

Proceedings of the Local Branches

"All papers presented to the Association and its branches shall become the property of the Association, with the understanding that they are not to be published in any other publication than those of the Association, except by consent of the Committee on Publication."—Resolution adopted at the Boston Convention, 1911.

Reports of the meetings of the Local Branches should be mailed to the editor on the day following the meeting, if possible. Minutes should be *plainly* written, or type-written, with wide spaces between the lines. Care should be taken to give proper names correctly, and manuscript should be signed by the reporter.



BALTIMORE BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the Branch was held at the Department of Pharmacy of the University of Maryland on Thursday evening, January 18th. The President, Mr. C. L. Meyer, was unable to attend, and the Vice President, Mr. J. E. Hancock, occupied the chair. The first order of business was the reports of the officers.

As Chairman of the Executive Committee, Mr. Hancock reported that this Committee had arranged for the meetings of the Branch, and had attended to the other routine business.

The report submitted by the Secretary-Treasurer showed a cash balance in the treasury, and a total membership of ninety-five (95), of which seven (7) are honorary, forty-four (44) active and forty-four (44) associate members. Five business meetings were held during the year, and one joint meeting with the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty in April.

For the Committee on Professional Relations, Dr. J. F. Hancock, Chairman, said that the Committee had worked very hard to make the joint meeting with the members of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty successful, and to further foster the spirit of fellowship and cooperation between the physicians and pharmacists of the state. He believed that the Branch had been of great service in this work.

The Committee on Membership reported

that an energetic and fairly successful campaign for members had been carried on through the Chairman, Mr. Dunning. The gain in membership had more than counterbalanced the loss through deaths, resignations, etc., during the year. The Committee hopes to further increase the membership during the next year.

In the absence of their Chairmen, no reports were presented by the Committees on Education and Legislation, and on the Science and Practice of Pharmacy.

The following officers were elected:

President—E. F. Kelly.

Vice President—W. M. Fouch.

Secretary-Treasurer—E. W. Hodson.

Chairman Committee on Membership—H. A. B. Dunning.

Chairman Committee on Professional Relations—Dr. J. F. Hancock.

Chairman Committee on Science and Practice of Pharmacy—Dr. H. P. Hynson.

Chairman Committee on Education and Legislation—J. E. Hancock.

On account of the lateness of the hour, the discussion of the formulas of the new preparations proposed for admission to the National Formulary was deferred to the next meeting.

Dr. Hynson announced that this Committee would continue the work on these formulas begun at the November meeting.

Dr. J. E. Hancock referred to a movement inaugurated by the Baltimore Retail Drug-gists' Association to have pharmacists exempted from jury duty in Maryland. As President of the Maryland Pharmaceutical Association he had been asked to attend a meeting of the Retail Association, where this matter was discussed at some length, and steps taken to have the necessary legislation enacted at the present session of the General Assembly. The question was generally discussed, but no action was taken. Mr. Hancock was asked to cooperate on behalf of the Branch in any desirable legislation of interest to pharmacists.

After an informal discussion of the work of the Branch for the ensuing year, which will be taken up by the Executive Committee, the meeting adjourned.

The next meeting will be held on February 15th.

E. F. KELLY,

Secretary-Treasurer.

CHICAGO BRANCH.

The January meeting of the Chicago Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association was the most largely attended and most interesting meeting of the season. It was held at the rooms of the Board of Pharmacy on Tuesday evening, January 16, and was devoted chiefly to a discussion of the progress of pharmacopœial revision.

Preliminary to taking up the program of the evening, the Nominating Committee, consisting of Messrs. Snow, Patterson and Christensen, reported the following nominations for officers, who were then unanimously elected:

President, J. H. Wells; First Vice-President, S. K. Sass; Second Vice-President, Wm. Gray; Third Vice-President, Mrs. M. M. Gray; Secretary-Treasurer, W. B. Day. Committee Chairmen: Practical Pharmacy, I. A. Becker; Medical Relations, Dr. Bernard Fantus; Publicity, Otto Bruder, and Legislation, J. P. Crowley. Council Representative, A. H. Clark

Vice-President Becker, who had taken the chair early in the evening in the absence of President Storer, then requested the Nominating Committee to bring forward the newly elected officers, and President Wells was duly installed as the presiding officer. The other officers were presented to the Branch and the meeting was then turned over to Professor Clark, who had arranged the program.

