

same urbane gentleman, gallant cavalier, erudite pharmacist, scholar and traveler I have had the pleasure of knowing for nearly a score of years." He devoted himself unselfishly to the happiness of others and lived a useful, well-spent life. What a deep and lasting satisfaction it must be to a man, in the evening of life, as the shadows grow deeper and deeper, to be able to look back upon the years that have passed and gone and recall the happy faces of those whose hearts he has made glad by loving deeds and words of encouragement.

Dr. Sander died at St. Luke's Hospital. Until a month ago, he made his home at the Washington Hotel. The funeral services were held in the Wagoner Chapel on Thursday, February 15, and the body was incinerated. Members and officers of the St. Louis College of Pharmacy and the many other organizations with which he was connected attended the funeral.

Memorial services were held at the St. Louis College of Pharmacy on February 14, and were largely attended, among those present being a delegation from the Chicago Veteran Druggists' Association, of which Dr. Sander was an honorary member.

J. W. E.



JOHN RICHARDS MAJOR.

John Richards Major, the oldest druggist of Washington, D. C., in time of service, among the retail druggists of this city, died suddenly of angina pectoris on January 28, 1912. He was seventy-four years old, a native of the District of Columbia and had occupied three drug stores in Washington since 1858, all within one city block. He was a charter member of the National College of Pharmacy, which institution held a special meeting on January 29, 1912, and passed appropriate resolutions. He was a life member of the American Pharmaceutical Association, having joined in 1873.

In 1863, Mr. Major was married to Miss Mary Eleanor Thomas, of Alexandria, Va. He is survived by his widow, a son, two daughters and one grandchild.

Personally, Mr. Major was a man of high character, and lovable personality. A persistent worker, yet kind and gentle and sympathetic, he inspired confidence and won affection. He was one of the old school of pharmacists, living up to high pharmaceutical

ideals, demanding accuracy and absolute cleanliness in work of all those in his service.

He was buried from his late residence, 506 I Street, N. W., on January 30, 1912. The active pallbearers were Lyall Burrows, Murray Hackett, George W. Hurlebaus, and Dr. Virgin, all present or former clerks, and Carl Bostman and Edward Franzoni. J. W. E.

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 typewritten, with wide spaces between the lines. Care should be taken to give proper names correctly, and manuscript should be signed by the reporter.



NEW YORK BRANCH.

(January Meeting.)

A regular meeting of the New York Branch was held on the evening of January 8th, beginning at 9:30 o'clock. Acting-Chairman G. C. Diekman presided.

The minutes were read and approved, as was the report of the Treasurer.

The Secretary read the following report of the committee on education and legislation which was approved: "Your committee on education and legislation would respectfully report that at present there are no bills pending in the State legislature of interest to the trade; nor, is there any change in municipal regulations that would require our attention; but there has been submitted to the trade for discussion a tentative decision by the Board of Food and Drugs Inspection covering the importation and sale of crude and manufactured cocaine and opium and its derivatives.

"Our impression is that it is the desire of our association to limit as far as possible the illegitimate use of these preparations without unduly interfering with the use in skillful hands of products for the alleviation of pain

and human suffering. We can see nothing in this tentative draft that would meet with serious objections in the trade, except as to filing declarations as to who the ultimate consumer may be, this being impossible on the part of importers and others.

"There is a proposed amendment to the food and drugs act that was suggested by Representative Richardson, of Alabama, which, if carried into effect, would practically eliminate the sale of many proprietary articles, and its provisions would lead to an immense amount of blackmail. Our opinion is this bill is too sweeping in its character. The step is an ill-advised one and would work hardship and inconvenience to the general public, as well as to manufacturers and pharmacists.

"It must be borne in mind that a medicine containing limited amounts of opium derivatives is not necessarily either a poison or a habit-forming preparation. Limiting the dose might be a wise thing to do, but this amendment should be opposed, because it forms legislation which Congress has refused to enact, and which the Department of Agriculture has no power to make, and because it is unreasonable, unjust and misleading in that it calls a remedy poison and recognizes no distinction in doses, and especially should be modified as to codeine, because codeine is not a habit-forming drug in any sense of the word and is only one-tenth as powerful as morphine.

