

ified is so apparent as to need no comment. We cannot expect the Council to attend closely to the latter matter unless we are willing to support them. They are doubtless willing to put the law in motion where there is a reasonable hope of sustaining a case, but can have very little desire to go to the enormous expense necessary to prosecute unsupported actions before local magistrates, who, too frequently, are only too willing to give the defendant any chance which may offer to escape the penalty because they are acquainted with him, and are more anxious to help a known person than a stranger. Even if these matters were not of sufficient importance to warrant an attendance, the consideration of how we can best aid in the coming issue of the British Pharmacopœia should bring us together.

These are the grounds upon which we have asked the question, "Will we meet?" and, if the reasons do not appeal to others as they do to us, we cannot help it, and can only feel that we are doing our duty in drawing attention to them.

Opinions Solicited.

The drug journals, American and Canadian, have very fully expressed themselves regarding the prospective edition of an Imperial Pharmacopœia, and we, in doing so, have doubtless taken a view which even Canadian druggists as a body may not concur in. However that may be, we believe that a candid expression of opinion from pharmacists who have no connections with the editing or publishing of drug journals would be likely to more fully represent the general feeling in the matter than we can express it; and, as our columns are at all times open to our conferees for the discussion of matters of mutual interest to us, we now invite the fullest expression thereon.

With the object of concentrating opinions, we would ask that those who may not desire to write up their views fully, would answer according to the views they hold the following interrogative questions, and mail them to us either by letter or post card at their earliest convenience. The answer only, attached to the number of the question is all that is necessary.

1. Would an Imperial Pharmacopœia as outlined by Prof. Atfield, answer the needs of Canadian pharmacists?

2. What additional kinds of preparations would you like to see added to those now authorized by the B. P.?

3. Would you like to have the metric system made official, as well as the weights and measures now used?

4. Are you in favor of an independent Canadian Pharmacopœia?

5. Are you willing to have your name published supporting your views?

We will be pleased to receive replies from any part of the Dominion and to publish them to indicate the general sentiment regarding a matter of so much practical importance to the drug trade. Kindly evince your interest.

Drug Clerks' Column.

Last month we asked that any drug clerks in Canada, so desiring, should send us their names and addresses and names of parties with whom employed, for registration and publication.

We have received a number of replies to this announcement and next month will publish a list of those received. It is hoped that all drug clerks in Canada will avail themselves of this offer, which must prove of mutual advantage to clerks and employers.

A. P. A. Meeting.

Transportation Committee of the American Pharmaceutical Association.
New York, July 12th, 1894.

To the Editor CANADIAN DRUGGIST:

Thomas F. Hain, Chairman of the Committee, having resigned, President Patch has appointed in his stead as Chairman, Caswell A. Mayo, 37 College Place, New York City. The Committee is actively engaged in perfecting their arrangements as regards rates. A uniform rate of 1½ fares has been promised from most sections and will probably be granted from all over the United States. To obtain advantage of these rates it will be necessary for persons attending the meeting to pay full fare going and obtain a receipt for the ticket at the full rate from the ticket office at which it is purchased on an association certificate. This receipt, when countersigned by the Secretary of the Association at the meeting, will enable the delegate to purchase a return trip ticket for one-third the regular rate. In some sections it may happen that the regular summer excursion rate will be less than 1½ fares, in which case the delegates will probably be advised by the local members of the Transportation Committee to purchase regular excursion tickets. Details of the arrangements have not yet been completed but will soon be published.

The names of the Committee are as follows:—Caswell A. Mayo, 37 College Place, New York City; Harry Sharp, Atlanta, Ga.; S. A. D. Sheppard, Boston, Mass.; A. E. Ebert, Chicago, Ill.; W. J. M. Gordon, Cincinnati, Ohio; Charles M. Ford, Denver, Col.; A. K. Finlay, New Orleans, La.; M. W. Alexander, St. Louis, Mo.; Wm. H. Searby, San Francisco, Cal.

Yours very truly,
CASWELL A. MAYO,
Chairman.

An Explosion.

At the Therapeutical Society of Paris, M. Creguy called attention to the following accident which he had had. As a dentifrice he had to dispense:—

Potassium chlorate	.....	5 grammes.
Borax	.....	10 "
Magnesia	.....	10 "
Prepared chalk	.....	10 "
Oil of peppermint	.....	11 drops.
Saccharin	.....	5 grammes.

The pharmacist mixed the chlorate of

potash and the saccharin together in a mortar, of all things. He was saved the trouble of finishing the prescription, however, for a violent explosion resulted and he was badly burnt. The great imprudence in rubbing violently together a 10 per cent. mixture of saccharin with potassium chlorate is self evident, and has, unfortunately, been shown before by English chemists with the same inevitable result.

Rapid Preparation of Mercurial Ointment.

Georges Bagle, in the *Journal de Pharmacie d'Anvers*, recommends the following process:—

Put into the mortar 100 parts of an already prepared ointment, and add 500 parts of mercury. Triturate rapidly, and while doing so pour over the mixture 50 parts sulphuric ether. Continue the trituration and in a few moments the mercury will be in a state of the minutest sub-division, when you can add 100 parts of lard (or vaselin, or lanolin). A few minutes of vigorous trituration completes the operation. If upon close examination a few globules of uncommuted mercury be seen, add a trifle more ether and triturate. Finally add the other ingredients and incorporate. This method not only saves a great deal of time and labor, but insures a more perfect comminution of the mercury.

The Brazilian Rubber Supply.

Courtney DeKalb, of New York, who has been traveling along the Amazon, says at present there are no cultivated rubber-orchards in Brazil, but the destruction of the wild supply by the rubber gatherers and the rapid increase in the demand for rubber are making the necessity imperative of establishing large plantations. A rubber-tree requires twelve years to mature. Short crops may be obtained after the sixth year. When in full bearing the yield is an average of three pounds to a tree. The value of the rubber on the spot is probably never less than 55 cents per pound. Two hundred trees can be planted on an acre of land without undue crowding, and when once in bearing they continue to yield for periods of from 75 to 100 years. The exports of rubber from Para now exceed \$20,000,000 per annum.

Metallic Amides.

An interesting paper on the amides of sodium, potassium, and lithium has recently been published. Sodamide NaNH_2 is best prepared by the action of dry ammonia on metallic sodium at about 350° in an iron retort. It forms a white, crystalline mass, decomposing at 500° into Na, N and H. Potassamide is prepared in a similar way, and possesses similar properties to sodamide. Lithamide LiNH_2 has also been prepared in the same manner.—*Apotheker Zeitung*.