

# Canadian Druggist

Devoted to the interests of the General Drug Trade and to the Advancement of Pharmacy.

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## Canadian Druggist

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1899-1900.

Before another issue of THE CANADIAN DRUGGIST reaches its readers another year will have closed, and a new year as well as the beginning of a new century will have dawned upon us. In closing this volume it is not our intention, nor do we feel that it is necessary, to say much about ourselves, or our well-kept promises, or, it may be, our broken pledges. We have faithfully endeavored to work for the best interests of the drug trade of Canada, and our readers are perhaps the best judges as to whether our efforts have been properly directed, and whether the results have been satisfactory. But before entering upon a new volume we bespeaks a ready ear from our friends and trust to have many willing responses.

Although pharmaceutical editors know a great deal, or at least pretend to do so, they do not "know it all" and we want to bespeak the co-operation of several thousand druggists and drug clerks throughout this country in telling what they know of their fellow-druggists. If every druggist and drug clerk would but send in for publication, one item alone during the year, giving the result of some experimental work or something which came under his notice that he thinks would be of benefit to pharmacy at large, what a mass of useful information would be gathered and what a help might be given, it might be to some perplexed member of the Craft who was groping for just such information as his brother druggist had at his disposal.

There is no reason why we should not receive a hearty and willing response to this request. Let every druggist look upon it as his duty to the members of that profession of which he is a member, to do what he can to the advancement of pharmacy and enlightenment of his confreres.

We thank all our readers as well as contributors for their help during the

past year, and to all our friends we wish A Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

### Stock Keeping.

An o'd drug traveller states that comparatively few druggists adopt a definite system of stock keeping, and that as a result but few pharmacies are stocked as they should be for the requirements of their owners. Considering that every druggist has ample time at his disposal to enable him to become fully conversant with every detail of his stock, such a statement, coming from one who is in a position to judge well, casts a serious reflection upon the good judgment and business capacity of druggists as a body. It has been said that druggists, as a rule, though intelligent, are not good business men, but in the conduct of such an important detail as stock-keeping we dislike to see the statement verified.

He claims that some do not keep a want book at all, merely depending upon their memories to guide them when the traveller calls, and that in some instances he has been obliged to go through stock himself to gather his order. Such a condition of affairs is inexcusable, and could not but arouse the suspicion of a wide-awake traveller that his customer must sooner or later come to grief. In a business such as this, where every druggist is obliged to keep a large number of articles, and only a very limited quantity of each, the closest attention to stock-keeping is imperatively necessary. A want book must be kept; each salesman should be obliged to enter stock that he immediately handles and that he notices is getting low. In addition to this, the proprietor or clerk should glance through stock every morning to note that wants have not been neglected. If this is faithfully done, there is then no occasion to be either continually borrowing from a neighbor or advising customers that you are just out. The man who can't afford