"Your committee attended a hearing before the commission on combustibles and explosives of Greater New York, and discussed the proposed set of new regulations. The commission was quite ready to adopt suggestions and it is believed that the revised regulations will be satisfactory to the drug trade." For the committee on the progress of pharmacy, Otto Raubenheimer reviewed briefly the reports of some German analytical laboratories having to do with toilet preparations. He gave abstracts of the following articles: One in which it was suggested that the examination of pharmaceuticals be done in specified chemical laboratories rather than by the pharmacists (*Zeit. Ange. Chem.*); one in which the author reported that his analyses of liquor-habit "cures" led him to conclude that they were mostly bitters and emetics singly or combined and of little, if any, use (*Pharm. Zeit.*); "The Composition of Bismuth Sub-carbonate," "Alcohol and its Syno-

nymy" and some nostrum analyses (*Pharm. Zeit.*); "Quacks and Quackery" (*British Med. Journ.*); "Quack Analyses" (*Journ. A. M. A.*); and "The Stability of Digitalis Preparations" (*Journ. den Pharm.*). Mr. Raubenheimer called attention also to the "List of Important Medicaments" in the Journal of the American Medical Association, and a paper on "Concentrated and Fresh Infusions," by Stephenson (*Proceedings, Brit. Pharm. Conf.*). He mentioned the approaching Eighth International Congress of Applied Chemistry, several pamphlets from the federal department of agriculture, Knoll's *Pharmaka*, and the new edition of Hammarsten's *Physiological Chemistry*.

This report was discussed by Joseph Kahn and Chairman Diekman, and duly received.

C. A. Mayo presented a memorial of the late William Muir, and it was received for insertion in the minutes.

Some discussion of proposed National Formulary formulas followed, in the course of which J. L. Lascoff exhibited samples of a number of the proposed preparations. In connection therewith he said that the most satisfactory kieselguhr for filtering purposes is the sort known as calcined white. This substance gave results much superior to powdered talc as a filtering medium. He had found the formulas proposed for compound elixir of vanillin, elixir of almond, aqueous elixir of glycyrrhiza, and red elixir, quite satisfactory.

Joseph Weinstein told of his difficulty in getting uniform sorts of kieselguhr. He had found the dark-colored kind the best, if it was washed and dried before using. Mr. Weinstein also criticised the nomenclature of several of the proposed formulas as examples of bad Latin construction.

T. D. McElhenie spoke favorably of the prepared cellulose filtering medium suggested by H. A. B. Dunning, of Baltimore.

Mr. Raubenheimer had something to say in favor of the uniformity of cudbear-colored preparations, and of light-colored kieselguhr.

This being the annual meeting, an election of officers was held, and the following were chosen: President, G. C. Diekman; Vice-President, C. D. Bigelow; Treasurer, Joseph Weinstein; Secretary, Hugh Craig; Representative in the Council of the A. Ph. A., T. D. McElhenie; Committee Chairmen; Progress of Pharmacy, Otto Raubenheimer; Education and Legislation, T. P. Cook; Profes-

sional Relations, J. L. Lascoff; and Membership, C. A. Mayo.

HUGH CRAIG, Secretary.

<>

NEW YORK BRANCH.

(February Meeting.)

Because of the holiday, the attendance was far from gratifying at the meeting of the New York Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association held February 12th.

After the report of Treasurer Joseph Weinstein had been read and received, J. L. Lascoff, Chairman of the committee on fraternal relations, made a brief report. Then there was a report for the committee on the progress of pharmacy by Oto Raubenheimer, Chairman. First he spoke of the municipal ordinance prohibiting the sale and use of preparations containing wood naphtha (methyl alcohol), referring in connection therewith to the Berlin poisoning and Dr. Hunt's work relative to the toxicity of wood naphtha. Among the published articles which were reviewed in the report were, one on the adulteration of saffron in Breslau; one on the untoward effect of new remedies; several on poisonous hair dyes; "Honey as a Corrigent for Potassium Iodide" (*Bull. gen. Therap.*); "Preparations of Tar Baths" (*Munch. Med. Woch.*); "Science and Technic in Chemical Industry" (*Zeit. ange. Chem.*); and "Incompatibilities of New Remedies" (*Pharm. Zeit.*). Several letters patent in chemistry were also reviewed.

The report was discussed by Messrs. Mansfield, Arny, De Jonge, Diekman, and Weinstein, and was duly received.

In a paper entitled "A Comparison of Ten Samples of Cudbear," Hugh Craig showed that there was considerable variation in the macroscopic appearance of the powdered cudbear of the market, and an equally marked variation in coloring powder. The ten samples experimented with had produced six different colors. Mr. Craig exhibited samples of the several lots of cudbear and the respective colored liquids.

The subject introduced in this paper was discussed by Messrs. Arny, Raubenheimer, von Oefe, Lascoff, and De Jonge; and the paper was received with the thanks of the branch.

