

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to the Association and its branches shall become the property of the Association, with the understanding that they are not to be published in any other publication than those of the Association, except by consent of the Committee on Publication."—Resolution adopted at the Boston Convention, 1911.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



### CITY OF WASHINGTON BRANCH.

#### OUT-OF-DOORS MEETING.

On May 25, 1912, at 2:30 p. m., the regular May meeting of the City of Washington Branch was held at the Arlington Experimental Farm of the Department of Agriculture, at Arlington, Va. Dr. Rodney H. True of the United States Department of Agriculture, who has charge of the drug division of the farm, and Dr. Van Vliet, also of the United States Department of Agriculture, were awaiting the members of the Association and their guests (most of whom were late) at the McClellan gate of the Arlington National Cemetery, just opposite the entrance of the farm.

Mr. Flemer, with a party in his automobile, took the wrong road through the military reservation of Fort Myer while en route and had to retrace part of his journey. Mr. Hilton took the old canal road and found the "going" slow and dusty. The Secretary, in his announcements to members, advised them to take the 2:20 train, when he should have informed them that the train left at 2:15, hence a number of members missed that train, but were fortunate to get the next one, but fifteen minutes later.

The first experiment pointed out by Dr. True on the farm was that relative to the raising of wheat, with the aid of a static current of high potential. Two fields of wheat,

side by side, were inspected, one in which the influence of the electric current was being tested, and the other where the wheat was being raised without the presence of the current.

None of the members present were good enough farmers to be able to tell what difference, if any, existed between the two crops, but it was explained that the surrounding atmosphere was altered, and some effect was had on the soil by the use of the electric current, and that in several foreign countries, decidedly beneficial results had been obtained.

An inspection of modern harrows and plows followed, and at this point the Superintendent of the Farm. Mr. Butterfield, made his appearance and welcomed the members most cordially.

Attention was invited to the methods of preparing the land for the next year's crop. In one field, rye was being turned under, while in another rye and vetch were shown, ready to be plowed under. Dr. True explained, at much length, the use of each for fertilizer, and the necessity for the presence of decayed vegetable matter in the soil.

Dr. True then showed that part of the farm devoted to the belladonna plant. Experiments to determine the best fertilizer for this plant are being carried on, on a most extensive scale. Numerous beds of plain soil, and of the soil treated with varying proportions of different fertilizers, have been used in the study of this particular feature.

In all of the experiments with this plant, the plant gets its start in the hothouse and is transplanted after the first steady warm weather makes its appearance.

In previous years, assay has shown very varying quantities of atropine in the belladonna, and plants taken from the same and different rows showed very different strengths. Taken as a whole, the plants averaged the required strength as set forth in the U. S. P., but individual plants would show a much higher percentage than required, while others fall far below the standard.

To produce plants assaying very high in atropine, the seed of plants which yielded high percentum assays last year have been planted, and it is hoped that only plants, assaying high in atropine, will be produced.

Strophanthus is also being experimented with in the same way as belladonna.

Dr. True next showed the rose gardens.

It is the ambition of the Department to produce a rose with a more fragrant odor than the one now so extensively used in Europe for the production of oil, and yet not sacrifice the weight of the petals and oil producing qualities. In this ambition they have apparently succeeded in the hybrid-rose, *Rosea Parfuma de l'Hay*, which possessed a most pleasing odor, which could be noted many yards away, and an abundance of heavy red petals. Dr. True presented each of the members with a number of the best looking blossoms from these plants.

A further inspection of the rose gardens showed wild roses, blue roses, and nearly all of the well-known cultivated rose plants. A large number of foreign roses were also shown.

Just beyond the rose gardens, the drug gardens containing nearly all of the plants official in the U. S. P., and nearly all of the unofficial plants used and sold in drug stores, are located. More belladonna plants were shown, with couch grass, mandrake, *sanguinaria*, golden seal, *spigelia*, *colchicum*, *convallaria*, ginseng, *caspara*, blue cohosh, wintergreen, *digitalis*, *gelsemium*, *orris*, tansy, lavender, caraway, *calendula*, *hedeodoma*, wormwood, lappa, boneset, sumach, rosemary, *conium*, peppermint, hops, valerian, tarragon, bee balm, and a score more.

To attempt to describe all the plants, and the experiments which are being made with each, the process of cultivation, and the many interesting features about them, would take a volume as large as the *Pharmacopœia*. The best recommendation that can be made, is to visit the gardens.

Much fun was had in trying to guess the various plants without the aid of the indicators at the end of each row. Had there been a "booby" prize, nearly every member would have been entitled to it.

The last part of the visit was taken up in the peony bed, where additional flowers to take home were secured. Here some of the finest specimens of peonies have been produced, and considerable experimental work is being done with plants to be used for decorative purposes in the various parks in Washington.

A number of the members returned directly home, while others took advantage of the opportunity to go through the Arlington National Cemetery, which adjoins the farm and

through the military reservation of Fort Myer, which adjoins the cemetery.

The most gratifying feature of the meeting was the unusual interest shown, more than thirty members turning out, and this number was augmented by guests, a number of senior students from Johns Hopkins University of Baltimore, and scientists from the Department of Agriculture.

The Board of Pharmacy of the District of Columbia was well represented, as well as that from Virginia.

