

Of General Interest

NATIONAL WHOLESALE DRUGGISTS' ASSOCIATION.

Thirty-eighth Annual Convention.

The thirty-eighth annual convention of the National Wholesale Druggists' Association was held at Milwaukee, Wis., during the week of October 14, with a good attendance.

The first session was formally opened at Hotel Pfister at 10 o'clock on Tuesday morning. The customary greetings were extended by the mayor and commercial bodies of the city, which were replied to on behalf of the Association by Dr. William Jay Schieffelin, of New York. The greetings of the American Pharmaceutical Association were presented by General Secretary James H. Beal, of that society. Professor Beal's greetings were responded to by Mr. Albert Plaut, of New York City, who paid an eloquent tribute to the past work of the A. P. A. in its relation to pharmacy as a whole and to the National Wholesale Druggists' Association.

Greetings on behalf of the newly created National Association of Manufacturers of Medicinal Products were presented by Mr. Charles J. Lynn, of Indianapolis, to which response was made by Thomas F. Main, of New York. The Proprietary Association of America spoke through George L. Douglass, Esq., to which Mr. Charles A. West, of Boston, responded. The New York Association sent greetings through Mr. M. R. Snow, the New Jersey and Pennsylvania Associations through Mr. C. Mahlon Kline, and the Virginia Association through Mr. Edgar M. Taylor, to which suitable responses were made respectively by Messrs. C. F. Weller, of Nebraska, William Scott, of Indianapolis, and C. P. Walbridge, of Missouri.

President Theodore F. Meyer's address dealt with the history and past work of the N. W. D. A., with the Eighth International Congress of Applied Chemistry, the Fifteenth International Congress of Hygiene and Demography, the Fifth International Congress of Chambers of Commerce; na-

tional legislation proposed and enacted; the general condition of the wholesale drug trade, and paid a fitting tribute to the memory of the late Frank A. Faxon, ex-President of the Association.

Subsequent sessions of the convention were devoted mainly to the consideration of reports of the officers and committees, and included also the hearing of addresses from distinguished visitors.

Among the reports to which the Secretary of the A. Ph. A. had the pleasure of listening and from which extracts will be printed in future issues of the Journal were the following:

Committee on Commercial Travelers and Selling Methods, by F. M. Berks, Peoria, Ill.; Committee on Credits and Collections, by Mr. Lee M. Hutchins, Grand Rapids, Mich.; Committee on Memorials of Deceased Members, by H. J. Schnell, New York; Committee on Fire Insurance, by George W. Lattmer, Columbus, Ohio; Employer's Liability and Workingmen's Compensation, by James W. Morrison, of Chicago; Committee on Drug Market, by Irving McKesson, New York; Committee on Paints, Oils and Glass, by W. T. Harper, Ottumwa, Iowa; Committee on Proprietary Goods, by William P. Ritchey, of New York; Committee on Legislation, by Charles A. West, Boston; Committee on Prevention of Adulteration, by O. L. Biebinger, St. Louis; Committee on Trade Marks, George M. Beset, Burlington, Vt.; Special committee on Anti-Narcotic Legislation, by Charles A. West, Boston.

All the reports were characterized by the evident thoroughness and painstaking care with which the committees had studied their respective subjects and by the breadth of view expressed, the several questions being considered in a large and liberal way rather than from the narrow standpoint of trade interests.

At the Wednesday morning session Mr. Thomas H. Potts, Secretary of the N. A. R.

D., presented the greetings of that association in an admirable and eloquent address dealing with the relation of his own society to the allied organizations in pharmacy, and with the N. A. R. D. activity in legislative matters.

Professor Edward Kremers, of the School of Pharmacy of the University of Wisconsin, delivered an interesting address upon "The Cultivation of Medicinal Plants," in which he reviewed the history of drug collection and cultivation, and gave an outline of the efforts at the State University to place drug plant cultivation upon a scientific basis.

Mr. Albert Plaut gave an outline of the work of the Committee of Revision of the United States Pharmacopeia, showing the progress of the work to date and predicting that the report of the Committee of Revision would be ready for final consideration within another year.

The report of the Special Committee on Anti-Narcotic Legislation was presented by Chairman Charles A. West, of Boston, in connection with which there was read a telegram from President William H. Taft, which endorsed proposed legislation regulating the sale of narcotics, and requested the support of the Association for its enactment.

Dr. Hamilton Wright, of Washington, D. C., U. S. Opium Commissioner, was present at the Thursday morning session by special invitation. Dr. Wright delivered a very interesting address, reviewing the history of the growth of the opium habit, and the international conventions at the Hague and at Shanghai, and the efforts being made by the principal powers of the world to regulate the international traffic in narcotic drugs, and explained the provisions of the present Harrison Bill now pending before the United States Congress.

At the conclusion of Doctor Wright's address there was a general discussion of the Harrison Bill, to which several minor amendments were suggested. The consensus of opinion was in favor of the bill as a whole, but suggesting greater certainty of definition, so as to express more specifically the character of acts it is designed to cover, and so that the bill should control the illegitimate traffic in such drugs when carried on outside of the regular drug trade, whether wholesale or retail.