Cornelius De Jonge exhibited samples of thirty-odd preparations proposed for admission to the National Formulary. The sug-

gested formulas for these had proved satisfactory with the following exceptions:

Compound Elixir of Sodium Salicylate—After standing twenty days this preparation had to be filtered; and had again formed a precipitate at the end of a month.

Antiseptic Solution of Pepsin—This clouded and in a short time assumed a pink tinge; seemingly it would not stay clear.

Liquid Extract of Cinchona—In the preparation of this an enormous quantity of menstruum was required. A white precipitate formed in the finished product.

Tincture of Opium with Saffron—The suggested formula was not workable because the sand-and-drug mass packed so closely that percolation was prevented. With the pharmacopœial method for tincture of opium the result was satisfactory; but the best results followed the use of extract of opium as directed in the British Pharmacopœia.

Tincture of Cactus—The process should be modified so as to apply to the drug preserved in alcohol, the usual form on the market.

Tincture of Fishberry—Percolation of this preparation is not practicable because of the close sedimentation of the ground drug; maceration is to be favored. The best results therapeutically and commercially were to be had with the following process; mix the ground drug with water and 10 percent. of acetic acid, and boil; allow to cool; add hot water; and boil again. When this liquid has cooled, add 10 percent. of alcohol.

Tincture of Larkspur—This preparation was commented upon in the same manner as the foregoing had been.

Tincture of Sabal and Santal—Unless 95 percent. alcohol was used as the menstruum there was a settling of a fatty layer in the liquid.

Salicylated Mixture of Iron—When the proposed formula was used a precipitate of salicylic acid formed which occupied one-fifth of the bulk of the preparation. By adding ammonium carbonate this precipitate was redissolved, the preparation remaining acid.

Nebulas—These were all cloudy, although it was directed to filter but one.

He suggested that the inunction be made in a warmed mortar.

John Roemer had experimented with the proposed formula for *Syrup of Iodo-Tannin* with very unsatisfactory results. A lot of the syrup made as directed contained iodine after being heated for several days, although

the metal was gradually being volatilized. He exhibited a sample of a syrup made as follows: The iodine was powdered and placed in the water over a water-bath; as the mixture was gradually heated, tannic acid was added in divided portions until the iodine was dissolved. More than twice the directed amount of acid was required, yet the syrup on cooling gave a blue coloration with starch; then more acid was added. He could see no reason for the arbitrary amount of iodine specified, or for its being driven off by heating. If the preparation was recognized it would be essential, he said, that provision be made for its assay.

Dr. von Oefele remarked that in the event of the recognition of aromatic solution of pepsin, an assay process for that preparation should be provided.

In a communication read by Secretary Craig, T. D. McElenie commented upon several of the proposed preparations as follows:

Liquid Petrox—The formula is satisfactory, the oil of lavender is more than a perfume, as, until it is added, the mixture is turbid.

Solid Petrox—Made as directed this preparation is granular and too soft for many uses. The addition of 15 or 20 parts of paraffin to replace oleic acid seemed advisable.

Iodine Petrox—The suggested formula was not practicable. The liquid would separate into two almost equal layers, the upper one cherry-red, the lower claret-colored.

Additional comment on the proposed formulas was made by Messrs. Diekman, Weinstein, and Raubenheimer.

Drs. von Oefele and Kessler briefly recounted their work during the past two years in connection with the treatment of carcinoma with selenium. This treatment has recently been exploited by Ehrlich, Wassermann, and others, and Drs. von Oefele and Kessler will relate their observations in detail at the meeting to be held March 11th.

HUGH CRAIG, Secretary.



NASHVILLE BRANCH.

The Branch met in regular session January 11th at Furman Hall, Vanderbilt University, with President J. O. Burge in the chair.

The discussion of the new N. F. preparations was postponed until the next meeting and the subject of Emulsions was taken up.

Dr. J. O. Burge read a very interesting paper on this subject which provoked quite a good deal of discussion, in which Dr. E. A. Ruddiman, W. R. White, Dr. J. R. McDaniel and others participated.

Dr. Ruddiman claimed that in emulsions the proportions of gum and water must be definite, while Dr. Burge maintained that the proportion of gum and oil must be definite.

The best preservatives for emulsions were said to be small quantities of alcohol or brandy, 1 oz. to the pint, and chloroform water. W. R. White referred to a method by which benzine and kerosene could be emulsified.

W. R. WHITE, Secretary.



DENVER BRANCH.

