

avail themselves of the therapeutic aid to be obtained from the administration of alcohol in some form; nevertheless, as the law in Ontario now stands, the members of the profession should prescribe alcoholic stimulants only upon personal knowledge of the conditions of those for whom it is prescribed; that these stimulants should be prescribed solely for medicinal purposes; that they should never be ordered when they may be used in a merely social way, and that orders for the procurement of alcoholic stimulants should never be given to anyone in behalf of another person when the physical condition of such person is not known to the doctor from whom the order is sought.

Medical men now fully recognize the fact that in some instances where the medical practitioner may prescribe alcoholic stimulants for purely medicinal purposes, the person who has the order filled, or some other person who has access to the stimulants, may use them improperly and become intoxicated, thereby throwing grave discredit upon the practitioner, or even laying the foundation for action against him under the Ontario Temperance Act. Against all such cases the medical profession should be protected by the proper punishment of all who make an improper use of the stimulants after obtaining them.

Not a few men are beginning to have the opinion that every person who obtains alcoholic stimulants should be called upon to sign a declaration which shall be kept on record by the authorized vendor, which shall set forth the fact that the stimulants are for medical purposes only. Any wrongful use of the stimulants shall render the declarant and the person for whom the stimulants are obtained amenable to the law.

The working out of the Act has made it clear that the medical profession must be protected against a designing element in the public. The suggestions now offered would remedy most of the evils and protect the prescriber.

Now that the sale of alcoholic stimulants is limited to the filling of doctors' prescriptions, we are of the opinion that the sale should be conducted by an agent for the government, and that the profit should come to the public treasury. Steps should be taken at once to ensure that all forms of stimulants should be of the highest grade of purity. They should be regarded as for the sick only, and to be used as a medicine. Therefore, quality should have first consideration.

FACTS ABOUT INFANTILE PARALYSIS.

A paralysis of unknown origin was common in Asia and attracted the attention of European observers prior to the eighteenth century, according to Dr. Louis Ager, in a paper read before the American Medical Association.