

commercial benzole, in the proportion of one part of the former to four of the latter, and the solution be brushed over tissue paper, a cheap but very good substitute for waxed paper may be extemporized. After coating the tissue paper it should be hung up to dry, which is accomplished in a very short time, the paper presenting at this stage a more or less white mottled appearance. Next expose it to a gentle heat, sufficient to remelt the thin coating of paraffin, when it will set in a fine uniform and permanent glaze, in which condition it is ready for any of the purposes for which such papers are generally required. Paper thus prepared will be found particularly useful for tracing purposes, the pencil or pen running smoothly over it, with no tendency to blur or blot, as in some tracing-papers frequently met with. It will also be found valuable in preserving powders and other substances susceptible to change from exposure to air, of which chloride of lime is an example. Turpentine will also dissolve the paraffin, but it requires hours to dry, while the benzole requires as many minutes. When required in large quantity the paper may be floated on the surface of a bath of paraffin solution in the same manner that photographic paper is sensitized.—*Canadian Pharm Journal.*

PULVERIZED SOAP OR SAGHALINE.—The substance sold in various markets under the extraordinary name of Saghaline has been examined by Hagar. It is usually considered to be pulverized Soap, but its use in pharmacy as soap would prove dangerous. It has been found to consist of 12 parts of soap, 66 parts of anhydrous carbonate of soda, 15 parts of silicate of soda, and a little blue coloring matter, which appears to be ultramarine. It is no doubt an excellent material for washing, but should not be designated "pulverized soap."—*Monthly Magazine of Pharmacy.*

GREEK SPONGE FISHERY.—*The Athens Messenger* states that the value of the sponge fishery in Greece has risen from 20,000f. in 1870 to 2,000,000f. in 1877. The trade employs about 120 vessels manned by 800 men. Each boat goes out four times a year, and obtains 100 kilogrammes of sponge, at a mean value of 30,000f. The preparations of the sponge is very simple and inexpensive. They are first dried in the sun, and then separated into two different qualities, the average price of the first quality being 35f. or 40f. the kilogramme.—*Chemist and Druggist.*

JOINING RUBBER.—Rubber is easily joined and made as strong as an original fabric, by softening before a fire and laying the edges carefully together, without dust, dirt, or moisture between. The edges so joined must be freshly cut in the beginning. Tubing can be united by joining the edges around a glass cylinder, which has previously been rolled with paper. After the glass is withdrawn the paper is easily

removed. Sift flour or ashes through the tube to prevent the sides from adhering from accidental contact.

SANDARAC is collected from the ara tree, a species of cedar (*Callitris quadrivalvis*, Vent.), which abounds in the hilly parts of the province of Italia, in the neighborhood of Mogador. In order to obtain it the natives chip the trunks and branches of the trees. When the summer sets in, and if the year is favorable the gum oozes, not only from the injured spots, but from all parts of the tree which are thus prepared. A dry summer, with the absence of the ordinary northeast winds, is very favorable to its production. There were 5800 cwts. exported from Mogador in 1877, valued at upwards of \$105,000.—*New Remedies.*

EXAMINATIONS OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION OF THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.—These examinations were held in the rooms of the Association, 628 Lagachetiere street, Montreal, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, April 29th, 30th and May 1st, when six candidates for the "major" examination for license to practice pharmacy; eleven for the "minor" as certified clerks, and four for the preliminary examination to enter upon the study of pharmacy, presented themselves before the Board. The following gentlemen compose the full Board of Examiners: Henry R. Grey, Montreal; Alex. Manson, Montreal; J. D. L. Ambrose, Montreal; Roderick McLeod, Quebec; J. B. Martel, Quebec; H. F. Jackson, Montreal; Chairman, Nathan Mercer, Montreal. The examinations were written and oral, with practical dispensing; and the following gentlemen successfully passed for "major": Oswald Coursolle, 815; W. S. Kerry, 720; C. E. Hepburn, 690; Elzéar Laviolette, 650. The highest obtainable marks being 1,000. For "minor": John N. Miller, 890; Joseph Williams, 775; W. R. Inman, 705; S. G. Mitchell, 600. The four presenting themselves for the preliminary examination being found proficient were accordingly permitted to register as apprentices. Two of the major and five of the minor candidates who failed to obtain the required number of marks were referred back for further study. At the conclusion of the examination, the Vice-President, Alex. Manson, Esq., in announcing the results, made a few well-timed remarks, when a vote of thanks to the Board of Examiners, for their courtesy during the progress of the examinations, was moved by Mr. W. S. Kerry, seconded by Mr. Oswald Coursolle, on behalf of their fellow-students, and carried. The Council of the Association intend, as soon as circumstances will permit, to petition the Legislature for amendments to the Pharmacy Act, which will enable them better to regulate the sale of drugs and the dispensing of prescriptions. It is proposed to hold an extra examination in Quebec about the end of June, when it is expected a number from that city and the surrounding country will present themselves before the Board.