The January meeting of the Denver Branch of the A. Ph. A. was held Tuesday evening the 16th at the Traffic Club.

President Best called the meeting to order at 8:30 p. m. After the reading and approval of the minutes of the previous meeting the following were elected as officers for 1912:

John Best, President; L. B. Bridaham, First Vice President; C. H. Skinner, Second Vice President; F. W. Nitardy, Secretary-Treasurer.

The by-laws proposed at the last meeting were read for final action and adopted by unanimous vote.

President Best then called on Prof. James Seymour, who exhibited about 200 stereopticon views of medicinal plants which proved a very instructive and interesting entertainment. At the end a few prescriptions were thrown on the screen which caused a general discussion of prescription writing and incompatibilities.

After a vote of thanks to Prof. Seymour the meeting adjourned.

F. W. NITARDY, Secretary.



PHILADELPHIA BRANCH.

(January Meeting.)

The regular meeting of the Scientific Section of the Philadelphia Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association was held January 2, 1912, at the College of Physicians, Chairman C. H. LaWall presiding. Owing to a misunderstanding as to the date of the meeting, and a delay on the part of the postal

authorities in the forwarding of the notices, the attendance was rather small.

There being no items of business which required attention, the President called upon the speaker of the evening, Dr. H. C. Wood, Jr., who presented a very interesting and instructive address on the Relation of Chemical Composition to Physiological Action.

The speaker began by saying that in his address he would deal chiefly in generalities rather than with a multiplication of specific facts, so that, while there were exceptions to many of the statements he might make, the facts he would give would be those based on general observations.

By means of a sketch on the blackboard he first pointed out the differences in the functions of the three separate sets of nerves that exist in the human body—the sensory, the vegetative and the motor nerves—and then proceeded to note the effects of the organic compounds, containing in their formulæ various characteristic groups, upon these several kinds of nerves.

The benzene derivatives, generally speaking, act upon the sensory nerves and the pyridine on the efferent nerves.

The germicidal power of phenol is apparently dependent upon the presence of the hydroxyl group in its molecule. All of the disinfectants of this series contain a hydroxyl group, with the single exception of benzoic acid, and in this case the antibacterial power appears to be dependent upon the acidity, for sodium benzoate is not germicidal.

More than one hydroxyl group, however, seems to lessen power, as phenol, resorcinol and pyrogallol form a descending series in potency. The introduction of methyl groups enhances the bactericidal power, as shown by cresol, thymol, etc.

The local anesthetic action of phenol appears to be increased by the introduction of an amido group, at least all of the powerful local anesthetics are compounds of the benzene ring, containing an amido group with an aliphatic radical. The amido group may be in the form of a simple compound or a complex nucleus, as in cocaine.

The pyridine derivatives act on the nerves which lead away from the spinal cord. Those containing oxygen act chiefly on the vegetative nerves—that is the nerves supplying organs necessary for life—while the non-oxygenated derivatives of this series act chiefly upon the nerves of the voluntary muscles.

Among the latter, those which contain aliphatic side groups such as coniine are the most powerful. Among the former, the most interesting are the so-called solanaceous alkaloids.

He pointed out the similarity in the structure of tropine and ecgonine, and the similarity in the physiological action of atropine and cocaine. Cocaine has a double effect, both as a benzene derivative upon the sensory nerves, and as a pyridine derivative upon the efferent nerves.

Open-chain (Aliphatic) compounds paralyze brain centres and to a lesser extent the spinal cord. Those containing chlorine have the most active powers. Compounds containing ammonia-like groups are safer and less depressant than those not containing them.

The address was warmly received and the author requested to put it in form of a paper for publication.

C. H. KIMBERLEY, Secretary.

<>

PHILADELPHIA BRANCH.

(February Meeting.)

The Scientific Section of the Philadelphia Branch of the A. Ph. A. was called to order on the evening of February 6th at 8 p. m., Chairman LaWall presiding.

The topic of discussion for the evening was a Symposium on the Inorganic Compounds of the U. S. P. with special reference to Assay and Tests. Chairman LaWall, in introducing the subject, talked upon the great importance of the Inorganics of the U. S. P., both as to the large number of substances included and to the great amount of these materials which enter into actual use. He spoke of the work of the Revision Committee and called attention to the changes to be made in placing the chemical formula in the Rubric instead of under the nomenclature. He also said that the directions for assay would be changed so that about a certain quantity would be accurately weighed instead of requiring, as at present, an exact quantity, and the requirements would be stated in such a way that the calculation of purity could be definitely made rather than requiring a positive amount of reagent to be used, and following this, a statement as to the number of cubic centimeters of standard solution required by one gram of pure material.

