

consider this feature of the liquor law and take action if advisable.

At our last election, a young member of the association was fortunate enough to secure a seat in the Council, and though fully qualified to serve in that capacity, it should be borne in mind that he was then an employee. In my opinion, no member unless actively engaged in business for himself, should be selected as a councillor of the association. The Ontario Act has, in my estimation, a very wise provision in this regard, and I would suggest accordingly that we petition our Legislative Assembly to amend section 12 of the Manitoba Pharmaceutical Act as follows: After the words "to be elected in accordance with the provisions of this Act," "the said seven members shall be selected from among those members of the association who are actively engaged in business, on their own account and as proprietors in the occupation of Pharmaceutical Chemists, whether carrying on business as retail, wholesale or manufacturing chemists, and who reside within the Province of Manitoba." It is with a view of justice to the association, and with a keen perception of the important necessity of placing men in the Council who shall have, not only individual interests at stake but who shall have in consequence within their grasp and control the welfare of the association and of their profession, that I seek your support and endorsement of this amendment. Men who have grown up daily, and by the year to the sinister side of their livelihood, and have vainly tried to solve the problem of existence, are the only ones who can efficiently realize the requirements of their vocation, and, indeed, the only ones who will diligently strive to remedy the many abuses that constantly invade and cripple the drug trade. No aspersion on the character of any employee is intended, or could be supposed by this amendment. There are employees, not only in Winnipeg, but throughout the province, who have more intelligence, more executive and business ability than many employers. Nevertheless, there is the risk, without some such provision, of filling the Council with indifferent and therefore undesirable men. Another amendment to our Pharmacy Act may be required, and which deserves our careful consideration and perhaps immediate adoption. The division of the province into districts as outlined by our worthy friend, Mr. F. E. Arkell, of Carberry, would perhaps prove a wise provision against the centralization and the ingenious wire pulling of a batch of young men, such as occurred in this city at the last election. The result of that election was a surprise and a severe disappointment to those who had for so many years directed the affairs of the association, and this opportunity must be taken to place on record the emphatic denial that any of the old Council members living in Winnipeg helped in manipulating that election, or were even cognizant of what was going on. Certain it is, no one wishes

a repetition of those irritating and threatening conditions. It has always been, and I sincerely hope will continue to be, an accepted rule that of the seven Council members, no less than three should represent the country. It is plain enough to see that four should reside in the city or very near it, to enable the Council to secure a quorum easily or readily and without expense. To facilitate the discussion of this important question the registrar has prepared a map, showing the names of gentlemen living in each of the six divisions or districts. In the study of this proposed change, six divisions seem to me an awkward number. Why not have seven, so that one nominee from each could be chosen as a candidate for election? With this number there should be four divisions to Winnipeg, embracing, of course, the country immediately tributary to it, and the three divisions to the rest of the province. The dual object of Mr. Arkell in turning the districts into local organizations for the arranging of tariff, and to use his own words, "looking after local abuses," is an excellent idea, the realization of which, however, would, it must not be forgotten, involve the selection of suitable meeting places in each district. This is a feature of the question which must be carefully and thoroughly canvassed. Considering distances within each district, can the druggist from time to time, conveniently meet in assembly for the discussion of trade matters?

While applying for legislation we should also ask to have the schedule of poisons revised, and I would suggest that our registrar be instructed to communicate with the registrar of the Ontario College to learn what alterations have recently been, or are about to be made, in the Ontario schedule. The poison lists of the provinces should certainly be in conformity with each other.

At our first convention, held on July the 23rd of last year, you were good enough to appoint me a delegate to the American Pharmaceutical Association meeting, which was held in the month of August at Lake Minnetonka. Such generous and unexpected action on your part deserved no less than resolute action on mine to justify the motives of the gentlemen who on that occasion represented the Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association. Grant Allen has ventured the opinion that to be properly educated one must travel. No doubt the mind of an eager or willing observer is broadened by going abroad. He is able to see things as he never saw them before. His observations of men and manners become altered or considerably modified by close contact. Men of eminence in pharmacy and the allied sciences whose views I had long been familiar with, by the frequent reading of their contributions to the drug journals, became very different men on personal acquaintance. Plain and unobtrusive mortals beyond question; but possessing the requisite energy and determination to foster and to

strengthen the claims and the interests of their profession and of the drug trade in general. Men in control of those qualities which at once beget the envy and the pride of so many of their conferees, brothers of the craft, who could, if they but tried, elevate themselves to a similar proud position. To follow the precepts and to practise the principles of such leaders, must surely be to the advancement of pharmacy and to general scientific knowledge. At that forty-fifth annual meeting down by

"Where the falls of Minnehaha  
Flash and gleam among the oak trees  
Laugh and leap into the Valley,"

remarkable enough, I read a paper at the science section on some of the medicines used by the Swanpee Cree Indians of the North, and introduced a sample of the toilet powder used by the squaws. The powder, which is the rotten interior of the hemlock spruce made very fine, and is of the softest texture, was not recognized by any gentleman then present, and it therefore somewhat excited general curiosity. The reading of that paper has since led Mr. H. H. Rusby, of the New York College of Pharmacy, to write asking me to supply specimens of the Cree medicinal plants as referred to by me, and in support of his letter I received another from J. E. Morrison, which I have here and which I will read to you. My reply to Mr. Morrison, who is the editor of the *Canadian Pharmaceutical Journal*, and was last year the president of the American Pharmaceutical Association, was to the effect that I had neither the time nor the requisite knowledge to be of any use to the committee, but I referred him to the Rev. Mr. Burman, of this city, who is one of the most enthusiastic botanists of this country and who spends a large amount of time in collecting botanical specimens. The two gentlemen are now in communication with each other. Mr. Caspari has also been good enough to inform me that President Whitney has appointed me to represent the Province of Manitoba on the Special Auxiliary Committee on Membership, of which Dr. H. M. Whelpley, of St. Louis, Mo., is chairman. If I have done nothing else, I have succeeded in placing myself in touch with some pretty good men.

I cannot say that I learned anything at the American Pharmaceutical Association meeting. But some of the opinions on important questions, which I had long held in common with druggists of old as well as new countries, were much strengthened and received new light and authorization by the free and intelligent discussion of a few educated and deeply interested pharmacists. Unfortunately, through indifference, selfishness, lack of means, and other causes, one does not expect to meet, on such an occasion, more than a mere fraction of the 60,000 or 65,000 druggists doing business on this continent. Nevertheless the fifty druggists from the State of Minnesota, and another fifty from different parts of the