

naturally incurred the enmity of those whom he opposes, or rather whom he looks upon as opposing him, and these have not failed to ring the charges of substitution upon the druggist through the public press, until now the druggist pays no heed to it, but diligently drives his stiletto deeper into the vitals of the trade of the publicized manufacturer.

What frequently makes the druggist feel sore is to note that the majority of those who take such pains to publicly ostracize him are not possessed of any technical knowledge of drugs or their properties, and are men who have raised themselves to prominence by the free and unscrupulous use of printers' ink, which they are now endeavoring to besmear him with.

Some manufacturers are only getting what they deserve, yet there is not the slightest doubt but that many who have striven faithfully to be loyal to the drug trade are unjustly suffering with them.

We have no sympathy whatever with real substitution. The druggist who will substitute something else when a physician orders a specific drug upon whose virtues he stakes his reputation, is guilty of a false, ignoble and dishonest act, which no one can condone. He properly forfeits all rights to confidence, and deserves to lose the right to compound and dispense remedies for the sick, suffering and dying members of the community. The law has properly placed in the care of the trained medical practitioner the welfare of the public. It recognizes his recipe as a specific and a definite prescription. The law has not, nor is it likely, to make the irresponsible patent medicine manufacturer an authorized guardian of the public health, nor do we believe it will ever give him presumptive rights over the professional pharmacist, whose rights and privileges are not taken away by the cry of the adventurer who seems to feel that his might is his right. We believe that druggists are amenable to reason, but never to coercion, especially by those whom they cannot well look up to.

Arrangements are being made for a permanent international exposition of medicine, pharmacy, and hygiene in the Province of Barcelona, in France. Spacious and beautiful quarters have been secured for the purpose at the Medical College of Barcelona.

A Sad Mistake.

A young woman who had recently undergone an operation in St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto, and was making rapid progress towards recovery, lost her life by the accidental administration at the hands of a nurse of a solution of carbolic acid, instead of a solution of magnesia which the attending physician had prescribed. Although at the inquest the nurse admitted the error, giving the excuse that the stock bottles in which the solutions were kept were practically identical, the coroner's jury returned a verdict of accidental death without attaching blame to anyone.

Theoretically no harm was done because none was intended, but practically a life was lost which should have been saved.

The jury said no one was to blame. Was that true? We think not, as the facts contradict it. The patient was no to blame for losing her life. The physicians who are noted for their skill and care were not, because they made no mistake. The nurse made the mistake, but as she was not an authorized dispenser but acted merely under the instructions of the hospital authorities, the blame cannot well be fastened on her. Who then is left? Unfortunately an incorporate body which is very hard to individualize. The hospital authorities are the real culprits, as they should have known better than to have prescriptions compounded by untrained and incompetent persons as the law does not give nurses the right to dispense and compound poisons, it does not give those in authority over them the right to make them do so. When the Central Prison, which is a Government institution, pure and simple, is so careful of the criminals of the land that a graduate in pharmacy is employed to compound the prescriptions ordered for those who are sick, it seems very strange that a public hospital supposed to care for the best people in the land shall be so carelessly run that it is possible for such mistakes to occur, and we now speak generally and not of any one particular hospital.

A few errors of this kind together with the lessons taught by legal proceedings arising out of them may possibly convince the hospital executive that the proper kind of experience is cheap at its just value. We regret that there are other similar institutions which are daily running the same risk, and which are apparently doing so because of the cost entailed in the employment of a specialist to do this kind

of work. Should not the law as to compounding and dispensing prescriptions in a store be made equally applicable to the hospital or any institution whose special aim is to relieve the sick and suffering? Should not the Provincial Government see to it that in all the institutions of the kind a duly qualified pharmacist is in charge of the dispensary?

D. C. P. Council.

RESULT OF ELECTIONS.

The following is the result of the election for members of the Council of the Ontario College of Pharmacy. As will be noticed there were contests in only three districts.

- No. 1.* Henry Watters, Ottawa—38—elected.
A. Buchanan, Kempville—34.
- No. 2. E. W. Case, Picton.
- No. 3.* A. J. Davis, Port Perry.
- No. 4.* I. Curry, Toronto.
- No. 5. John Hargreaves, Toronto.
- No. 6.* G. A. Hunter, Sault Ste. Marie.
- No. 7.* A. Turner, Orangeville.
- No. 8. W. T. Armour, Hamilton—30—elected.
Burwell Griffin, Hamilton—19.
- No. 9.* S. Snyder, Waterloo—29—elected.
R. Harbottle, Burford—8.
- No. 10.* W. A. Karn, Woodstock.
- No. 11.* J. F. Roberts, Parkhill.
- No. 12.* J. M. Hargreaves, Paisley.
- No. 13.* W. B. Graham, Kidgetown.

Those marked with an asterisk* were members of the old council. The new council will hold its first meeting August 1st.

A Thorough Course in Pharmacy.

The attention of our readers, and especially those who are students in pharmacy, is called to the advertisement of the School of Pharmacy of the University of Michigan. The names of the teaching faculty, which appeared in our last issue, are of themselves sufficient guarantee, if any such were needed, of the thoroughness and excellence of the course of instruction given. As a large number of Canadian students annually migrate to the United States, we would advise such to correspond with the secretary, who will be pleased to give them full particulars of the course.

Electricity and Criminals.—Electricity has been called into requisition for thrashing our criminals. The whip is attached to a wheel which is revolved rapidly by electricity, and thrashes the offender in a most efficient manner.