Dr. C. E. Smith, in discussing the Inor-

ganics of the present Pharmacopœia, said, in brief, that only tests that are positively reliable should be incorporated in the text, and that with such tests only one or two should be necessary.

He also criticised the present statements which require the absence of certain impurities, inasmuch as many tests are not sufficiently delicate to show minute traces of certain impurities. He also thinks that a definite time should be stated within which the characteristic tests should appear. He also criticised a number of tests such as the Guttzeit and Bettendorf tests, due to the fact that the reagents used may contain a sufficient quantity of arsenic to increase the results of the initial test beyond its proper point, and states that the blank tests made should require a much larger quantity of the chemicals in order to obviate this error. With respect to the Bettendorf test he thinks it very much less delicate than the similar tests of other Pharmacopœias. He further criticised the fact that the limit of impurities is not graded with respect to the use to which the chemical in question is to be put, feeling that what would be a large impurity in one material might be considered as a negligible impurity in another, but the Pharmacopœia requires practically the same purity for both. He also mentioned substances in which the assay methods are unnecessary, since the purity requirements are so high: as examples of which, he mentioned boric acid, mercuric iodide, zinc sulphate, and others. He also called attention to the fact that when water of crystallization is present, the amount of impurity may be overshadowed by the increase in strength due to a partial loss of water of crystallization, and that therefore this matter should always be taken into consideration in testing such chemicals.

Mr. H. B. Meade also discussed the topic of the evening and supported the opinions of the preceding speaker, and further stated that as his opinion it would be sufficient in nearly all cases to merely set a limit to the amount of impurity rather than to require the substances to be free from such impurity. He also says that the grade of chemicals ordinarily supplied to the trade are of such high quality that the requirements of the Pharmacopœia are generally exceeded and that in many instances assays are therefore rather unnecessary.

Mr. J. Rosin spoke relative to the methods

of determinations of phosphoric acid and the Sanger-Fisher method of arsenic determination. The latter method he states is sufficiently delicate to determine as small an amount as one-half part per million. He continued his discussion criticising the methods of determining sodium hydroxide and substances of similar nature in which carbonates, etc., may be present, stating that the present methods are inadequate to accurately determine the amount of each present. He also mentioned a number of substances in which a standard of purity is given, but no methods of assaying stated, hence no means provided for the actual proving of such standards.

Others discussed the subject and very much valuable material was brought out.

The subject of the evening for the Branch meeting was purified caramel and the standardization of caramel solution. This subject was taken up by Mr. George M. Beringer and in the discussion which followed this paper very interesting material was given. It was the best discussion of caramel in its application to pharmacopœial substances that has been produced and should be of much benefit to pharmacists who make use of this substance.

C. H. KIMBERLEY, Secretary.

<>

CITY OF WASHINGTON BRANCH.

The regular meeting of the Branch was held at the National College of Pharmacy, January 17, 1912, with President Flemer in the chair.

Samples of most of the preparations proposed for the National Formulary, formulas of which were published in the November issue of the Bulletin, and of *Essentia Pepsini*, made according to the proposed formula, and several modifications, were presented by Dr. Hilton and Mr. Wilbert, for inspection, discussion, and criticism. Some of the samples were about fifteen months old, while others were very recently prepared.

The first of these preparations to be discussed was *Elixir Amygdalæ Amarum*. The consensus of opinion regarding this preparation was that the Vanillin odor and taste were overly prominent, producing an undesirable and rather offensive product. Upon motion duly made, and seconded, it was recommended to the Committee on the National

Formulary, that the vanillin be not included in this formula, or if it was deemed essential to have the vanillin therein, that the quantity thereof be reduced at least one-half.

Elixir Trium Bromidorum was then considered. It was generally contended that the National Formulary should not be burdened with this preparation, and others of its kind, as a physician desiring to prescribe a bromide, could readily write a prescription which would meet the individual requirements and necessities of the patient, far better than a stock preparation. Much adverse criticism was indulged in relative to the use of coloring matter in this preparation, it being claimed that this was done merely to make the finished product resemble numerous patent medicines containing bromides which are now on the market. Recommendation was therefor made to the Committee on the National Formulary that this preparation, Elixir Trium Bromidorum, be deleted from the National Formulary, but in the event it was deemed advisable to retain it, that the formula be so revised that no coloring be used.

