

considerable discussion the Section passed a motion that this paper be referred to the Council with the recommendation that the formulas be submitted to the U. S. Treasury Department.

### ALCOHOL AND PROHIBITION.

BY F. W. NITARDY.

With the advent of prohibition the status of alcohol as industrial and medicinal material should receive careful consideration. The nation has declared itself in favor of prohibition and as interested parties in the use of alcohol for purposes other than beverage we owe a duty to ourselves and the public in seeing that the legitimate use of alcohol is safeguarded as well as that it and its preparations are not misused to the end of defeating the prohibition amendment.

Whether or not alcohol as such is of sufficient importance as a remedial agent to make it desirable to preserve its use to the public and with it its almost certain abuse by the public, is a matter for the medical profession to decide. It is, however, well within the province of Pharmacy to suggest a modified form of alcohol of such composition that it cannot readily be used as, or converted into a beverage and is at the same time fit for external use as liniment or bathing alcohol. We should even consider the inclusion of such a preparation in the coming issue of the Pharmacopoeia or National Formulary. The restriction of the public to alcohol of such a nature will simplify the question of abuse and relieve the pharmacist of undesirable responsibility.

We should be able to learn from and profit by the experience and actions taken by states who have been dry for some time and have definitely fixed the status of alcohol by law, and in this connection desire to call your attention to the Alcohol Law of Colorado. It provides for the sale to the public of alcohol in two modified forms only—one consisting of grain alcohol containing one-tenth of one percent of croton oil, the other consisting of a mixture of alcohol and water containing one-tenth of one percent of tartar emetic. The latter is especially intended for bathing purposes.

The formulas were adopted after joint and careful consideration of the subject by Medical and Pharmaceutical Associations of the State and have to the best of my knowledge proven satisfactory to all parties concerned.

As such alcohol is thoroughly denatured, it seems that it may even be possible to have these formulas recognized by the Revenue authorities as satisfactory for tax free alcohol.

I understand that there is a bill before Congress concerning industrial alcohol with the object to provide for less restriction in use of tax-free alcohol. I also understand that the Government is ready to receive suggestions in relation to this subject. Pharmacy is vitally interested in the matter and we should see to it that legislation of this nature receives the careful attention from us that it needs.

A communication from Chairman I. A. Becker, of the Sub-Committee on Photographic Formulas A. Ph. A. Recipe Book, entitled "Some Fundamental Considerations in Dispensing Photographic Formulas," was read and referred to the Publication Committee.

Then followed open discussion on the forthcoming revision of the U. S. Pharmacopoeia and National Formulary.

The paper on "Oral Hygiene and Oral Antiseptics," by W. F. Gidley, was read by title and referred to the Publication Committee, also a paper on "Ointment Difficulties," by William Gray (see p. 746, September issue of THIS JOURNAL).

Further nominations for officers of the Section were called for, but none were presented. The following were elected officers for the ensuing year:

*Chairman*, E. A. Ruddiman, Nashville, Tenn.; *Secretary*, Ivor Griffith, Philadelphia, Pa.; *Associates*, F. W. Nitardy, Brooklyn, N. Y., and William R. White, Nashville, Tenn.

The officers were installed by the retiring Chairman, R. W. Terry, following which the Section on Practical Pharmacy and Dispensing was adjourned.

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