

sity done after nine o'clock in any city or town in the Dominion, and the majority of the business that really is urgent might be avoided by the customer using a little forethought. The average man will wait until he is sick with a vengeance before he thinks of the empty pill box or medicine bottle, and then it is that a rush is made for the drug store. The public, then, need the educating right now. If they understood that every drug store closed at nine o'clock, provision would certainly be made earlier for cases of emergency. I have mentioned nine o'clock, but there is no valid reason why the hour could not be earlier; but we must go slowly with this public educating, and gradually get them to understand that the druggist, as well as the dry goods man and shoe dealer, requires time to recuperate. I would, then, respectfully suggest, through the columns of THE CANADIAN DRUGGIST, that every druggist and drug clerk who may read these lines shall make an effort in his town to bring about an early-closing movement. If the matter can but be made general throughout the Dominion, it will be easy of accomplishment. The West is not the only sufferer, therefore it is high time to stir in the matter. Remember, brother druggist, it is your health you have to consider. What is money to you if, in gaining the little, you so break down your nervous system that you are a wreck the latter portion of your life? Take recreation—do business for all your worth while at it, but don't kill yourself to live.

Wood Alcohol.

Manufacturers of wood alcohol are offering their product through the wholesale drug houses in bottles containing 8, 16 and 32 ounces, and it may also be had in cans and barrels. The economy effected by its use, as compared with grain alcohol or with the miserable methylated spirit supplied as a Government monopoly, is so great as to favor its use in every suitable case, where legally permitted.

Of course, it cannot be used in preparations sold under pharmacopœia names, but in private formula there can be no objection, where the odor is not disagreeable.

It has been abundantly shown that grain and wood spirits of equal hydro-metrical strength have exactly the same properties as antiseptics, preservatives and solvents, and it is for these prop-

ties that grain alcohol has hitherto been so indispensable in pharmacy.

Having the same behavior as to heat and cold, they will equally prevent mixtures from freezing. Being equally volatile and inflammable, they are useful for the druggist's spirit lamp, to boil the late or early coffee, to heat baby's food, to heat water for toddy—no! no! shaving. Some observers assert they have equal toxic and inebriating effects, but, except in minute doses, experiments along this line are not recommended, as authorities generally ascribe much greater toxicity to methyllic alcohol than to the ethyllic. This, however, may have been caused by the very crude form in which until lately the methyllic alcohol was sold.

The following are named for trial where legally permitted: Tinctures, aconite, arnica, belladonna, cannabis, cantharides, chloroform, colchici, conii, digitalis, iodine, lobelia, opium, stramonium, valerian and valerian, all the liniments, fluid extracts where the dose is not over 30 minims and the preparation is not official.

Two Money-making Lines.

Of the many "side lines" which have been adopted by druggists, none, perhaps, have taken hold as rapidly with the trade as those of optical goods and photographic supplies. Of the former we have spoken recently, showing the decided advantage not only for principals, but also for drug clerks, to take up the study and become masters of the science of optics.

Referring to the line of photographic supplies, including in this category everything from the camera down to the most minute chemical used, a druggist in a town in eastern Ontario expressed the situation very clearly, when he said to the writer of this article, "The drug business of itself does not pay as it used to, and I have been obliged to add 'side lines.' First I took up photographic supplies, in which I am doing a good business, and it is paying well, and now I am commencing with optical goods."

There is no doubt that these are two of the most satisfactory lines that can be handled by a large number of the trade, and there is no reason why the bulk of this business should not fall into the hands of the retail druggist.

We commend to our readers the advertisements of several manufacturing houses in these lines which are prepared to supply the trade.

"Manitoba Liquor Act."

In our last issue we gave a summary of the "Liquor Act," as amended at the recent session of the Provincial Legislature of Manitoba. The Act has now passed its final stage, and will become law. Several amendments have been made since its first introduction into the House.

The clause providing that retail druggists must pay a license of \$50, and wholesale druggists \$250, was struck out, and no license fee will be charged.

Veterinary surgeons and dentists are given the same privileges as doctors in regard to keeping and using liquor as a medicine. The limit of quantity which the bill fixed in the first instance has been amended, so that now no limit is named, it being left to the honor of the medical profession to see that the proviso is not abused.

The clause which provides that physicians must specify the disease from which the patient is suffering when liquor is prescribed has also been struck out, as also has that in which informers should receive one-half the fines in case of conviction for illegal sales.

It is the intention of the Government to submit the Act to the courts in order to ascertain whether its provisions are *intra vires* of the Legislature, the question of the rights of the Hudson Bay Co. under their deed of surrender, as mentioned in our last issue, being the main issue at stake.

The Sale of Liquor in Prince Edward Island.

As intimated in our last issue a bill for prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquor in the Province of Prince Edward Island has been submitted in the Provincial Legislature.

The sale of liquor as in the Act passed in Manitoba, will be confined to legally qualified chemists, druggists and physicians, and the Act provides that they shall be sold only for medicinal purposes from the prescription of qualified physicians, and for sacramental purposes on the certificate of the clergyman certifying that the wine is required for such purposes. When any alcoholic liquor is required for use in art, trade or manufacture, the same shall be sold only on a certificate signed by an inspector appointed under the provisos of the Act, accompanied by an affirmation of the applicant