The sample of Elixir Glycyrrhizæ Aquosum, which was next taken up, was but two months old, yet was in a high state of fermentation, and utterly useless for dispensing. Dr. Hilton explained that this preparation had been carried on a shelf in his laboratory ever since it had been made, and that the average temperature there was but 70 degrees, F. It was suggested that such a preparation would be unsuitable for summer use, and that in view of its instability, it would necessarily have to be freshly made each time it was dispensed. In the presence of other preparations, containing alcohol, its stability would be increased, and under those conditions might make a satisfactory preparation, but it was believed the alcoholic strength should be increased. Severe criticism was made of the use of the word "aquosum" to describe this preparation, contention being made that it was contrary to the meaning of the word "Elixir," as generally accepted by the pharmacists of this country. This part of the discussion lead to the suggestion that a recommendation be made to the Committee on the National Formulary, that a definition for the term Elixir be made a part of that work. Recommendation was also made that the preparation, Elixir Glycyrrhizæ Aquosum, be not included in the National Formulary, but that in the event it be included, its alco-

holic strength be increased that a more stable product could be had.

Criticism of Elixir Rubrum was confined to its name exclusively. Recommendation was made that its name be changed to Elixir Aromaticum Rubrum. During the discussion of this preparation, Dr. Kebler suggested that it was not in keeping with the intent of the pure food and drugs act, to assign to a preparation a name suggested by its color only.

Two samples of Elixir Cardamomi Compositum were inspected, one sample having been prepared about fourteen months before while the other was a trifle over two months old. The first was of pleasant odor and taste, while the other had a disagreeable odor and a displeasing taste. Both samples were made from exactly the same ingredients, Dr. Hilton explained, but at different times. He invited attention to the difficulty in securing oil of cardamom for use in making this preparation; and after some further discussion, confined chiefly to the probable uses for this preparation, it was recommended to the Committee on the National Formulary that this preparation be deleted from the National Formulary, because of its small possibilities as a vehicle, the difficulty in securing oil of cardamom, and because of the instability of the finished product.

Elixir Auranti Amari was most severely criticised because of its high alcoholic percentage. Dr. Kebler remarked that it tasted and smelled precisely like some of the samples of Orange Bitters which were recently procured by the Department of Agriculture. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was recommended that the Committee on the National Formulary not include this preparation in the National Formulary, because of its uselessness and worthlessness, and because of its high alcoholic strength.

Essentia Pepsini, of which many samples were presented, was then taken up for discussion. The samples were of the proposed National Formulary formula, and many modifications thereof. Some samples were clear, of good odor and taste; others were clouded, and of disagreeable odor and taste, while one had decomposed. Some of the samples, it was explained contained varying quantities of the favored flavorings, nutmeg, orange and vanillin. The branch finally recommended a formula championed by Dr. Hilton and Mr. Wilber, with one change, i. e., reduction in the quantity of the Tr. Sweet Orange Peel

from 18 cc. to 15 cc. The change from the use of wine to alcohol was commended. Further recommendation was made that the name of this preparation be changed to "Elixir Pepsini," with *Essentia Pepsini* and *Essence of Pepsin* as synonyms.

The merits of *kieselguhr* as a filtering agent were compared with those of talc. The experience of the members present showed that less than one-half the quantity of the former was required in comparison with the latter, that the finished preparation was clearer, and less liable to precipitation and to the formation of a sediment. It was also found that it was cheaper to use *kieselguhr* than talc.

A further recommendation was made to the Committee on the National Formulary that saccharin be not used in any preparation in the National Formulary which was to be frequently and periodically taken, in view of (1) the findings of the Referee Board of the Department of Agriculture that its use was detrimental to the health, and (2) the general action taken at the Richmond meeting.

The Secretary was directed to prepare and have printed a form of notification relative to meetings of the Branch, and present voucher to the Treasurer for reimbursement.

HENRY B. FLOYD, Secretary.



NEW ENGLAND BRANCH.

The first meeting of the New England Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association since Prof. Nixon's election as president was held February 14, at Hotel Plaza, Boston.

In calling the meeting Prof. Nixon made it clear that in selecting the subject, Proposed National Formulary Additions, he intended that the pharmacists of New England should have an opportunity to make comments and criticisms that would receive recognition by the committee in charge.

The method of doing this was as follows: James F. Finneran, Fred A. Hubbard, Frank F. Ernst, Albert J. Brunelle, Carlton B. Wheeler and R. Albro Newton were each asked to try out carefully four formulas designated by the president and to bring samples. At the meeting each of these gentlemen were to make a detailed report. Then each person present was invited to give any information he might have as to the manufacture, use and value of the preparation or to offer any sug-

gestion as to its improvement. After this discussion if sufficient evidence had been offered so that a proper verdict could be rendered, then the members were to vote as to whether they would endorse such formula or recommend its rejection and this vote was to be sent to Chairman C. Lewis Diehl as the vote of the Branch.

