

been accomplished? What has been added to pharmacy and chemistry? Nothing! Not an iota. Merely a product that has already been in existence and in use, has been duplicated by somebody else. But here somebody will be sure to interject: "Why, the product has been cheapened." A product that can be manufactured by everybody is generally cheaper than a monopoly product. But to whom is the product cheaper? To the public? Any such assertion would be emphatically untrue. Just prescribe 12 ozs. or a pint of the imitations, let us say, of *Liq. ferri peptonati cum mangano* or *Elix. gentian. glycerinat.* and see how much a druggist will charge. As a matter of fact, I have been told and know personally of instances where my good friends, the druggists, make it a rule to charge *more* for the N. F. preparations than for the original products. Incredible? Just try it yourself. Do you want additional testimony from an unimpeachable source? Take the *American Journal of Pharmacy*, for May, 1907, and open it to page 236. On that page you will read the following:

"Professor Remington, in the course of his remarks, strongly deprecated the reported tendency of pharmacists to *charge more* for U. S. and N. F. preparations than for corresponding proprietary preparations, and expressed the belief that practices of this kind would surely do much to discredit the propaganda and do an infinite amount of harm."

It is thus *seen*—and seen in a manner which cannot be gainsaid—that the public is not at all benefited by this U. S. P.-N. F. propaganda. Who then is benefited? The druggists? Yes, that I admit. The druggist is to a certain extent benefited by this propaganda. And nobody begrudges it to him. Eking out, as he does, a very poor living, after working longer hours than any other tradesman or professional man, nobody, I am sure, will grudge the druggist a few extra cents profit (*provided* the imitation products are really in every respect as good as the original ones). But, this being so, that is, the manufacture of imitation products *not* tending to the elevation of pharmacy and chemistry, and *not* being of the slightest benefit to the public, let us say so! Let us have a clear understanding as to what all this propaganda is about. Let us stop talking about the elevation of professional pharmacy, let us stop throwing dust into the eyes of the unsophisticated physician, and let us acknowledge openly and honestly that the entire N. F. propaganda is a movement instituted for the purpose of affording the druggist a larger profit