

said amount was retained by its policyholders. The net losses for the first three months of the year amounted to \$21,279.18.

The Executive Board authorized an additional investment in securities to cover the increase in re-insurance reserve.

The continued splendid growth of the company's business was a source of satisfaction. Arrangements were made to give special attention to those states from which a larger volume of business should be expected. The great fire waste and loss throughout the country during the winter season fully sustains the frequently announced position of the Executive Board, that the druggists of the country should be careful in carrying their insurance in companies having sufficient capital and assets and that are thus provided for every emergency, and in this connection it is requested that the drug trade of the country always have in mind that the American Druggists' Fire Insurance Company is the only Capital Stock Druggists' Fire Insurance Company in existence.

Communications and Correspondence

All communications must be signed by their
Authors

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE
COMMITTEE ON DRUG RE-
FORM AND OTHERS WHO
ARE INTERESTED IN THE
COMMITTEE'S WORK.

The Chairman of this Committee wishes to ask its members and all those who are interested in the work of the Committee to write the Chairman of the above Committee and reply to questions which are herewith submitted. The Chairman of the Committee has circularized the State of Kansas and will make a report of his findings at the State Association meeting. He begs others who are interested to do the same for their particular State, so that at the coming meeting of the A. Ph. A. statistics may be furnished of interest and value.

1. Do physicians of your acquaintance dispense their own medicines?

2. Do they buy full standard preparations and drugs, or mainly proprietary remedies?

3. Are their goods inspected as in drug stores?

NOTE: That the public is served unwittingly by two standards is apparent to every one when the law fails to provide for an inspection of the physician's drug stock. It is true that physicians may invite such inspection, but it is our desire to know how many physicians voluntarily give such an invitation.

4. From what houses do they buy?

5. What sized stocks do they carry?

6. To what extent are doctors selling drugs and medicines on a call not actually prescribed by them?

7. Would your doctors prefer to dispense or prescribe?

8. What steps would you advise for the betterment of the aforesaid conditions?

9. Are your doctors in favor or opposed to the standardization law?

10. How are the physicians and druggists observing the spirit of the anti-narcotic law? Is the complaint of the former abusing their rights, and of the latter, who are legally restricted, dispensing morphine, cocaine and narcotics to habitues, true?

11. To what extent are drugs and medicines sold in your town by mail order houses and through clubs offering premiums?

12. Do other stores ever carry medicinal preparations of any kind? If so, what kind?

L. E. SAYRE,

Librarian of Kansas Pharm. Association;
Chairman of Committee on Drug Reform
of the American Pharmacy Association.

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BULLETIN No. 1 OF THE SEC- TION ON HISTORICAL PHARMACY.

Our great A. Ph. A. has now reached an age of three score, and its youngest offspring, the Historical Section, should do its full share to present the mother with valuable contributions at the Denver meeting. The members are asked to submit papers, letters, photos, books, etc., on historical subjects. Especially the Western members are earnestly requested to present papers on the development of pharmacy in the Western United States, in order to make such history available to future generations.

Let the Western pioneers of pharmacy become active and present a record of this history at Denver!

Let the "forty-niners" tell us of the early

history of pharmacy in California, and bring these golden nuggets to the Convention!

Let us all work so as to make the Denver meeting one that will long be remembered in the history of the A. Ph. A.!

Sincerely yours,

OTTO RAUBENHELMER, Chairman.

EDWARD KREMERS, Historian.

CASWELL A. MAYO, Secretary.

Brooklyn, N. Y., May 15, 1912.



SECTION ON PRACTICAL PHARMACY AND DISPENSING.

Bulletin No. 3.

As the time for our Denver meeting approaches, the Committee on Practical Pharmacy and Dispensing is exceedingly anxious to secure as many contributions as possible for this occasion in order that we may have a wide variety of topics to discuss and digest. Heretofore we have been most fortunate in arranging very interesting programs for our meetings, but this year the Committee is aiming to excel all previous performances—if that is possible. If each member should assume but a small portion of his responsibility, this would be very easy of accomplishment. We hope to make an impression on our Western friends that will not soon be forgotten.

All members, whether new or old, are eligible as contributors, and it is hoped that we may have the pleasure of receiving original papers from many original sources for this meeting. Fraternally yours,

P. HENRY UTECH, Chairman.

J. LEON LASCOFF, Secretary.



SOLUTION OF MAGNESIUM CITRATE.

If the camel's back will stand one more straw, may I add my formula and process for Solution of Magnesium Citrate to those given in the A. Ph. A. for May. I have been using it for twenty-five years and it possesses the charm of being quickly and easily prepared, requires no heating of bottles to sterilize them, and the preparation if properly stoppered seems to keep indefinitely. I prepare it for the trade in lots of ¼ dozen to ½ gross at a time, and have never had a complaint of

its spoiling either from precipitation or from fungus growth. The longest test I have given it, was from last August to February. A dozen was shipped the first part of August to a customer who ordered it in patent-stoppered bottles and by mistake the cork-stoppered were shipped. He was requested to send these back, but in the meantime he had sold four of these, returning only eight. Part of these were subsequently sent out on orders, but one bottle in some way was left over and set around in the laboratory until in February. Feeling the need of a purgative, I took about three-quarters of this bottle and found it as active as if freshly prepared.

I have frequently kept it two or three months at a time in perfect condition. My formula for one dozen is:

Citric Acid 10 oz. (Troy) 96 grains
 Magnesium Carb. 5 oz. (Troy)
 Sugar 24 oz. (Troy)
 Oil of Lemon 24 drops

The Citric Acid, Boiling Distilled Water, q. s., and Magnesium Carbonate are put in a mortar and rubbed well together, and 2000 cc. hot water gradually added with constant trituration. As soon as the acid and magnesium carbonate are dissolved and the solution is clear, it is filtered through a wetted filter into the sugar, to which the oil of lemon has been previously added and the whole stirred until the sugar is dissolved. The liquid is then made up to 3000 cc. with distilled water and 250 cc. of this solution put in each bottle. The bottles are then filled to the shoulder with distilled water, 38 grains of potassium bicarbonate in crystals added to each bottle which is well stoppered and laid on its side in a cool place. I always use Jennings' magnesium carbonate in 2 oz. blocks and the potassium bicarbonate in crystals.

It makes a nicer looking preparation if the sugar and oil are dissolved before filtering, but it does not filter so rapidly.

You will observe that I have mixed my weights and measures. This was done for convenience.

Each bottle contains:

Citric Acid 408 grains
 Magnesium Carb. 200 grains
 Sugar 2 ounces, Troy
 Oil of Lemon 2 gtts.
 Potassium Bicarb. 38 grs.
 Dist. Water q. s.

J. O. BURGE, Ph. G.