In introducing the subject, Professor Clark briefly outlined the program of the work of revision so far and made a forecast as to the possible completion of the work of the various committees. He expected to see the work of revision entirely completed within the present year. He then brought up a number of features which seemed best suited for discussion. Among these were the manner of expressing solubilities—whether the solubility is to be stated following the present custom—a given weight in a given volume—or whether the amount of the substance contained in a given volume of saturated solution should be stated or whether both substance and solvent should be stated by weight.

Doctor Fantus favored no change from the present practice, although in certain cases, such as potassium iodide, it would be an advantage to have the Pharmacopœia state the amount by weight in a given volume of a

saturated solution. Mr. Paul and Mr. Stuart also thought the latter method to be preferable as being more accurate and more convenient. Mr. Wells and Mr. Storer favored the retention of the present method as being most generally adapted to the pharmacist's use. In connection with solubilities, the question of temperature and temperature determinations came up, and this brought in statements as to melting points and boiling points which were discussed by Messrs. Becker, Gray and Snow. The sentiment in favor of the retention of Fahrenheit temperature, with the centigrade temperature readings, seems to prevail. Even the strongest advocates of the metric system and the centigrade thermometer admitted that clinical thermometers were seldom or never graduated in the centigrade scale and that many physicians and even teachers in the medical schools still adhere to the old style of dosage, so that it would still be necessary to retain the equivalents for metric doses in grains and minims.

The physical constants of volatile oils were discussed by Professors Linton and Patterson and Mr. Barrett. It seemed to be the general opinion that the description of color, odor and taste, although of secondary importance to specific gravity and optical activity, should, nevertheless, be included in the Pharmacopœial descriptions.

Mr. Day spoke of the introduction of the descriptions of the powdered drugs and expressed the hope that it would be found to include a brief and general description of these powders, which would be sufficiently comprehensive to suit the purpose and yet not be so finely detailed as to become the subject of controversy and quibble.

Mr. Gathercoal spoke of the necessity of making due allowance for small quantities of inert foreign material in drugs, such as the presence of stems in leaf drugs and of attached stems in several rhizome and root drugs, and of the need of mentioning these in the powders. He also made the point that the official definition should include a statement that would make it cover the comminuted or powdered drugs as well as the whole drug in each instance so that there might be no room for evasion of the Food and Drugs Act on these points. Mr. Gathercoal then offered the following resolution, which was seconded and adopted:

Resolved, It is the sense of the meeting

that the Revision Committee should introduce such statements as shall make the official title and definition include the drug in all forms of comminution.

A vote of thanks was unanimously given to the retiring officers, and in this vote of thanks especial mention was made of President Storer, who retires from office after having served for two years.

The next meeting will be held Tuesday evening, February 20, and will be devoted to a discussion of the Revision of the National Formulary, and an exhibit of the preparations of the National Formulary will be made. The program will be in charge of Prof. C. M. Snow and the meeting will be held at the University of Illinois School of Pharmacy.

W. B. DAY, *Secretary*.



NASHVILLE BRANCH.

The regular monthly meeting of the A. Ph. A. was held on Thursday afternoon, Dec. 14, 1911, at Furman Hall, Vanderbilt, with President J. O. Burge in the chair. The discussion of the formulas proposed for admission to N. F. IV, continued from last meeting, was again taken up and commented on as follows: It was thought that the strength of the Formic Acid used in the Compound Elixir Formates, should be stated. The 25 per cent acid was used in the sample exhibited and the quantity named in the formula was found insufficient to dissolve salts. There is no demand in this section for a preparation of this remedy, nor for its fancifully named proprietary forms.

The Elixir Cardamon Compound is a nice preparation and an agreeable aromatic.

There being so little demand for the Elixir Bitter Orange, its inclusion was thought to be superfluous—the Sweet Orange being used almost exclusively as a flavor.

