, as the claim of qualification cannot be accepted at any future period, and examination will have to be passed before commencing business.

Apprentices will be admitted associates of the College by sending a fee of two dollars, accompanied by a certificate from their employer that they are so employed. In regard to the term "apprentice," which is used in the fourth section as expressing one of the conditions of membership, we may say that the college is inclined to interpret the term in its most liberal sense, as implying one engaged in learning his business, whether regularly indentured or not. This would be the only just course, for in this country the legal forms in regard to apprenticeship are very rarely conformed to.

The latest date at which registration can be effected is June 31, but it will be remembered that fees become payable on May 1st. It will, therefore, be expedient for parties to send in their names and testimonials, accompanied by the proper fees, to the Registrar at once, so that everything may be accomplished without confusion. But, as we have previously stated, certificates will not be granted before May 1st, although fees received before that time will be credited from that period.

We think we have alluded to all the questions at present at issue, but shall be happy to answer any further inquiries.

### MEMBERS IN ARREAR.

The attention of members who are in default of fees payable to the College, is called to the recent decision of the Society, that if such arrears be not paid before the next meeting, which will take place on the first Friday in April, the name of such persons shall be dropped from the roll. The next number of the JOURNAL will contain a certified list of all members in good standing who are entitled to registration under the new Act.

### TO OUR STUDENTS.

We have been much pleased with the care bestowed upon the answers sent to the questions propounded in the JOURNAL, and feel assured that those who have continued these exercises must have derived no small amount of benefit thereby. The object of the questions is not so much to ascertain the capabilities of students, as to provoke inquiry and research; and in this respect they are capable of accomplishing much. We have reduced the number of questions from ten to five, as it has been said that the time required to answer all, deterred some from answering who would otherwise do so. In