

tions of the annual N. A. R. D. convention can be made the subject of discussion and debate, and the benefits of that useful organization brought home to the local druggists.

The bound volumes of the past A. Ph. A. proceedings, moreover, are veritable mines of pharmaceutical wisdom from which in half an hour sufficient can be extracted to provide materials for an evening of profitable discussion.

If the A. Ph. A. is the post-graduate school of pharmacy, the Proceedings and JOURNAL are the text books, and the Branch meetings provide the lectures and recitations.

The man, or woman, who faithfully pursues the course of instruction will not fail to rank high as a pharmacist.

Matters of General Interest

AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY (DIVISION OF PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMISTRY.)

During the meeting of the American Chemical Society in Washington, D. C., December 27th to 30th, the Division of Pharmaceutical Chemistry held four very interesting sessions. The Chairman's address was upon "Our Advances and Retrogressions in Pharmaceutical Chemistry."

The following papers were presented:

A. B. Adams and J. M. Doran, Smoking Opium; Its Manufacture and Chemical Composition.

L. A. Brown, An Improved Method for Assay of Aromatic Sulphuric Acid.

Jos. P. Remington, Progress on the Work of Revision of the United States Pharmacopœia.

W. O. Emery, Estimation of Antipyrine in Acetanilide or Acetphenetidin Mixtures.

W. O. Emery, Estimation of Codeine in Acetanilid or Acetphenetidin Mixtures.

F. P. Dunnington, Some Unfamiliar Facts About Familiar Detergents.

R. Norris Shreve, Suggested Modifications of the U. S. P. Assay of Opium.

M. I. Wilbert, The Influence of Patents and Trade Marks on the United States Pharmacopœia.

E. O. Eaton, Estimating Small Quantities of Morphine in Mixtures.

A. G. Murray, Estimating Small Quantities of Nitrogen.

H. C. Hamilton, The Pharmacopœial Requirements for Cannabis Sativa.

H. C. Hamilton, Notes on Cannabis Indica.
A. D. Thorburn, The Estimation of Morphine in Cough Syrups.

C. M. Pence, The Bromine and Iodometric Methods for the Volumetric Estimation of Cresol.

J. B. Williams, The Estimation of Morphine in Pills, Tablets, etc.

Frederick J. Austin, Comments on Tests of the U. S. Pharmacopœia, Eighth Revision.

J. R. Rippetoe and R. Minor, Colocynth U. S. P.

C. H. Briggs, Alcohol Assays of Pharmaceutical Preparations.

L. F. Kebler, Standards for Tincture of Ginger.

L. F. Kebler, Standards and Methods.

Atherton Seidell, A Bromine-Hydrobromic Acid Method for the Determination of Phenols.

The annual election resulted in the choice of the following officers:

Chairman, B. L. Murray; Vice-Chairman, L. A. Brown; Secretary, Frank R. Eldred; Members of Executive Committee, L. F. Kebler, Atherton Seidell.

Communications and Correspondence

All communications must be signed by their
Authors

MORE EDUCATIONAL NEEDS OF THE PHARMACIST.

The article on Educational Needs, by our friend, Dr. H. P. Hynson, in the first issue of the JOURNAL brought to mind several things that from the daily experience in the conduct of a pharmacy it would be well if our colleges placed more stress upon and taught the importance thereof to their students.

Whilst we agree with Dr. Hynson that a three-year course as outlined by him is most excellent, at the same time we believe there are other things perhaps even more important than dignity that should be impressed upon the students during that third year.

Although we admit a certain amount of

pride in one's calling is highly essential yet we do not believe, nor do we think Dr. Hynson would advocate that pride or dignity be carried to the extent exemplified by a clerk in our employ a few years ago, a graduate of the Department of Pharmacy of the University at Warsaw, Russia, who insisted that his own countrymen (of whom we had quite a few customers in our then location), remove their hats when they entered the store or addressed him, as he claimed was customary in his country when a plebeian (his term) approached a professional gentleman; of course we informed him that in "the good old U. S. A." we have no plebeians, but "a man's a man for a' that," and that the highest culture as we understand it in this country means the recognizing of a fellow being even the outcast and vile, if thereby we can lead them to better and nobler things.

Nor do we desire to criticise the work of the Syllabus Committee, as we realize they are of the best our profession affords, both as to college and practical men, but sometimes the man that stands on the outside sees or experiences things that are overlooked by those in the inner circle, hence we concluded to set forth as already stated some things that from our practical experience as a proprietor and nine years' membership of a Board of Pharmacy, we deem essential.

We would suggest that, in the adoption of a three-year term at our colleges, a chair on jurisprudence be established so as to instruct the students in the ordinary civil and business laws that are essential for every man to know who engages in a pursuit that has both professional and commercial requirements; not to the extent that would enable them to practice law, but to make them familiar with the simple facts of the laws governing business transactions, such as contracts, partnerships, corporations, real estate, etc, so they might know the relationship and responsibility of each individual in such transactions and the importance of engaging a good attorney in preparing the necessary papers therefor.

This should be followed by the laws especially pertaining to pharmacy, so that the student may understand his rights, privileges and responsibilities as a registered pharmacist, as well as assistant, when he or she becomes such. Poison Laws, their purport and necessity; Food and Drug Laws

(National and State), their necessity and usefulness, should also be included.