There is some request for Elixir Sodium Salicylate Compound, and also for Elixir Manaca and Salicylates Compound, a formula for the latter would be welcomed in this section. The Essence of Pepsin seems to be the choice of physicians as a vehicle and its use instead of Aromatic Elixir was suggested.

The admission of too many simple vehicles should be discouraged, and the aromatic oils and spirits used directly in the preparation was suggested, as it would lessen the number

of preparations required to be kept on hand by the pharmacist, and be an encouragement for the manufacture of this class of Galenicals by the retailer.

It was thought distilled water recently boiled should be specified in Liquor Sodii Chloridii, and that its admission would give a preparation of uniform strength throughout the country instead of the various strengths now used. There is no demand in this locality for Aqua Phenolata.

The question was raised as to the destroying or retarding of the action of Pepsin by the aromatics in the Liquor Pepsin Antisepticus. This point should be tried out before its admission.

For Tincture Opii Crocata and Tincture Coculus Indicus, there is no demand whatever in this section. It was suggested that the use of Potassium Carbonate in the Tincture Larkspur made a darker and more efficacious remedy with the use of a weaker strength of alcohol.

Tincture Cactus, Tincture Passiflora and Tincture Pulsatilla each have some call in this section. The Elixir Saw Palmetto and Santal meets with considerable demand in this territory, and is considered a more desirable preparation than the tincture. No need for both preparations.

The demand for Liquor Carbonis Detergens is growing in this vicinity. It is believed that the English method of making it, with the application of heat to about 120° F. for twenty-four hours, will make a stronger and better preparation. Aromatic Castor Oil will make an acceptable additional preparation to the N. F., but it was thought Peppermint flavor would be preferable.



PITTSBURGH BRANCH

Notwithstanding the winds that howled around the corner of the College of Pharmacy building on the bluff overlooking the raging waters of the Monongahela river, the attendance at the January meeting of the Pittsburgh Branch of the A. Ph. A. was good. In the enforced absence of the Secretary, for the first time since the organization was born, a capable substitute was found in the person of Mr. J. S. O'Brien. The annual election of officers resulted in the choice of these good men and true to keep the wheels in motion for 1912: President, Andrew

Campbell; First Vice-President, Louis Saalbach; Second Vice-President, Peter G. Walter; Third Vice-President, Leonard K. Darbaker; Secretary, B. E. Pritchard; Treasurer, P. Henry Utech. For Committee Chairmen: Membership, Charles E. Willets; Practice, F. J. Blumenschein; Medical Relations, Geo. W. Kutscher; Education and Legislation, J. H. Beal.

Dr. Blumenschein presented a formidable list of proposed deletions from the Pharmacopœia as urged by the Revision Committee, to which he strenuously objected, giving excellent reasons therefor in each instance. All of the objections were sustained, after exhaustive discussion, except the following:

Acetum Opii.—On motion of Dr. Koch, supported by Dr. Saalbach, the deletion was endorsed.

Acidum Sulphurosum.—Drs. Koch and Judd agreed that a formula for the extemporaneous preparation should be given, and it was adopted as the sense of the Branch that such action would be recommended, and the Chair appointed as a committee to formulate same, Drs. Judd, Blumenschein and Wurdack.

Cataplasma Kaolini.—On motion of Dr. Koch, supported by Dr. Blumenschein, the deletion was opposed because of the widespread use of this preparation.

Cerii Oxalis.—On motion of Dr. Judd, supported by Dr. Wurdack, deletion opposed because of the extensive use of the article by the medical profession. For similar reason the deletion of *Extractum Sumbul* was objected to.

On motion, the action of the Branch was referred to the Secretary, with instructions to transmit the same to the Chairman of the Revision Committee.