In order to get a full expression of opinion the members of the Alumni Association of the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy were invited to attend the meeting and take part in the proceedings.

The plan worked to a T and about sixty attended, representing a large number of retail stores and societies.

James F. Finneran reported on:

Tincture Saw Palmetto and Santal.
Compound Gargle of Guaiac.
Aromatic Oil Spray.
Salicylated Mixture of Iron.

He reported trouble with the Iron Mixture and no vote was taken on it. Voted to endorse Aromatic Oil Spray and Compound Guaiac Gargle. Voted to recommend designation of fresh Palmetto Berries in Tincture Palmetto and Santal and to recommend chilling to remove excess of fixed oil.

Carlton B. Wheeler reported on:

Compound Menthol Spray.
Syrup Ammonium Hypophosphite.
Syrup Poppy Capsules.
Lassar's Stronger Resorcin Paste.

Voted to endorse the Spray, Syrup Poppy Capsules and Paste.

Voted to recommend that Syrup Ammonium Hypophosphite be unflavored or if flavored, not with a "synthetic" like Vanillin.

Albert J. Brunelle reported on:

Compound Elixir Vanillin.
Compound Spirit Vanillin.
Elixir Bitter Orange.
Compound Spirit Cardamom.

Voted to recommend in Compound Elixir Vanillin that Spirit Vanillin be reduced one-half, and that the directions for compounding be as follows: Mix liquids except oils (spirit), then triturate oils (spirit) with *Kieselguhr* and add to mixed liquids in portions, shaking after each addition. Filter.

Voted that above directions apply also to Elixir Bitter Orange, formula for which was

endorsed. Voted to endorse formulas for both Spirits.

Frank F. Ernst reported on:

Compound Elixir Almond.

Aqueous Elixir Licorcc.

Elixir Three Bromides.

Antiseptic Solution Pepsin.

Voted to endorse Compound Elixir Almond and Elixir Three Bromides and to recommend rejection of Aqueous Elixir Licorcc and Antiseptic Solution Pepsin. It was the unanimous opinion that these latter two were very unsatisfactory from every point of view.

Fred A. Hubbard reported on:

Elixir Formates.

Compound Elixir Formates.

Compound Elixir Cardamom.

Glycerite Lubricans.

No action taken on the Formate Elixirs. Voted to endorse Compound Elixir Cardamom and to recommend that the Spirit be triturated with the Kieselguhr and added to the mixed liquids in portions, then filtering. On suggestion of physicians present it was voted that formula for Lubricating Glycerite be omitted as such preparations were not efficient for the purposes intended.

R. Albro Newton reported on:

Menthol Inunction.

Compound Menthol Inunction.

Compound Elixir Sodium Salicylate.

Aromatic Castor Oil.

Voted to endorse these formulas.

Quite a number of pharmacists have tried all the formulas as they have been published and nearly all say that Kieselguhr or Infusorial Earth is very much better than Talc or the other common powders as a filtering agent.

Voted that at the next meeting each member invite a physician to accompany him and that this vote be incorporated in the notice of the meeting.

The meeting was in many ways the most interesting ever held by the Branch and several new members were enrolled because of it.

R. ALBRO NEWTON, Secretary.

<>

PITTSBURG BRANCH.

The Pittsburg Branch of the A. Ph. A. held a meeting on Tuesday evening, February 13th, one of the gratifying features of which was the number of pharmacy students

that participated in the proceedings. The following communication was read from Prof. E. Fullerton Cook, of Philadelphia, conveying valuable information.

"On page 4 of January issue of the Western Pennsylvania Retail Druggist, I notice request for information from the N. F. Committee concerning the reason for 'Alcohol 1 cc. in the formula for Compound Spirit Cardamon. This is an error made by the party who copied the formula for the N. F. Bulletin. The ingredient should be, 'Anethol 1 c.c.' The formula is correctly printed in the American Journal of Pharmacy of November, 1911.

"If Compound Elixir of Vanillin is not artificially colored it will darken quickly, due to the action of light upon Vanillin. The Committee thought it best to provide a uniform color from the first. With regard to the keeping quality of the low alcoholic elixirs the presence of oils which possess powerful prevention properties must not be overlooked. The Committee's samples have successfully withstood two, and in some cases, three years of keeping without fermentation."