We remember whilst a member of the Maryland Board of Pharmacy asking on several occasions the purport of the Poison Laws, but few of the aspirants for registration ever attempted to answer the question, and of those few the usual method was to quote so much of the law as the applicant happened to remember, and out of possibly two hundred, ten only gave anything like an intelligent answer; the best answer received being possibly the following: "The purport of Poison Laws is to prevent either accidental or intentional poisoning, as also the formation of vicious habits and to aid in ferreting out crime."

Most young men appearing for examination have a vague idea that the Pharmacy Law is primarily to restrict the number of pharmacies and protect the pharmacist, which we know is perfectly erroneous, as no law that is enacted for any other purpose than to benefit the people as a whole, can ever stand the test of time under our system of government.

As to the Pure Food and Drug Laws, according to our observation, the young men seem to think these have been enacted solely for the purpose of compelling the pharmacist to purchase his preparations from the manufacturer, so as to be able to show a guarantee when the inspector happens to make a purchase from him; thereby entirely overlooking the fact that these laws sustain the upright, honest, conscientious pharmacist, as well as the similarly inclined manufacturer, in legitimately conducting his business.

In conclusion, we would say, "Teach our young men all they are now being taught, add to it Dr. Hynson's dignity course, but do not neglect instructing them in what we might term pharmaceutical jurisprudence."

LOUIS SCHULZE.



THE NATIONAL TEMPERANCE BUREAU EXPLAINS THE PURPOSE OF THE KENYON AND SHEPPARD BILLS.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 9, 1912.

Hon. J. H. Beal, Scio, Ohio:

MY DEAR SIR AND FRIEND—My attention has just been called to an article in the *New York Journal of Commerce*, under date of February 6th, emanating from the National Wholesale Druggists' Association, and an

editorial in the same paper of February 7th, both pertaining to our interstate commerce bill originally introduced by Congressman Webb, of North Carolina, and now somewhat altered by the addition of Section Two, and introduced in the House by Mr. Shepard, of Texas, and in the Senate by Mr. Kenyon, of Iowa.

Both these articles are based upon a misapprehension of the bill. I am enclosing you herewith copies of the bills and a statement which was gotten out soon after the introduction of the bills last year, all of which will make the intention plain to you. I think that you will readily see that whoever wrote these articles was either thoroughly deceived about the character of the proposed legislation, or else is attempting to deceive the constituency of the drug trade and the readers of the Journal of Commerce with reference to the scope and policy of these bills. This ought not to go unchallenged and uncorrected, and General Superintendent Baker, who is in the city today and at our legislative offices, has given me your present address so that I could send this data to you with a view of suggesting that you take the matter up directly with the drug people and see that they are set right in this matter.

Of course I should be glad to furnish any further information required, but even if you had not had your large experience as a member of the legislature, I am sure that you would see from the reading of the data sent you that the information contained in this article and editorial is absolutely erroneous. In my judgment even the legitimate liquor trade cannot afford to fight these bills, and assuredly the drug trade of the country cannot afford to oppose measures which are simply directed against the bootleggers and blind tigers of the country and in no wise interfere with the lawful traffic in the different states. Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) EDWIN C. DINWIDDIE,
Legislative Superintendent.

FEBRUARY 12, 1912.

DEAR DOCTOR DINWIDDIE—I thank you for your communication of February 9, and accompanying copies of the Webb and Shepard Bills and comments on the same. I will take pleasure in publishing your letter and a copy of the bills in the JOURNAL, the official organ of the American Pharmaceutical Association.

I feel sure I am correct when I say that the large majority of pharmacists do not handle ethyl alcohol or liquids containing it except in a strictly legitimate and proper manner. The profession as a whole would very cheerfully do without ethyl alcohol altogether if it were possible to do so which, unfortunately, it is not. Thus far science has failed to discover anything which can serve as a perfect substitute for alcohol in all cases.

I have not yet had time to consider closely the two bills above referred to, but hope to do so in time for their publication in our March issue, with some brief comments of my own.

With best wishes, I remain,
Sincerely yours,

J. H. BEAL.

Council Business

COUNCIL LETTER NO. 12.

PHILADELPHIA, January 26, 1912.

At the Sixth Session of the Council for 1910-11, held August 17, 1911, it was decided that the Council elect a Committee of three to act with a similar committee of the American Medical Association, as a joint committee, to consider and formulate legislation affecting jointly the professions of medicine and pharmacy.

The reports of said joint committee shall be presented to both the A. Ph. A. and the A. M. A., but no formulation of legislation shall be taken as having received the endorsement of either association unless the same shall have been formally approved by resolution. (*A. Ph. A. Bulletin, Nov., 1911, 589.*)

To simplify the election by mail, each member of the Council is asked to nominate three committeemen, and those receiving the highest number of votes will be declared elected.

The following communication has been received and the request contained therein approved by the Committee on Finance:

To the Council of the American Pharmaceutical Association:

WHEREAS, The pharmacists of the public service are joining the American Pharmaceutical Association in considerable numbers, and the work which we have in hand for the advancement of the status of the pharmacists in our public service is much in need of funds for office expenses, such as stenographic work, printing and stamps, and such