The Chairman of the committee to which the proposed new formulas for introduction into the National Formulary, Dr. Koch, submitted a partial report, in which he called attention to the statement contained in the letter from the National Formulary Committee to the Branches that it was not comments based upon theory that was wanted, but that pharmacists try the formulas out, make the various preparations, and then submit suggestions as to improvements or objections to the formulas from a practical standpoint. The only questions we are asked to pass upon are: Are they stable preparations, and, perhaps, are they ethical? But even that may be

barred under the literal meaning of the committee's request. The members have made but a few of the proposed preparations and they were especially the elixirs. In some of the elixirs, Dr. Emanuel suggests that the per cent of alcohol is not sufficient to prevent fermentation in the presence of so large a quantity of syrup, and recommended that the latter be replaced by glycerin.

In the same connection, on the other hand, Dr. Blumenschein suggests that a less radical change in formula would be to use sugar and water, in lieu of syrup, arguing that if syrup is to be used in the manufacture of elixirs it is folly to first prepare the syrup and then mix this with the other liquids, when a much better result would be obtained by using the equivalent amount of sugar (85 gm. for each 100 Cc. of syrup) and the addition of more water.

Further commenting upon the subject of elixirs, Dr. Blumenschein presents some practical points for consideration as follows:

A consideration of the principles of pharmacy should be observed before submitting any formula for trial and comment. One point which was presented in a paper read at the 1908 convention of the A. Ph. A., and has since been discussed before this Branch, and which seems to have escaped the notice of pharmacists generally, is this, having a solution of a substance endeavor to keep it in solution, or if it does precipitate, have conditions right for insuring its solution again effected. For example, in all of these formulas the solutions of volatile oils are directed to be mixed with the aqueous liquid, and then kieselguhr or talc is to be added. This process renders it difficult to secure a clear filtrate, with the unfortunate result that druggists buy these preparations ready made.

On motion of Dr. Koch, the following recommendations were adopted:

That the members of the Pittsburg Branch are not able to pass upon the keeping qualities of these low alcoholic elixirs, but that they presume that this has been thoroughly tested out and they would offer as a suggestion that *sugar* be used instead of *syrup* in making all of the N. F. Elixirs. That in the working directions for these elixirs, the operator be instructed to mix the oils with the alcohol and flavoring agents with the kieselguhr, talcum or other filtering medium, and sugar, and then the aqueous liquid added. That synthetic oil neroli be

used instead of orange flower water. Elixir Formatum, that the formula for this be made to use Potassium Bicarbonate, Sodium Carbonate and Formic Acid instead of the salts now used.

Concerning Compound Spirit of Cardamom, inquire of N. F. Committee the object of inserting 1 Cc. of alcohol in the preparation.

Elixir Vanillin Compound, that on account of liability of its being mistaken for Extract Vanilla, the caramel be omitted.

Gargarysma Guaiac Compound, that we recommend the addition of 1 gram Tragacanth to the formula.

Tincture Larkspur, the formula to be changed by the addition of Acetic Acid 36 per cent, 100 parts, and the use of dilute Alcohol to make 1000. That it be made by maceration instead of percolation.

Tinctures of Pulsatilla and Passiflora, the use of the fresh instead of the dried herb.

In the proposed formula for Physiological Salt Solutions, specific reference be given to some authoritative method of sterilization.

A motion prevailed providing for the distribution of a number of proposed formulas among the members, with the request that they present specimens thereof at the next meeting.

B. E. PRITCHARD, *Secretary.*

Changes of Address

All changes of address of members should be sent to the General Secretary promptly.

The Association will not be responsible for non-delivery of the Annual Volume or Year Book, or of the JOURNAL unless notice of change of address is received before shipment or mailing.

Both the old and the new address should be given, thus:

HENRY MILTON,
From 2342 Albion Place, St. Louis, Mo.
To 278 Dartmouth St., Boston, Mass.

Titles or degrees to be used in publications or in the official records should be given, and names should be *plainly* written, or *type-written*.

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From 1915 Hyde St., San Francisco, Cal.
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To 3401 E. 12th St., Kansas City, Mo.

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From 42 Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill.
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WILLIAM H. GALE,

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WHAT TO GET FROM LIFE.

"Failure is often the turning-point, the pivot of circumstance that swings us to higher levels. It may not be financial success, it may not be fame; it may be new draughts of spiritual, moral or mental inspiration that will change us for all the later years of our life. Life is not really what comes to us, but what we get from it."—*William George Jordan.*