

M. Ford, who presented a paper on "Legalized Adulteration of Food and Drugs."

Mr. Ford's paper created quite a discussion on preservatives, especially Sodium Benzoate.

Mr. W. A. Hover then read some extracts from a proposed ruling of the Department of Agriculture on the restriction and regulation of the sale of narcotic drugs.

Expressions on the traffic were decidedly in favor of prohibiting the manufacture and sale of cocaine entirely on the ground that cocaine does and has done more harm than it can ever do good.

As it was about time for the owl car, the meeting adjourned after giving a rising vote of thanks to the Davis-Bridaham Co. Mr. McDermand and Mr. Ford.

F. W. NITARDY *Secretary.*

### Changes of Address

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### FAULTS OF TABLET MEDICATION.

"The much-used tablet, compressed or triturate, doubtless renders much medication valueless, and perhaps, fortunately, harmless. The speed of solution of most tablets on the market is problematical, hence if the action of a tablet is immediately desired it should be predissolved, or at least crushed by the teeth before swallowing, and then a good drink of water taken with it. It should not be forgotten that anything that may bite or irritate the membrane of the mouth will do the same to the mucous membrane of the stomach. Hence bromide tablets should never be taken undissolved. Potassium chlorate tablets dissolved in the mouth or swallowed are dangerous. Potassium chlorate solutions for the mouth and throat are valuable, but there is no justification for ever taking potassium chlorate into the stomach or into the system."—*J. A. M. A.*

### REMOVING FASTENED STOPPERS.

Reagent bottles holding caustic alkalies, alkaline carbonates, etc., very frequently become fixed, and the usual method has been to tap the stopper with a wooden block or the application of heat to the neck, or a combination of both. Results are poor in certain cases and often culminate in the fracture of the neck. The inverse process may be used to advantage. In other words, freeze the stopper, thus causing a contraction of the stopper from the neck. The bottles which I used for experiment had failed to open under the heating and tapping, and were bad cases of fixed stoppers. The bottles held sodium carbonate that had formed sodium silicate, an excellent cement, and so were firmly fixed. They were inverted in a mixture of crushed ice and calcium chloride, taking care that the freezing solution did not touch the lips of the bottles. After standing twenty minutes, each stopper was removed without the slightest exertion. This is the neatest and safest way to remove stoppers from bromine bottles and other corrosive chemicals.—*Scientific American.*

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