by Stan Sanders and Mickey Roach

> Photos by Mickey Roach

Dr. G. W. Shores

Consulting Physician and Medical Director of Zion's Medical Institute

Salt Lake City, Utah

[Fig. 1] DR. G. W. SHORES, DOLLAR NEED BE

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Lock Box 1888, Balt Lake City, Utah.

What is it that is so intriguing about the past? It is hard to describe to a "nonparticipant" in our hobby as to what we see in these objects of glass that silently speak out to us. Maybe it is a longing to go back a hundred years to see how our ancestors lived, what challenges they faced? It is almost magical to look at an old bottle, and for just a moment, we find ourselves peering through the eyes of yesteryear!

Such are the nostalgic feelings conjured up by the bottles of one of Utah's most "famous Doctors" - The G. W. Shores Company, "proprietors and manufacturers of Dr. G. W. Shores Famous Curative Remedies."

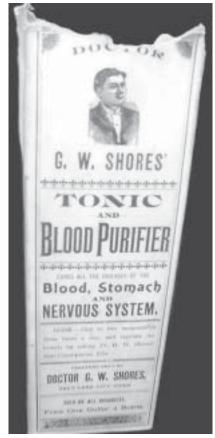
The Zion's Health Instructor (a broadside published by the G. W. Shores Company, Salt Lake City, Utah, circa 1900) listed the broad range of Dr. Shores products, including numerous "Cures," "Vermifuges," "Tablets," etc.

Dr. G. W. Shores:

- Tonic and Blood Purifier [Fig. 2]
- Kidney and Liver Cure
- Cough Cure
- Pepsin Vermifuge
- Acme Tooth Powder
- Epileptine
- Nerve Tonic Pills
- Winter Green Salve
- Complete Catarrh Cure [Fig. 6]
- Anti-Constipation Pills [Fig. 7]
- Favorite Prescription [Fig. 8]
- Mountain Salve Oil
- Kola Bitters

Only a few of Dr. Shores bottles have been located, making them a rare and

highly sought after collectible for collectors of Utah and western medicines.



[Fig. 2]

Some of the fascinating and outlandish statements of the "medicinal properties" purported for these remedies included:

- Dr. G. W. Shores Epileptine

"Is absolutely guaranteed to cure every case of epilepsy, or fits, if the simple directions on the bottle are followed. Price, \$2.50 a bottle."



- Dr. G. W. Shores' Nerve Tonic Pills

"The great Utah remedy for nervous prostration, organic weakness, nervous debility, premature decline and all nervous diseases of either sex. Each box contains one full month's treatment. Price, \$5 a box."

Or, how about the following amazing claims for Dr. Shores' Kola Bitters:

"The best tonic on earth. For nervous and general debility, loss of appetite, indigestion and all cases resulting from an enfeebled, run-down, or overworked condition of the system. Prices, 25-cents and 5-cents a bottle."

How many of us today would like to take a swig of that juice to address our "run-down, or overworked condition of the system?" Wow, if only we could find "cures" for all these health problems today for \$2.50 or \$5 a box! Then again, \$5 likely was a lot of money in the 1890s.

A very interesting testimonial was published from a Mrs. August Liljenfeldt [Fig. 4]. She says, "I have been deaf for several years - particularly in my left ear - and the loudest noises were barely heard when I listened intently. Later on, I became totally deaf in that ear, and people had to fairly shout in my right ear to make me understand anything at all."

In large bold letters in the ad, she is further quoted, "I COULD NOT HEAR A TRAIN WHISTLE. Drs. Shores entirely restored my hearing in two months treatment. - Mrs. August Liljenfeldt, 61 Apple Street, Salt Lake City."





At the bottom of the testimonial was printed:

\$5.00 A MONTH FOR ALL CHRONIC DISEASES

No one deprived of the benefits of Drs. Shores' treatment because living at a distance from the office. The same wonderful and uniform success attending the treatment of Drs. Shores in their office is found in their home treatment of patients by mail. Write for symptom list and get expert advice. FREE!

