

# Canadian Druggist

Devoted to the interests of the General Drug Trade and to the Advancement of Pharmacy.

VOL. VII.

TORONTO, FEBRUARY, 1895.

No. 2.

## Canadian Druggist

WILLIAM J. DYAS, PUBLISHER.

Subscription, \$1 per year in advance.  
Advertising rates on application.

The CANADIAN DRUGGIST is issued on the 15th of each month, and all matter for insertion should reach us by the 5th of the month.  
New advertisements or changes to be addressed

Canadian Druggist,  
20 Bay St. TORONTO, ONT.

### EUROPEAN AGENCY:

BROCK & HALIFAX, Aldermany House, Watling St.,  
LONDON, E.C., ENGLAND.

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Sewing up wounds by an electrical machine is one of the latest advances in surgical technique.

### Counsel the Council.

If those who sometimes cavil because they imagine the Council of the Ontario College does not perform reasonably effective work had a clearer insight into the difficulties constantly standing or being put in the way of those acting on their behalf, they would be more willing to offer counsel than criticism.

The council is composed of druggists whose interests are identical with the interests of their confrères. They are assuredly anxious to protect themselves, and must protect all other druggists in doing so. They do not receive any recompense for their services, yet from the lessons of the past they naturally expect considerable adverse criticism and condemnation. They feel that when outside tradesmen become their commercial enemies, those inside should be their friends. They know well that the critic who is not in the council would be in a reverse position were he in it, and they must often feel that their efforts on behalf of their fellows are so ill-requited as to make them wish they never had anything to do with it.

Those who have the general interests of the trade at heart must have realized during the past two or three years that conditions of trade are rapidly changing, and that the change, so far, has not been in their interests. The sentiment of the country is being acted upon in such a manner as to lessen the position of bodies possessing incorporate legislative powers, and under such circumstances we are obliged to submit. While doing so, however, we would fall far short of our duty to ourselves and to one another if we failed to strive unitedly to bring about a betterment of conditions over which we can exercise some influence. Any large body of individuals, united together with a common, definite object in view, can accomplish much if they will exercise their influence persistently and judiciously. The tendency of the day is to combina-

tions; and the druggist of to-day is threatened from just such a source, and will ultimately have to meet the difficulty upon equal terms. The council of our college is the executive body through which we can act, if we only advise the course to pursue. Legislation is temporarily in abeyance, and of necessity must remain so. The only hope lies in commercial action—the buying and selling of goods which can be profitably handled and fairly well controlled; the pushing of lines of trade which our location and circumstances will enable us to handle to advantage; the cutting off from our business connection those houses which supply us and betray us at the same time; the circulation amongst ourselves of such information as will enable us to act unitedly and decisively when occasion requires it, and the protection of our own trade as far as possible against the licensing of drug businesses improperly run under the name of a practising physician. All these matters might be regulated under control of council by the appointment of a commercial committee whose duty would be determined by the extent and scope of the work which would devolve upon it.

This is a subject in which we are all interested. We may not all see alike as to a solution of the question, and, if there are others who desire to present their views, we shall be glad, indeed, to hear from them in another issue.

### Important Articles.

Analytical chemistry is playing a most important part in the world of science, and the practical pharmacist who would aspire to keep in the front of his profession must devote himself to a study of it in all its bearings.

This month we give our readers the conclusion of an article taken from the *British and Colonial Druggist* entitled "Pharmaceutical Analysis," and also from the same source one on "The Examination of Urine." Next month will be given a paper on "The Bacteriological Examination of Water."