

the actual verdict inflicting a fine in each case appears to be an uncertain quantity.

The Council in taking action did not consider the moral or material gain likely to be derived from the success of such a suit, but rather the fact that the T. Eaton Company were attempting to run a drug store illegally, or as much of one as the improper use of a druggist's certificate would allow. Morally, that firm was constantly violating the provisions of the Pharmacy Act, but legally, no hold upon an illegal act could be obtained until the present charges could be substantiated, when the Council at once put the law in motion to check their course, with the result above stated—a result which is indeed gratifying as an interpretation of the law to mean that qualification alone implies privileges.

Not only will this action check the attempt of the T. Eaton Co. to encroach upon the business of the druggist, but the effect upon others who were attempting like methods has already been perceptible, and evidence is not wanting to show that at an early date few dry goods or grocery houses will be found which will handle and sell goods, the nature of which they are ignorant, and of which an expensive analysis to determine that they did not contain a scheduled article, alone would assure them the sale of.

Creasote Pills.

The dispensing of these pills has caused some difficulty on account of the need of a suitable excipient and the volatility of the remedy. The following method of procedure is pronounced very satisfactory; it depends upon making first what is called a "creasote emulsion" (50 per cent.) from gelatin 5.50, distilled water 12.00, sugar 2.50, and creasote 20.00; the emulsion is preserved in tight fitting glass-stoppered bottles. In making pills, the corresponding quantity of the emulsion is taken and made into a mass by the addition of a little powdered liquorice and althaea. The emulsion should be taken from the bottle with a horn spatula, as iron discolors it; the pill mass, however, can be removed from the mortar with an iron spatula.—J. Norberto, Jr., in *Pharmaceutical Post*.

Sponges are said to be improved in color occasionally by being dyed with helianthin.

A judge in Charleston, S. C., has decided that the sale of soap by a druggist on Sunday is lawful, because cleanliness is next to godliness.

Effects of Sulfonal.

In the *Journal of Mental Science* for the current month, Dr. Carlyle Johnstone, records his observations on the effects of Sulfonal, on fifty patients suffering from various kinds of mental disorders, including general paralysis, melancholia, and mania. His experiences with the drug point to the conclusions that in properly regulated doses, it is an efficient hypnotic, and compared with that of other hypnotics, its action is fairly certain and constant. The sleep produced by it is natural and undisturbed by dreams; it has no injurious effect upon the appetite, circulation, respiration or temperature, and the general health does not suffer under its use. After a time, the dose may be reduced or it may be discontinued, and the patient still continue to sleep well. Dr. Johnstone also found that it had a distinct sedative action in mental excitement and distress, and could be employed with



INTERIOR VIEW OF GEORGE THOMPSON'S DRUG STORE AT EDMONTON, N. W. T.

great benefit in cases of insanity, especially such as are recent or of acute character. Its complete tastelessness also is recommended in such cases, allowing its combination with food, in milk, in such a way as to escape the notice of the patient. It will thus be seen that the writer's conclusions are in accord with the majority of those already published, and that while regarding sulfonal as by no means a perfect hypnotic, he is inclined to give it a very important place in the treatment of sleeplessness and restlessness generally. The best doses he found to be between thirty and forty grains, and it should be given just before the patient lies down.—*Lancet*.

Umbrellas are made of paper in France. Lead poisoning is characterized by such an abundance of lead sulphate in the skin that black tracings will appear on the latter if pencilled with ammonium sulphide solution.

Explosiveness of Peroxide of Hydrogen.

The necessity for storing peroxide of hydrogen in a cool place, removed from the action of heat and light, has been brought to the attention of a Tennessee firm of pharmacists in a rather forcible manner. A bottle of the liquid which was stored on a shelf in the second story of the building occupied by Leickhardt & Co., Nashville, exploded with terrific force, a few days ago, and smashed a large number of bottles in its vicinity. Considerable excitement prevailed for a while, but fortunately no one was hurt. The extra molecule of oxygen in hydrogen dioxide is contained in a loose state of combination, being readily given up on the application of a slight degree of heat or exposure to the air. The majority of manufacturers take the precaution of stating explicitly on the labels attached to each container that the bottle should be kept in a cool place. But many pharmacists disregard a simple injunction of this kind, and the sequel is shown in accidents of the kind just described.—*Pharmaceutical Record*.

Bacteria in the Air.

The presence of bacteria always rules high at about eight o'clock in the morning. Then begins a gradual decrease until their least presence for the day occurs at the meridian. This lasts for about one hour. Then a gradual decrease sets in, and at about eight o'clock of the evening the maximum is again reached. Until about eleven o'clock, or near midnight, their

number is considerable, and a great diminution occurs between that hour and three o'clock, when the number begins to rise, until at eight in the morning the maximum is again reached.—*North American Review*.

Our Illustration.

We present this week a view of the interior of a drug store in Edmonton, North West Territories. It is our intention from time to time to give more of such illustrations, as we believe they may serve a useful purpose in presenting ideas in fitting up and furnishing stores which may commend themselves to those who may contemplate opening new stores or refitting those at present occupied. We shall be pleased to insert any engravings of this kind which may be furnished, as they must prove one way of interchanging ideas in these matters.