At the fifth session the Board of Control

made a lengthy and comprehensive report. In its character the Board of Control seems to combine the functions of the A. Ph. A. Council and the N. A. R. D. Committee on Resolutions. The report of the Board of Control dealt with the reports of the various officers and committees, and presented resolutions expressing the attitude of the N. W. D. A. upon the various questions considered.

The number of new members elected was larger than at any previous convention, consisting of eight active, and fifty-four associate members. Mr. John N. Cary, of Indianapolis, Ind., and Col. John B. Purcell, of Richmond, Va., were elected to honorary membership.

Officers elected for the ensuing year are as follows:

President—Albert Plaut, New York.

First Vice-President—William B. Strong, of Milwaukee, Wis.

Second Vice-President—John A. Gallagher, Kansas City.

Third Vice-President—Benjamin A. Jackson, Providence, R. I.

Fourth Vice-President—Marion Ward, Indianapolis, Ind.

Fifth Vice-President—Lynn Fort, Atlanta, Ga.

Secretary—Joseph E. Toms, New York.

Treasurer—Samuel E. Strong, Cleveland, Ohio.

Board of Control—Charles Gibson, Albany; Charles E. Bedwell, Omaha, Neb.; Andrew J. Geer, Charleston, S. C.; George R. Merrell, St. Louis; James W. Morrison, Chicago.

General Representative—F. E. Holliday, New York, N. Y.

The official headquarters of the Convention were at the Hotel Pfister, which, however, was unable to accommodate all of the members present and who were accommodated at other nearby hotels. Abundant entertainment in the way of auto rides, luncheons and theater parties were given to the visiting ladies. On Thursday afternoon an excursion was made to the Horlick's Malted Milk laboratories, at Racine, Wis., and in the evening an elaborate banquet was held at the Hotel Pfister, Mr. James W. Morrison, of Chicago, being toastmaster, an office which he discharged with great ability. Speeches were made by the retiring president,

Mr. Theodore F. Meyer; Hon. Levi H. Bancroft, Attorney-General of Wisconsin; Rev. M. Dorward; Hon. Joseph C. Donnelly, Chief Judge of the Civil Court of Milwaukee, and by President-elect Mr. Albert Plaut.

Jacksonville, Fla., was selected as the next meeting place, some time in November, not earlier than the 17th.

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THE DENVER MEETING OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BOARDS OF PHARMACY.

A. F. SALA.

The National Association of Boards of Pharmacy was called to order Tuesday morning, August 20, at Denver, Col., by the President, R. H. Walker of Gonzales, Texas. After the usual speeches of welcome and responses thereto, the committee on credentials ascertained who was entitled to a voice in the meeting. This done, the members proceeded to dispose of the business on hand. President Walker in his usual and happy style then presented his address, making several recommendations that were later on approved by the association.

The committee on questions and methods made a very voluminous and entertaining report containing much information as to the work being done by this association.

F. C. Dodds, Secretary of the Illinois Board of Pharmacy, introduced a set of resolutions fixing the minimum and average grades for successful examination as a basis for reciprocal registration. These grades were, after due and thorough discussion, fixed at not less than 60 per cent in any subject and an average of not less than 75 per cent upon the whole. The resolutions also provided for a fee of \$5.00 to be paid by the candidates to the National Association Boards of Pharmacy. They further provide for an advisory committee to be appointed by the President, whose duty it shall be to visit the several boards at their examinations with

a view of bringing about greater uniformity in methods.

The expenses of this committee are to be paid out of the \$5.00 fee, it being shown by the treasurer's report that sufficient funds can be collected, 300 reciprocal registrations being recorded in the year just closed.

The committee on reciprocity with Cuba reports progress and feels that same can be brought about in a short time.

The Committee on Legislation reported a scheme to establish a National Board of Examiners through which a national certificate is to be issued, good in all states. This means of course that the candidates must be graduates in pharmacy and comply in all respects with the most advanced ideas of registration. The general drift and inclination as exhibited during the discussion of this scheme is toward the college prerequisite and thus bring about reciprocal relationship and registration in a more satisfactory way.

Both of these schemes—Mr. Dodds and that of the Committee on Legislation—were adopted by the Association.

Three whole days were spent at the Denver meeting in discussing the various matters pertaining to registration, and those present feel that steps in the right direction were taken towards clearing the pharmaceutical atmosphere relative to registration in its various forms.

A scheme for intelligent examinations of the beginner in pharmacy was also presented, which if followed generally, will simplify that part of our problems.

The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows:

President—Wm. Mittlebach, Boonville, Mo.

First Vice-President—I. P. Gammon, Boston, Mass.

Second Vice-President—H. C. Shuptrine, Savannah, Ga.

Third Vice-President—Miss Kittie Harbor, Salem, Ore.

Secretary-Treasurer—A. F. Sala, Winchester, Ind.