

CORRESPONDENCE.

Correspondence is invited from all members of the profession. We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions of correspondents. All communications must have the name of the writer attached, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. Any nom de plume may be used for publication. Write only on one side of the paper, and be concise.

To the Druggists of Ontario:

GENTLEMEN,—I will give a short history of that part of the Ontario College of Pharmacy that alludes to the teaching department, and some information that, I believe, has not before appeared in print.

In 1867, when confederation became almost a certainty, various measures were discussed that it was expected would be brought before the Dominion Parliament, and among others one for the consolidation of medical interests. In this bill it was proposed to regulate the practice of pharmacy by compelling all who engaged in that occupation to pass an examination before a board composed of physicians, and to pay such fees as they would establish.

This aroused the indignation of the druggists, especially those in Ontario, and in May, 1867, the druggists in Ottawa formed a society for united action, and to give more influence to any movement that might be made in order to defeat this, to them, unfair bill. A similar society was formed in Toronto the following September.

These two societies united in 1868 and gained additions to their numbers from other parts of the Province and commenced the publication of a trade journal. The number of members of this society was about 300.

They attempted to obtain the passing of a bill by the Dominion Parliament in 1868 and 1869, but without success. This was abandoned and in the fall of 1869 provincial legislation was sought and obtained in 1871.

Although the Pharmacy Act incorporated all the druggists of the Province in an association termed Ontario College of Pharmacy, there was no school at which students could obtain instruction, conducted by the Association. It was simply an executive board to carry out the provisions of the Act by examining those who desired to engage in the occupation of druggists as to their knowledge of the drugs and poisons that they would require to handle in the business, and also to prevent by the provisions contained in the Act, from engaging in the business those who were not so qualified.

The first account we have of the formation of a regular class of instruction was in the fall of 1873, when Mr. Thos. Heys gave instruction to three students, then resident in Toronto, on the subjects required to pass the Pharmacy examination.

These students were successful and others applied for the same tuition; this continued for a year or more and Mr. Heys was obliged to obtain a room to accommodate the number of students that

were seeking instruction. The school was then removed to the old school building in Queen's Park.

In 1876 Mr. Heys placed an advertisement in the College journal calling attention to this school. The number of students steadily increased until there were in attendance at some of the terms 35 to 38 students.

This school of Pharmacy was removed to a flat on King street and the number of students continued to increase, there being in attendance 24 to 25 students during the summer terms, and 46 to 50 during the winter terms.

All the expenses of the school were paid by Mr. Heys and those associated with him, such as rent, advertising, gas and supplying apparatus and chemicals.

There were others who gave instructions to classes in 1877, '78 and '79, but these were not continued.

In February, 1882, the Council passed a resolution granting a sum of money for purchasing fittings, apparatus, specimens, specimen bottles, chemicals, &c., and gave free use of the rooms with heating, cleaning, &c., to Mr. Shuttleworth and others, who were to conduct a school under the directions of the Council, the teachers to be remunerated by the fees from the students.

The first advertisement of this school appeared in the journal of March, 1882, and the opening of school, April 4th. Owing to the short notice, only a few weeks, the number of students at the first term was small.

Then Mr. Shuttleworth advertised—

"This is the only authorized school of pharmacy in Ontario, and is carried on directly under the auspices of the College."

Mr. Shuttleworth was also a member of the board of examiners appointed by the Council, to examine the pupils taught by Mr. Shuttleworth as teacher, and as his name appears first on reports from the examiners, it may be assumed that he was also chairman of the Board of examiners.

For the second term the students deserted Mr. Heys' school and attended the one of which Mr. Shuttleworth was director, and which was aided by the influence of the Council. In the competition for students Mr. Heys was placed at a marked disadvantage and in 1883 discontinued his classes.

The success of a school of pharmacy, as far as number of students in attendance are concerned, was assured and made by Mr. Heys before Mr. Shuttleworth and others commenced the instruction under the auspices of the Council.

We will now trace the number of students in attendance, and fees paid from 1882 to 1889.

1882.
Spring term, 41 students, fees \$30. . . \$ 630 00
Winter term, 43 students, fees \$36 . . \$1548 00
\$2178 00

1883.
Spring term, 41 students, fees \$36. . . \$1476 00
Autumn term, 44 students, fees \$36 . . \$1584 00
\$3060 00

1884.
Spring term, 43 students, fees \$36. . . \$1548 00
Autumn term, 49 students, fees \$36 . . \$1764 00
\$3312 00

1885.
Spring term, 53 students, fees \$26. . . \$1008 00
Autumn term, 48 students, fees \$36 . . \$1728 00
\$3636 00

1886.
Spring term, 62 students, fees \$36. . . \$2232 00

1886-87.
Autumn term, 57 students, fees \$36; portion retained by College \$186.50, paid to teachers 1686 50
1887 Spring term, 72 students, fees \$40 portion retained by College \$629, paid to teachers 2130 00
\$3817 50

1887-88.
1887 Junior (autumn) course, 57 students, fees \$48. \$5080 00
1888 Senior (spring) course, 53 students, fees \$48. \$5080 00
Portion retained by College \$1040, paid to teachers 4040 00

1888-89.
1888 Junior course, 63 students, fees \$40 } \$5776 00
1889 Senior course, 53 students, fees \$60 }
Portion retained by College \$1388, paid to teachers 4388 00

The number of students and amount for fees is taken from the annual announcements.

What is the average amount received each year by the teachers?

From spring, 1882, to autumn, 1886, all the fees were given to the teachers as follows:

1882 \$2178 00
1883 3060 00
1884 3312 00
1885 3636 00
Spring term 1886 . . . 2232 00
\$14418 00

Deduct from this amount 5 per cent., being for reduction in fees to those who had attended any previous term at the school, or only took part of the course, and this 5 per cent. is more than what is shown to be the difference for such in the years 1887-8 and 1888-9.

This will make \$14418.00 - \$720.90 = \$13697.10.

In 1882 the expenses for chemicals, printing, advertising, cleaning, &c., were paid out of the grant from the Council.

From the spring of 1883 to the spring of 1886 these expenses were taken out of the fees. The average of these expenses would be about \$100 per annum; for 4½ years being \$450, or say \$500. Deducting this \$500 from \$13697.10 will give \$13197.10; to this add the sums received by the teachers from autumn, 1886, to spring, 1889, inclusive, which will be

\$13197 10
3817 50
4040 00
4388 00
\$25442 60

For 15 terms, or 7½ years, the teachers received for their services \$25442.60, or an annual average of \$3392.35.

The amount due to all the teachers for two terms 1887-8 namely, \$4040.00, was