

legitimate means be used by the members of our societies to educate the public and guard them against the possible harm which may result from the use of these nostrums."

It was decided that secret compounds and nostrums include all compounds put upon the market without a printed formula furnished to the profession at large.

A paper and a talk on "Alveolar Hæmorrhage," by W. George Beers, followed. The writer explained the physiology of coagulation, the causes of imperfect coagulation, the varieties of hæmorrhage—capillary, venous, and arterial—constitutional and local conditions which predisposed to hæmorrhage. He showed that precaution was necessary in dental practice not to venture upon surgical operations, involving the loss of blood, in marked cases of anæmia, when the fibrin is in a state of inefficient solution, the blood of feeble coagulating power, and the vascular trunk of feeble contractile power. The danger of lancing children's gums in certain constitutional conditions was shown. Also the fact that, where leeches are used, the blood coming from the body as soon as the leech is removed will never coagulate; and that, even in ten minutes after the leech is withdrawn, it will take one hour for the blood to coagulate. It is said that this is due to a secretion in the leech with which it impregnates the wound. Attention was drawn to vicarious bleeding during the menstrual period, and the risk of operating at that time. The writer believed that some such physiological localized concentration, followed by vaso-motor disturbance, especially in neurotic girls, as explained by the so-called miracle of the "Stigmata," was apt to occur when teeth were extracted during the catamenia. The decrease of hæmorrhage was thought to be due to the better blood as the result of better food, abundance and cheapness of fruits; better instruments, the abandonment of the old key of Garengot, etc. Sir Benjamin Ward Richardson, in a paper read before the Odontological Society of Great Britain recently, attributed the decrease in hæmorrhage in his experience to these facts. It was shown that there need be no anxiety if syncope occurred. It relieved the arterial tension. Stimulants should never be used. They increased it. The various orthodox methods of arresting hæmorrhage were mentioned, and attention drawn to the great value of *Lycoperdon giganteum*, or common puff-ball, which Sir Benj. Ward Richardson introduced nearly forty years ago, before the then existing College of Dentists of England. It had been used for centuries to stupify bees before robbing the hives. Dr. Richardson saw this done, and was led to try it as a narcotic. The writer had it analyzed some years ago, and it was discovered that its styptic property was due to phosphate of soda. It acted chemically and mechanically. When he was a student, Dr. Charles Brewster, of Montreal, was using it in his dental practice, and in 1871, after using it for thirteen years, he brought it before the pro-