Drs. Shores & Shores, Expert Specialists
IN THE TREATMENT AND CURE OF ALL CATARRHAL
AND CHRONIC DISEASES

Harmon Block, Entrance, Room 210, 34 East Second South St., Salt Lake City, Utah - P.O. Box 1585



Stan Sanders' research identified advertisements for Dr. Shores' products for October 17, 1896 in the "*Piute Pioneer*, August 6, 1902 in the *Salt Lake Tribune*, November 14, 1904 in the *Salt Lake Herald*, November 16, 1907 in the *Piute Courant*, and February 29, 1916 in the *Salt Lake Tribune*.

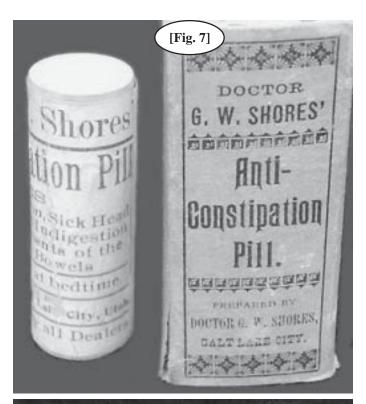
Another curious testimonial of Dr. Shores' remedies is quoted here to illustrate the advertised potential of some of these wondrous medicines of the past:

"I have a new lease on life since taking Doctor Shores" splendid remedies," says Mrs. O.J. Robinson, who resides at 610 South Third West Street, Salt Lake City. "I had been troubled with heart disease for a good many years, brought on by complicated kidney trouble, hard work and exposure in early days. My heart would throb and palpitate until sometimes I would think it would jump out of my breast. The slightest exercise made me weak and faint, and when I would walk upstairs, I would have to stop and rest every three or four steps. I had dull, heavy, aching pains across my back. My feet and limbs would swell until they would feel so heavy that I could scarcely lift them to get about. My stomach distressed me, my food did not properly digest and my blood was weak and watery. In fact, I had reached a point where my friends thought that nothing could be done for me, but they are delighted and surprised to see me looking so well, and I feel very thankful to Doctor Shores, for I not only feel that I have a new lease on life. A remarkable short use of Doctor Shores' Tonic and Blood Purifier, Kidney and Liver Cure and Anti-Constipation Pills has placed me in a position where life is pleasant and no longer a burden to me, as it used to be."



Above: Stan Sanders and Mickey Roach together in the Stan Sanders Bottle Museum, Salt Lake City, Utah.

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Illustrations:

[Fig. 1] Advertisement from Puite Pioneer, October 17, 1896.

[Fig. 2] Dr. G. W. Shores' Tonic and Blood Purifier box.

[Fig. 3] Illustration showing the side of the box for Dr. Shores' Tonic and Blood Purifier, stating, "The Greatest System Renovator on Earth."

[Fig. 4 and 5] Advertisements from 1890.

[Fig. 6] Box for Dr. G. W. Shores' Complete Catarrh Cure.

[Fig. 7] Box and bottle for Dr. Shores' Anti-Consipation Pills.

[Fig. 8] Box and bottle for Dr. Shores' Favorite Prescription.

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Just for fun...

Practical Jokes

(or who says you cannot have fun when the show slows down?)

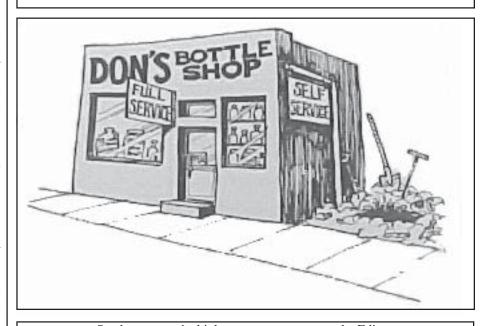


Collector: "I'd just like for you to explain to me why this jar is marked \$1200.00 and the very same jar next to it is \$1.00?"

Dealer: "Well, ma'am, they aren't the same jar... You see, this one is a very rare jar and ever though it is clear, like the other jar, it is from a very rare mold and company. See here, it says, 'Drey Perfect' ... 'Wait a minute, that's not MY label...!"

As laughter explodes from the dealers around him, we say, "Gotcha Jackie!! And, you were so sincere in attempting explanation...!"

(Collector - unknown, Dealer - Jackie Barker, and Bill Henderson as the Merry Prankster.)



Send your practical jokes, cartoons, etc. - to the Editor: Kathy Hopson, 1966 King Springs Road, Johnson City, TN 37601 or by E-mail: thesodafizz@highstream.net