

They did make application to the Canadian Government, but it was a very different application to the one quoted by the writer of this stab in the dark.

Ninety-four per cent. alcohol, the purest of the pure, can be purchased in certain parts at twenty-five per cent., the cost of it in Canada. P. D. & Co. applied to be allowed to bring in this very superior article in bond, to be used in the manufacture of goods for foreign importation, a very different matter, indeed, as all can easily see. We are very glad to know that no harm was done the firm by the publication, as their well-known reliability entirely refuted the charge as soon as read.

CONTRACT PRACTICE.

At a recent meeting of the West Toronto Territorial Association, it was decided to communicate with the Medical Council with a view to having them communicate with the medical men throughout the Province to get their views on the subject of lodge and other contract practice.

It was further thought advisable to canvass the medical profession of Toronto, working conjointly with the men in East Toronto, to get them to give up the practice, providing 95 per cent. of the medical men in this city will do the same.

There is no doubt that in large towns and cities this kind of work has grown to be a gigantic evil—with the medical man as chief mourner. The means suggested for discovering a remedy seem to us a little ponderous. With reference to the first, it may truly be said the opinion of medical men is already pretty well known, and at the end of '95 we will be at precisely the same starting-point as at the end of '94. In regard to Toronto, suppose 95 per cent. of the men here do refuse to do lodge work, it will be an easy matter for several lodges to combine and bring a man in. Yes, but he will not find it pleasant if he discerns that all the respectable element in the profession are against him. A man with a mind sufficiently small to give himself up to the work would fairly revel in the companionship of charlatans, quacks, *Patron* saints and others.

There are means by which the desired end may be accomplished, and one of these, of course, is legislation, though just at present it is hardly

advisable to ask the Legislature to move in that direction. Perhaps a wise move would be to hand the practice over to our homeopathic brethren—infinitesimal dosing might be sufficient to sicken the members of employing a physician. Another plan, and one that seems workable, would be to combine to raise the annual fee paid the attending physician. This fee could be brought up until the benefits from a lodge would be but little greater than those derived from a regular insurance company. This being the case, it would certainly be wiser to insure upon a plan with a sound financial basis. In this way the curse of cheap and unreliable insurance such as mutual companies provide would be done away with, lodges as benefit societies would be relegated to the past, and there would be no further need of lodge doctors at all.

PARKE, DAVIS & CO.'S LABORATORY FOR THE PREPARATION OF ANTITOXINE.

A recent issue of the *Detroit Journal* gives so graphic a description of the preparation of antitoxine in the laboratory of Parke, Davis & Co., that an excerpt, we are confident, will interest our readers. The work is under the charge of Dr. Charles T. McClintock, of the Michigan University, associated with a staff of eminent scientists well known to the world as teachers. "The *Journal*," says the reporter, "saw all these gentlemen at work in their laboratory preparing this much-talked-of remedy.

"But such a laboratory! To a novice it was certainly unique. Here were sterilizers of every conceivable size and shape, as well as microscopes and other instruments which a chemist alone can call by name. In a room off the laboratory were cages containing the test animals, guinea-pigs and white mice by the score. In common parlance a new venture is usually tried on a dog: but in the case of toxine it is tried on a guinea-pig, which it was explained has internal construction more after that of the human than other animals. The little fellows were apparently wholly unconscious of the fact that they were to be used as tests to see how long it would take a given quantity of toxine to end their sweet existence.

"Out in a new barn behind the works were