

them and that you will acknowledge that the British Pharmacopœia of 1898 is a decided improvement upon its predecessor, both as to the number of articles and preparations included therein and as to the methods of preparing the same.

Another important matter which has received attention and which was referred to by my predecessor last year in his address, is the formulating by the Board of Examiners of an outline of studies for both minor and major examinations, with a list of text-books, for the guidance of prospective candidates in preparing for examination.

This will undoubtedly be appreciated by those candidates who have hitherto complained, with just cause, that, with no definite outlines of study, with no college of pharmacy in the province, with an unlimited field from which the examiners could select questions, they were placed at examinations at a great disadvantage.

Now since the publishing of this outline, they can intelligently prepare for examination and do themselves justice when the crucial test comes.

An additional facility which the Council during the past year have provided, is better accommodation for holding the practical dispensing examinations. A fairly complete line of necessary appliances has been purchased, sufficient to accommodate six candidates at one time, and ample room has been secured on the premises of our worthy secretary.

The city of Vancouver has been selected as the permanent place for holding the examinations, being centrally located, and at the same time the residence of our secretary-treasurer-registrar.

Regarding the condition of the affairs of the association the secretary-treasurer's reports, show them to be flourishing both numerically and financially and it is unnecessary for me to refer to them.

One question which I think we would be justified in considering at this time, and which has been mentioned on previous occasions, is the reduction of the annual fees. This question will have to be approached with a realization of the fact that, if amendments to the Pharmacy Act are to be sought from the Legislature, the association will be under considerable expense in securing them. When the Act was passed and amended it was considered as a public measure, but since that time I understand a change has been made whereby such Acts are held to be private bills and consequently subject to the fees attached thereto.

These fees, with the charges for necessary legal services in outlining amendments, and any contemplated expenditure for the enforcement of the Act, will constitute an amount which must be considered over and above the running expenses of the association.

Turning to the commercial side of our calling it is a pleasure to note that the pharmaceutical year just closing has been one of general prosperity. I would like to impress upon every member of the association the desirability of securing and maintaining a closer commercial understanding among ourselves, so that we may successfully present an unbroken front to the cut rate evil, the trading stamp evil, and similar evils, which, while not increasing the gross value of business, tend to materially reduce our profits. To some this may appear an Utopian idea but I believe it can be accomplished by united action.

Before closing, I feel called upon to express my appreciation of the manner in which our secretary has discharged his duties during my term of office. I may perhaps be able to speak more fully of this matter than most of you, being an examiner, as well as president of the association, and having had the benefit of his assistance in both capacities.

We are convened now in our last annual association meeting of the nineteenth century. Standing as we do on the threshold of the twentieth, it would be interesting to know—but impossible to foretell—what changes that century has in store for British Columbia pharmacy. One thing is certain. Before it closes all here present will have been called from this sphere of action. Our present duty, therefore, is to go forward into the years of the coming century with the firm determination to do our utmost to establish pharmacy in this province upon a broad and enduring foundation.

JOHN COCHRANE.

Victoria, B.C., June 14, 1900.

On the president resuming his seat, it was moved by D.S. Curtis, seconded by J. R. Seymour, that the address be received and printed in the annual report, and that the thanks of this association be tendered to the president for the very able manner in which he had discharged the duties of his office during the past year. Carried.

The president then appointed C. Nelson and T. M. Henderson, scrutineers, who, on examination of the ballots, declared Messrs. T. E. Atkins, E. H. His-

cocks and R. G. McPherson elected to the Council for the ensuing two years.

Messrs. H. McDowell and C. Nelson were appointed auditors for the current year.

Mr. J. R. Seymour, chairman of committee appointed to make arrangements for examinations, reported that permanent rooms had not been obtained yet, but that the necessary apparatus had been secured, and asked that committee be continued.

Moved by J. R. Seymour, seconded by T. M. Henderson: That this association views with regret that the outlying districts, other than the coast cities, and particularly the interior, are not represented on the Council, and would suggest that at the election in 1901 the members throughout the province would bear this in mind and consider the election of a representative from the interior. Carried.

Moved by J. H. Emery, seconded by C. Nelson: That the Council take into their consideration the reduction of the annual fees.

Moved by J. H. Emery, seconded by C. Nelson: That the secretary write Mr. Terry, conveying the sympathy of this association to him in his present illness, and expressing the hope of his speedy recovery. Carried.

Mr. J. H. Emery then read the following paper:

#### THE APPRENTICE.

At the annual meeting of 1899 it was my privilege to make a few remarks in the interest of the British Columbia Pharmaceutical Association. I made these remarks because I was then, and am yet, anxious to see our association make as much progress as is consistent with the demands upon it by this province. Then I made suggestions which some would regard as very radical changes in the association, and I have yet to learn that any great objection can be urged against them. The closing year of the present century is half through, and those among us who can look back over the last twenty-five years in this province will have remarked many changes. The world of progress demands change—I advocated a permanent office for the secretary-registrar (preferably at Victoria, as the capital of British Columbia), and I suggested that this office be furnished with the nucleus of a pharmaceutical library, the result of voluntary contributions from druggists throughout the province. I also wanted the idea discussed as to whether or not a herbarium and a chemi-