

which, if properly followed, would be sure to redound to the credit of Canadian pharmacy.

4th. To generate a Canadian pharmaceutical system which will give us the prestige we should properly enjoy as educated pharmacists. Canadian pharmacy, even when we make the best of it, is but fragmentary. Each Province controls its own educational system and as no attempt has yet been made to unify these, we are not in a position to assert a standing which would secure us the prominence we would be pleased to enjoy. As Canadians we can reap the advantage of starting well up the ladder. While our country is but young we possess, in common with every other sphere of labor, the use of knowledge gained by the world's masters in every domain of life. We are free to act, not upon national tradition, but upon the most progressive stage of human experience. Our opportunity to achieve a place of distinction for Canadian pharmacy is as good as we could well desire as the fabric upon which we may build has already been furnished by our co-laborers of other nationalities. Our selection of the course to be selected is the object of greatest importance to us, as upon this must largely depend the results we will arrive at. While not in any sense finding fault with systems adopted to suit the exigencies of provincial territories, I am satisfied that a system which is largely based upon such a reason must ultimately fail to elevate our standing in the eyes of the pharmaceutical world. Clever as are our brethren to the south of us, and much as we admire the use they have made of the abundant resources nature has provided for them, we cannot help feeling that the weak point in their pharmaceutical system is the lack of a uniform basis for an educational and professional standing which would enable her graduates to state in all parts of the world we are American pharmacists, and can worthily maintain our share of the national reputation of our country. The American system has always been so liberal that any attempt to change now would be sure to be abortive, but with us the case is different as our several provincial systems are so nearly alike that we should have but slight difficulty in meeting upon common terms. The interest recently manifested in the question as to the desirability of having a uniform standard for the preparation of medicinal compounds has clearly shown how much we feel the need of mutual co-operation. We cannot fail to see upon what a frail basis our system is built when the independent actions of a few who feel free to override the laws of usage, because no stronger law governs them, creates a general feeling of insecurity in the strength of official preparations which the druggist who sells is presumably responsible for. The prompt action of our Quebec confreres in drawing attention to the matter is deserving of the warmest approval, and the desire they have evinced to confer with us upon this and other matters, bearing upon our mutual interests,

should be met so heartily that the good resulting from a temporary conference would lead to a more permanent relationship between us. This is a matter of very great importance. The action taken cannot afford to be a hasty one. Under the most favorable circumstances the changes desired can only be consummated after prolonged, united and persistent effort. That all the provinces are now ripe for evolution of this character is very much a matter of conjecture. If only a limited change is now found practicable it will be well for our Quebec friends to make such changes as are necessary for their own government and leave unchanged for the time being the condition of the other provinces; but if, on the other hand, it is found that each of the provincial pharmacy boards are willing to cast in their lot with the others to promote a Canadian pharmaceutical system, we as a factor in such an arrangement, should, and I believe would, lend our aid individually and collectively to accomplish so desirable an object.

5th. To cultivate pharmaceutical literature from native talent and to encourage original chemical research by members or graduates of the Ontario College of Pharmacy. Having been trained to adopt as text books the works of English and American authors it has seemingly never occurred to any of our graduates to attempt to emulate the example they have set. We are apparently willing to continue to absorb the work of others rather than to earn a reputation for ourselves. I am confident we would be unwilling to acknowledge our inability to produce works of merit, and yet our failure to do so leaves us open to such an imputation. It is, perhaps doubtful if any country can be found to-day where an equal educational standing is required which has not surpassed it in this respect. I am not at all sanguine that the need for works of such a character is sufficiently great to warrant the special effort of any one to secure their production, nor do I think that their sale would afford an adequate return to their author, but, outside of these considerations, I feel assured that the development of native talent for such a purpose and for original chemical research would assist very much in securing for Canadian pharmacists a more exalted position in pharmacy history.

6th. To establish a code of ethics which will serve to maintain a correct relationship between our members. The reciprocal relationship existing between the druggists of this Province is as a rule of so sociable a character and so fully illustrates the fellow-feeling that the necessity for a definite code of ethics is not so readily apparent. Trained as we have all been in the same school and practising in the same field in life, we have thus engendered a feeling that what is good for one is good for all, and we do not hesitate to confide in one another when our mutual interests are at stake. The condition thus brought about has created a natural code of ethics which in many ways is

superior to an artificial or arbitrary one, but, while such is our present state, and is one which we are most pleased to have existing, we can't guarantee that it will continue after our members largely increase and the present evolutionary stage of the drug trade becomes a thing of the past. Under any circumstances a more definite statement of what treatment we should accord one another will, I think, best suit all of us. While the golden rule of life is ample in itself we fail at times to remember to put into operation the portion of it referring to others. The temptation to let circumstances govern our conduct is frequently so strong that that we are apt to fail to maintain a strict regard for the principles of justice. I am not free to say that I think the adoption of a code would make us any better than we are, but it would emphasize the fact that we as a body consider it necessary that some degree of professional etiquette should be maintained.

7th. To support the Council of our College in all matters pertaining to the educational training of our apprentices, and to advise with them upon legal measures sought to be secured. The two points embodied in this object cover the most important duties of our representatives on the Council board; the first, properly maintained, determining the standing which the pharmacists of Ontario will ultimately attain to, and the second securing such privileges as an incorporated body with a professional status is entitled to enjoy. It is perhaps unnecessary for me to say, what we are all cognizant of, that the educational advancement of our College has been very rapid and has more than kept pace with the commercial advancement of those engaged in this pursuit. It is just possible, looking at this matter from a commercial standpoint, that the educational success of our College is likely to prove a source of commercial weakness by creating an overcrowding of an already far from profitable business. If we were to figure out an estimate of the percentage of those who graduate annually who could profitably open new places of business we would find the accommodation very inadequate indeed. This is undoubtedly the true position of affairs, and from a superficial survey would seem to create a very perplexing problem. Such a condition has, however, existed for a considerable number of years, and meanwhile we have continued to practice pharmacy and to enjoy elsewhere an increased reputation. Our reputation and the trained capacity of our graduates is the true solution of the matter. As individual pharmacists it is our duty to accept as apprentices only those whose preliminary educational standing is a sufficient guarantee that they will be capable of serving an intelligent apprenticeship and ultimately become creditable graduates. If we do this and encourage the young men entrusted to our training to pursue the course laid out for home instruction in the College Announcement we may reasonably hope that this, coupled