

## LEGAL AND LEGISLATIVE.

### THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION ENCOURAGED.

The Federal Trade Commission is encouraged by the Raladam decision. Commissioner W. E. Humphrey said: "The court stated, in no uncertain terms, that if this element of competition had been proved to the satisfaction of the court, there would be no question whatever regarding the Commission's right to claim a need of protecting the public health in presenting the findings, supported by evidence, which warrant the conclusion that the preparation is one which cannot be used generally with safety to physical health except under medical direction and advice."

### BILL TO LICENSE DOCTORS AS PHARMACISTS WITHOUT EXAMINATIONS.

The Florida Senate Bill seeks to amend the pharmacy practice act permitting the licensing of physicians without examination who for ten years were engaged in the practice of medicine and have been licensed in the state as medical practitioners.

### CALIFORNIA LAW SIMILAR TO CAPPER-KELLY BILL.

The California Retail Druggists Association in coöperation with other organizations has made possible a law long upon the statute books practically in the language of the pending measure, the Capper-Kelly Fair Trade Bill, in Congress. The bill referred to was successfully guided through the Legislature without change and as a state law will be a model for other legislatures and will have an effect upon the members of Congress. An effort was made to make distinctions between predatory and other kinds of injurious price cutting without success.

### FORT WORTH, TEXAS, NAMED FOR NARCOTIC FARM.

Fort Worth, Texas, has been selected as a location of the new Federal Narcotic Farm west of the Mississippi. Lexington, Ky., was selected for the first farm. The new farm is designed to accommodate about one thousand narcotic addicts from the Federal prison west

of the Mississippi, with facilities for other persons who may volunteer for treatment.

### CHAIN STORES TAX IN INDIANA UPHELD.

The Indiana law imposing a special license tax on chain stores is constitutional, the Supreme Court of the United States held May 18th in a five-to-four opinion. The case is entitled State Board of Tax Commissioners of Indiana, etc., *et al.* v. Jackson, No. 183.

There are numerous distinctions between chain stores and other types of stores, Mr. Justice Roberts declared in the majority opinion, in which Mr. Chief Justice Hughes and Mr. Justice Holmes, Brandeis and Stone concurred. These differences and advantages in favor of the chains are shown by their number and astonishing growth, he said, and warrant placing them in a separate class for license tax purposes.

The opposite view was expressed by Mr. Justice Sutherland in a dissenting opinion concurred in by Mr. Justice Van Devanter, McReynolds and Butler. "The advantages attributed to the chain store lie not in the fact that it is one of a number of stores under the same management but in the fact that it is one of the parts of a large business, the dissenting opinion ascribed. The fact that the business is carried on under many roofs, and that of others under one only, is not sufficient, and the tax amounts to a clear and hostile discrimination against a selected body of taxpayers," Mr. Justice Sutherland declared.

### U. S. TRADE WITH ARGENTINA.

The year 1930 marked the attainment by Argentina of the leading position among the South American markets as a consumer of American medicinals and pharmaceuticals. Having been preceded by Colombia in 1929 in value of medicinal purchases from the United States, Argentina led that country by more than a quarter million dollars at the end of last year. Among the leading world markets for American medicinals Argentina is surpassed only by the United Kingdom, Cuba, British India and Canada.—Assistant Trade Commissioner Thomas C. Ballagh.