

LEGAL AND LEGISLATIVE.

NARCOTICS DIVISION LISTS DRUGS EXEMPT FROM LIMITATIONS.

Certain preparations designed for external use, and which contain narcotic drugs in excess of the exemption limitations of the law, may be sold as exempt preparations within the meaning of the second paragraph of Article 103, Regulations Number Five, according to a statement issued recently by the Narcotics Division of the Prohibition Bureau.

The reason given by the Bureau for the exemption of these products is that they appear sufficiently denatured to prevent their internal administration. A list may be obtained from the Revenue Collector, however, a general statement made some time ago may be taken as indicating the present policy of the Narcotic Division of the Prohibition Bureau:

"All external preparations containing narcotics, including those for aural, nasal, ocular, rectal, urethral or vaginal purposes, fall within the exempt class irrespective of the amount of narcotic contained, provided that where a preparation contains narcotic drugs in excess of the exempted quantities in the first paragraph of Article 103, the product must contain other ingredients which render it unfit for internal administration, and provided further that the preparation is sold for medicinal purposes only, as indicated in Article 104, Regulation Number Five, and a record is kept of the sales thereof in the manner described in Article 107; it being understood, of course, that preparations containing cocaine in any amount are not exempt."

RENEW LIQUOR PERMITS IN JULY OR AUGUST.

Manufacturers in the drug trade should apply for renewal of their liquor permits some time during July or August, advised Harry B. Thompson, general counsel of the Proprietary Association, at the convention of the group held recently in New York City.

Originally, Mr. Thompson pointed out, it was understood from the regulations governing the National Prohibition Act that those making patent or proprietary medicines or other commodities unfit for beverage purposes were not to be subject to the provisions of the Act. Permits taken out by these manufacturers, therefore, were to remain in force as long as the supporting bonds required by these regulations remained in full force.

One of the United States courts, however, Mr. Thompson told the convention, has ruled that all permits, regardless of what they are for, must be renewed annually.

In a suit to be heard shortly by the Supreme Court, this question will be finally determined. Meanwhile, until a decision is secured, manufacturers are urged to renew their permits although they are under no circumstances to surrender their old permits.—From *Drug Trade News*.

STANDARDS ON PLASTERS AND GAUZE IN EFFECT ON SEPTEMBER 1ST.

Standard sizes of adhesive plaster and surgical gauze will be put into effect on September 1, 1928, according to a bulletin just released by the Division of Simplified Practice of the Department of Commerce.

The decision to create standards of these commodities was reached on February 15th, at a meeting attended by representatives of the manufacturers, users and distributors of these products.

To put the standards into effect, however, the written acceptance of at least 80% of the hospital, medical and drug trades was necessary. This has already been obtained.

The standard sizes of these products, it is understood, are subject to annual revision or reaffirmation by the drug and allied industries.

OLD MODEL OF STEAM AUTO AT UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND.

Surrounded by medicine bottles and specimens, an old model of a steam automobile, probably one of the first of its kind in the world, is lying on a shelf in the pharmaceutical laboratory of the University of Maryland.

Long before the automobile era a professor at the university dreamed of a power-driven carriage, and constructed a working model of his dream. To-day, the model, at least forty years old, is still in a workable condition, although one of its wheels is missing and the valve mechanism and other parts are broken and worn.

The inventor, according to A. Dorsey Johnson, cashier of the university, was the late Dr. William E. A. Aiken, professor of chemistry and pharmacy from 1838 to 1888.

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