Druggist Canadian

Devoted to the interests of the General Drug Trade and to the Advancement of Pharmacy.

Vol. VIII.

TORONTO, APRIL, 1896.

No. 4

Canadian Druggist

WILLIAM J. DYAS, PUBLISHER.

Subscripion \$1 per year in advance.

Advertising rates on application. The Canadian Druggist is issued on the 15th of each month, and all matter for insertion should reach us by the 5th of the month.

New advertisements or changes to be addressed

Canadian Druggist,

111/2 RICHMOND ST. WEST,

TORONTO, ONT.

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ENGLAND: Aldermary House, 60 Watling Street, London, E. C.

FRANCE: 5 Rue de la Bourse, Paris.

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A Mistake Repeated.

The retail druggists of the city of To ronto have had, during the past ten years, ample cause to regret that the College of Pharmacy was in their midst. It would have paid them many times over to have bonused another town to have taken it. It would not necessarily have militated against the usefulness of such an institution to have had it located where there was no possibility of multiplying drug stores, and it would have prevented the existing excessive crowding with which the city of Toronto suffers. The retail druggists of Yoronto, prior to the erection of the new building for college purposes in 1886, were prospering, and making money; yet within a period of three years after its erection the influence of oppression and depression was felt. Other causes doubtless contributed to make matters worse than they had formerly been, but the fact must not be lost sight of that the overcrowding was largely reponsible for the weakness of trade individually felt.

The city of Montreal has made the same mistake, and is now suffering in the same manner. Before the establishment of a college there, Montreal was a good place for the retail druggist to do business in. To-day even the most sanguine of her best men see prospective danger ahead, and as yet no way to prevent it. The mistake Toronto made has been repeated in Montreal, and will doubtless be repeated by the larger cities in other provinces when colleges are established in them. The familiarity with and fascination for city life induced in the college student during his temporary stay, together with the fact that his training in practical work in the college seems to him to fit him especially for city trade, is the reason why he seeks connection with it. It seems a singular thing that the thoughtful consideration which should be given the chances of a favorable opening for another drug store is lost sight of when a

city location is sought. The hone, of being a city pharmacist is apparently so alluring that calculations as to probable prosperity are entirely lost sight of, and he, in turn, is made to feel that the proximity of a college, while it may lend some fame to his location, is sure to lend wings to his trade.

Gratifying Progress.

We are pleased to be able to state that the work of organization in connection with the Ontario Society of Retail Druggists is meeting with the most gratifying success, and the membership of retail druggists has been largely augmented since our last report. Amongst those who have recently joined are some who, at first, were inclined to throw cold water on the scheme, having doubts as to its feasibility.

Success, however, has brought assurance, and the most sanguine of the promoters of the society are now seeing their anticipations realized, and a membership secured, which, it is to be hoped, will prove lasting and increasing in influence as it grows older. The number of retail druggists now remaining outside is comparatively small, and we confidently believe that ere long they, too, seeing that a unanimity of purpose prevails, will join the ranks, and thus secure to themselves the protection and help which such an organization must confer.

The Executive Committee has issued a circular asking for more money in order to carry on the work so auspiciously begun, and we trust the response will be immediate and liberal. Druggists should remember that this work is being done hem, and must result in an increased and lasting revenue in their business if hearty co-operation is given.

An Explanation.

In our issue of last month we announced the establishment of a bureau of advertising, which was intended to be of assist-