

THE JOURNAL OF THE
CERTIFIED PHARMACIES.

As the demand for a high-grade milk has given us "certified" milk, so the demand for high-grade, competent and reliable pharmacies—pharmacies where a physician may send his prescriptions with the assurance that they will be compounded conscientiously—promises to lead to the establishment or recognition of "certified" pharmacies. The pharmaceutic profession no less than the medical profession has long recognized that many who are licensed to conduct a "drug store" are not equipped to compound prescriptions. While it is generally conceded that the amount of real drug business is not sufficient to furnish a livelihood for more than an extremely small portion of those engaged in it, there is an opportunity for a limited number to conduct high-class pharmacies, and many schemes have been proposed for establishing some sort of dividing line between ordinary drug stores and real pharmacies.

The plan of examining pharmacies and issuing licenses to those which meet the requirements, urged by M. I. Wilbert some ten years ago, was recently again proposed at a joint meeting of the Medical Society of the County of New York and the New York branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association, and it was decided that a committee to consist of ten members from each society should draw up regulations or requirements for the "certification" of pharmacies."

At this meeting one of the speakers made the point that a physician knows the reliable pharmacies in his own neighborhood but is entirely at sea when away from home, and that there should be some method of certifying to pharmacies at which physicians can have absolute confidence that their prescriptions will be compounded correctly and with the skill and care of the properly trained pharmacist whose business is conducted in accordance with medical and pharmaceutic ethics.

While the establishment of requirements for such certifications should be carefully considered, the need of a dividing line between the druggist whose energies are chiefly devoted to the sale of cigars, chewing-gum, soda-water and patent medicines, and the pharmacist to whom one may safely entrust the compounding of prescriptions is so urgent that we shall look forward to the outcome with much interest. We are reminded at this time that physicians have long attempted through consultations and discussions—generally informal—to gain information regarding the qualifications of pharmacists in the various parts of the town or city in which they practice.—*Journal A. M. A.*

TWO KINDS OF PHARMACIES CAN SUCCEED.

Has it ever occurred to you, dear reader, that we could have two kinds of pharmacies in this country and have them both successful? Suppose we had a standard for such stores as desired to fill physicians prescriptions, these stores to be known by some readily recognizable sign, prominently displayed for the benefit of the public, this class of store to be known as a "Prescription Pharmacy" and its medicines to be "certified" as being absolutely right for human consumption,