These explanations from Prof. Cook were greatly appreciated and accepted as satisfactory.

Another interesting communication from Mr. John C. Owsley, Sharon, Pa., was read in reply to information given him from the Question Box of this Branch, covering the manner of combining Agar-Agar with Cascara Sagrada so as to render it practically tasteless. Mr. Owsley said: "For some time past I have sold a preparation known as Regulon, prepared in Germany, and which is nothing more than Agar-Agar treated with some form of Cascara Sagrada, dried, packed in two-ounce containers and retailed for fifty cents. Recently my attention has been called to a cereal on the market which is composed of crushed whole wheat and flaxseed and failed for twenty-five cents a package."

Dr. Leonard K. Darbaker presented a valuable and instructive paper concerning some "U. S. P. Herbs Used by the Indians" which gave evidence of much patient research, and covered the history of many present-day commonly-used herbs. Dr. Darbaker was awarded an appreciative vote of thanks.

A spirited debate upon the topic "Are Fraternities of Advantage to the Student?" was one of the strong features of the evening

program, and was admirably handled by three students and an alumnus. The affirmative was maintained by A. H. Campbell and W. V. Kerwin; the negative by R. D. Tea and Dr. J. H. Wurdack. The points brought out by the affirmative were: That the quiz, which is a strong feature of every fraternity gathering, was a great advantage; the restraining of weak members from formation of evil habits; the furnishing of harmless amusements in the fraternity house keeps the student from going outside and forming questionable habits; the facilities for comparing notes with fellow students in the same studies; the rule of forbidding the use of liquors in the fraternity house saves many students from the drinking habit; but the best evidence of their good influence is found in the fact that fraternity members are generally among the first in their classes, and when one is found to be deficient in his studies he is found to be a laggard in his fraternity standing as well.

In support of its position the negative contingent claimed that students who fail to become members of a fraternity are given but little consideration by their fellows; that feuds are engendered; that non-members are excluded from participation in athletics and sports; that in class entertainments the non-frats are ignored; opposing fraternities bring about a spirit of rivalry, not always with good results; one instance was cited in which a young member fell into intemperate habits because of the bad influence of his fellow members; too much entertainment in the fraternity house; too many inducements presented to entice students away from needed study periods; if left to themselves students would be less often tempted to neglect their studies to indulge in frivolous amusements; fraternity boys are often led into the false idea that causes a sense of security in safely emerging from examinations, an error often discovered when it is too late to be mended. The feeling that as fraternity members they will be protected always, and under all circumstances, results in giving both the individual and his fraternity a bad reputation.

Dr. Geo. W. Kutscher followed the debate with a general summing up, during which he took the ground that the fraternity is always a student's best friend, and if he is not a

good student, he will never be found to be any honor to his fraternity. He said that the evils pointed out by the negative speakers were due to the natural bent of the individual, and not to his fraternity affiliation. He claimed that instances of betterment in students by their fraternity were far in excess of any isolated instances of the reverse.

The discussion of the proposed new formulas for the National Formulary was then taken up. Dr. Koch suggested that the formula for Elixir Formatum should be amended to read:

Potassium Bicarbonate	60 Gm.
Monohydrated Sodium Carbonate	36 Gm.
Formic Acid	225 c.c.
Aromatic Elixir, q. s. ad.....	1000 c.c.

It was resolved that the suggestion advanced by Dr. Emanuel that 1 gm. of tragacanth be added to the formula for Gargarysma Guaiac Compound be amended to read that it is the sense of this Branch that 10 percent of tragacanth be added to this formula. Also that the Secretary submit this action to the N. F. Committee.

Dr. Saalbach suggested that for the same reason given for the artificial coloring of Compound Elixir Vanillin, Aromatic Castor Oil should be similarly treated, and it was resolved that such recommendation be made, and that sufficient alkanet root to produce a handsome red color be provided for in the formula for Aromatic Castor Oil.

A number of samples of N. F. preparations were exhibited by the students to whom had been assigned the duty of preparing them, which were found to be quite creditable, and the young men were severally tendered a vote of thanks for their interest in the work. Liquor Pepsini Antisepticus was shown to assume a cloudy appearance upon standing, although perfectly clear when first filtered. Mistura Ferri Salicylatis throws down an ugly precipitate under the N. F. directions for its preparation, and a committee consisting of Drs. Saalbach, Wurdack and Kutscher was appointed to experiment with a view to finding the causes and a means of remedying the condition.

B. E. PRITCHARD, Secretary.