

time to time advised improvements in the laboratory, and in the method of teaching. His advice has been respected and acted on by the Council. If his advice were sought now it is not likely, in view of the prospects of a rapid growth of our population, that he would question the efforts of the association to make better conditions.

Any committee, no matter how highly efficient, that may be chosen by this meeting, will find it no easy task to decide quickly whether to rent or to build at this period of our history. It is but a few years since Ontario deemed it necessary or convenient to build a college for herself. She certainly did not erect her handsome building of to-day before she was able financially, or otherwise warranted. But study what her requirements were. See the guarantees at her back! The demand had come and had to be satisfied, and no stranger from any part of the world visiting Toronto can doubt how thoroughly the demand was attended to. Are our conditions similar to hers? In some respects most assuredly so. Not that our finances will permit us. But the certainty that our standard of pharmaceutical education does not rank second to that of any other place on this continent is sufficient justification for the Council to no longer dally with this question, and it is with all seriousness that the case is thus laid before you.

#### TEACHING STAFF.

Nothing that the Council have done can more redound to its credit than the unanimous adoption of Dr. Hutton's motion to make the medical entrance examination compulsory for candidates entering the arena of pharmacy. No longer will there be doubt concerning the preliminary educational knowledge of pharmacists who secure their diplomas in Manitoba. It will be possible, therefore, to say after next year that pharmacy for the first time has been placed on a level with medicine.

The wisdom of the Council was also instanced in securing the services of a special teacher to fill the dual responsibilities of lecturer and demonstrator. This has already been shown by the general satisfaction with which the faithful work of Mr. Bletcher has been acknowledged by the students. Unfortunately for the senior class of this term, a very painful accident interrupted the new duties to

which he seemed to be so much devoted; and whilst no assertion of the speaker is needed to say that the Council share the sympathy of their chairman for Mr. Bletcher, they must also, and do regret exceedingly, the loss of three or four weeks' valuable instruction which was sustained by those under his tuition. The accident made it peculiarly awkward for Dr. Hutton, whose time was constantly employed; but at a moment's notice, and very much to his credit it must be said, he continued the work of his confrere most cheerfully, and to the complete satisfaction of a very anxious class. The accident, moreover, may serve to illustrate not only the awkwardness, but perhaps the indiscretion of depending on one lecturer for our school of pharmacy. The question may reasonably be asked, What if the doctor when alone in the employ of the association, and during term had been placed in as bad a predicament as that of Mr. Bletcher? Your answer that such a contingency may never occur again requires careful consideration.

It is necessary to bear in mind that the proper remuneration of our two lecturers for their future services demands immediate attention. The strictest regard, however, to our financial ability to pay two men moderately well, or one man sufficiently, must of course be an important factor in the final disposition of this question. At the same time it should be remembered that one man might be sorely handicapped in his work. If the decision be for one man, then it would seem that a competent assistant must also be employed. It must be remembered that unless we make our teaching thoroughly sound, theoretically and practically, we shall lose students who have travelled and continue to travel to Ontario for their lectures. No particular effort has hitherto been made by us to induce young men to remain in their own province.

#### THE DIGNITY OF WESTERN DRUGGISTS.

Gentlemen, the third person now wishes to give utterance to thoughts which through modesty he has long withheld.

It costs me not a moment's thought how much I may be censured by saying that druggists doing business in Manitoba are neither just to themselves nor to our Pharmaceutical Association in advertising for Eastern graduates in preference to our own. Knowing the severe ordeal that

minor and major candidates are subjected to by examiners here, you can have no hesitation in believing that recent graduates from this city need entertain no fear of passing the most rigid examination in Ontario or elsewhere. In moral, social, and mental qualities I am ready to declare that the men who have received their pharmaceutical training in this province are not to be surpassed by those of any other country. The fact remains, whether through thoughtlessness or sheer discrimination, that Manitoba has been made the refuge for many Ontario graduates, while our own, if not ignored, have been forgotten. Consider what all this means. The Ontario College, in short, is enriched at our expense. That college not only takes the fees from our young men, but the fees from those of her own province. Without protest, nay with tacit consent, we give shelter to any or all of such graduates.

The president here read the list of Western students who have attended the O.C.P.

Not only in this particular is the dignity of the Western druggist at stake. We consider ourselves professionally trained, otherwise we could not do business. We would not, in fact, be allowed to use the title of "Pharmaceutical Chemist" if not competent. In consequence of our profession being also a trade, as distinguished from the profession of medicine, advertising is not thought derogatory. There are, however, very questionable methods of advertising. It is in my opinion not only derogatory, but unpardonably insinuating, when a leading druggist openly asks "where will you take it" in the following words. This question often arises after you have consulted the best physician you know, and have received his prescription. It should go to the best druggist you know—one who will use only the right kind of drugs, and will not try to fill it if he hasn't the right kind. It should go to the druggist who will exercise the greatest care in getting the right drug, and the right quantity, and will go over his work several times to be sure he is right. We conduct our prescription business as the best druggist should, and this is an answer to the question "where will you take it."

Advertising is perfectly legitimate for us; but let it not be mean. Clever! Yes. But not degrading and insulting. The sample before you insults the profession of medicine as much as it does