

way that I know of—the standard of matriculation. The university entrance examination is really but a slight advance on the one required by the Association (comparison of requirements).

If it be thought too much to compel all students to obtain a degree in order to procure a license, why not try for some arrangement similar to that which the Ontario College has? This would give two classes—Association Licentiates and University Graduates.

THE PROBLEMS OF PHARMACY.

By John F. Howard, Winnipeg, Man.

To judge from the articles in pharmaceutical journals, the papers read at conventions, and complaints of druggists themselves, an alarming state of affairs exists in the East as far as the drug business is concerned. And really there seems to be grave grounds for these fears. With dry goods stores handling toilet articles and general sundries, grocers selling patent medicines and a large variety of drugs, medical men dispensing their own medicines, dispensaries giving away drugs without any enquiry as to the circumstances of the applicant, there will soon be no place left for the legitimate pharmacist. The place that knew him once, will know him no more, unless it be that he remain faithful to his post, performing the shadow of his former functions by furnishing a directory and a telephone for the free use of the public.

But while these are the problems with which the Eastern druggist is confronted, I am happy to state that, as yet, the Western druggist has scarcely yet been called upon to face them. However, while we have every reason to congratulate ourselves that our business has suffered few reverses in the past, this should not blind us to the necessity of taking immediate steps to prevent in this Western country a condition of affairs which unfortunately exists in the East. That we have not been troubled in the past, is no guarantee that we shall be entirely left to ourselves in the future. It may be

that when the same conditions exist in Manitoba as exist in the East at the present time, we shall be called upon to grapple with the same problems with which they are now striving. The object of this paper is to draw attention to these points in order that we may be able to consider them, and take measures to obviate these difficulties, if not entirely prevent them.

It seems to me that the best augury for the future is that up to the present time we have had very little cause for complaint. We have good reason to congratulate ourselves on the present standing of our profession and to be thankful for the continued prosperity we have enjoyed. There are several reasons for this, to some of which I would like to call your attention. In the first place let me refer to the cordial relations existing among the druggists themselves—relations of personal good-will and business confidence. In the past there has been no ruinous competition, no cutting of prices to secure an advantage over a fellow druggist, but on all hands a feeling of sincere good-will and trust. Our profession has not been called upon to suffer on account of the action of any of its members. This I look upon as one of the most important factors in our continued prosperity. "United we stand, divided we fall," is an old saying and a trite one, but for all that none the less true. It will be an evil day for the druggists of the country should the elements of discord and mistrust be found within the ranks.

Another cause for congratulation in the past, as well as a hopeful sign for the future, is the high standard maintained by the profession in Manitoba. Our profession is one which demands the highest order of intelligence, while we have not unduly sought to be a close corporation, we have insisted on high qualifications on the part of those whom we admit to our ranks. The stand which we have taken has been justified by the results. It is an easy matter to get apprentices—and those the very best apprentices