The Association thanks Dr. True most heartily for the pleasant outing he furnished, for the fund of information he gave out, and for the good time that every one had.

HENRY B. FLOYD, Secretary.



### ST. LOUIS BRANCH.

The St. Louis Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association held a special meeting on Friday afternoon, June 7, and through the courtesy of Doctor George T. Moore, director of the Missouri Botanical Garden (Shaw's Garden), and under the guidance of Mr. W. W. Ohlweiler, the following made a general inspection of the garden: William K. Ilhardt, B. J. Herman, Leo H. Suppan, W. P. Overstreet, Solomon Boehm, Martin J. Noll, Louis Lieberstein, Theodore Hagenow, H. O. A. Huegel, George Scheu, E. A. Sennewald, J. W. Mackelden, Arthur C. Schulte, Doctor G. M. Heath, J. B. Seiler, George Hausgen, J. A. Wilkerson, Doctor W. D. Aufterheide and Carl T. Buchler.

This afforded the members a splendid opportunity to see hundreds of medicinal plants in cultivation. J. W. MOCKELDEN.



### NEW YORK BRANCH.

A post-season meeting of the New York Branch was held June 10, on which occasion Dr. Eugen Unna, of Hamburg, Germany, delivered a most interesting address on "Ointment Bases."

Dr. Unna, who is the son of Prof. P. G. Unna, the renowned dermatologist, considered the chief ointment bases, lard, suet, wool-fat, and the petroleum bases from the standpoint of the pharmacist and the therapist, dwelling chiefly upon their physical adaptability to the uses for which they are desired. The shortcomings of each were pointed out, the insta-

bility of the animal fats, and the lack of the property of absorbing liquids which is a fault of the mineral fats.

The speaker discussed the various combination bases designed to overcome the shortcomings of the individual components, reviewing briefly the work of P. G. Unna and others.

To wool-fat in its several forms the speaker paid the greatest attention. It was his opinion that, as this fat is not a stable one and as its value lies in its power to absorb liquids, the crude fat possessing this power to a greater extent, is more useful than the purified forms. The decrease in the power of absorption when wool-fat is purified he attributed to the loss of the oxysterin group of alcohols, as these possess the greater portion of the property of absorbing liquids which characterizes wool-fat. In a table, the doctor showed the results of the saponification of wool-fat and the process of separating the oxysterin group. He then described the usefulness of this group *per se* as a component of an ointment base, stating that if 5 per cent. of the mixed alcohols of this group, called eucerin wax, were mixed with petrolatum, the mixture would absorb readily up to 500 times its weight of water.

After exhibiting a table showing a comparison of the physical properties of animal and mineral fats and eucerin, the speaker related some of the formulas for ointments now in use in Germany in which eucerin is used. He remarked that the eucerin base was particularly advantageous in mercurial ointment.

At the conclusion of his address, Dr. Unna demonstrated the ease with which water or glycerin may be incorporated with eucerin.

The subject introduced by Dr. Unna was discussed by Messrs. Diekman, Weinstein, Wimmer, Raubenheimer, and Lascoff; and the Branch formally thanked the speaker of the evening.

For the committee on the progress of pharmacy, Otto Raubenheimer reviewed among others the following recently published articles: "A Knowledge of the Glucosides of Digitalis," by Kraft; "The Constituents of Digitalis," by Tambach; "Yohimbine Schmidt," by Kobert; "The Biological Valuation of Sarsaparilla," by Kobert; "The Active Constituents of Ergot," "The Toxicity of Nitro-benzene," "Benzin Accidents in Germany," and "A New Test for Japanese Oil

of Peppermint." He also told of new patents granted in Germany on a preparation of digitalis, colloidal sulphur, and other things, and referred to statistics on the cultivation of medicinal plants in Austria and attendance at pharmaceutical schools in Germany.

Reports were made by Hugh Craig and Otto Raubenheimer as delegates to the meetings of the New Jersey Pharmaceutical Association and the American Medical Association respectively.

As a committee to cooperate with a similar committee of the Medical Society of the County of New York in considering a plan for the certification of pharmacies, President G. C. Diekman appointed the following: C. O. Bigelow, chairman; W. C. Anderson, Peter Diamond, G. C. Diekman, J. L. Lascoff, C. H. Lowe, T. D. McElhenie, Otto Raubenheimer, John Roemer, and John Scavo.

HUGH CRAIG, Secretary.



#### NORTHWESTERN BRANCH.

The regular summer meeting was held at Winona, Minn., Wednesday afternoon, June 19. The Branch also held a joint meeting with the Scientific and Practical Section of the Minnesota State Pharmaceutical Association prior to its separate meeting.

The election of officers resulted as follows: President, Stewart Gamble, Hennepin avenue and Ninth street, Minneapolis; Secretary-Treasurer, Prof. Edwin L. Newcomb, College of Pharmacy, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. The election of Dean F. J. Wulling as Council Representative until 1915 at a previous meeting, was ratified.

The address of the retiring president, Mr. W. A. Frost, of St. Paul, was somewhat brief on account of the pressure of a large program. Mr. Frost expressed the hope that all future meetings might be as successful and profitable as the one that was just then closing, which, according to the consensus of those present, was one of the best scientific sessions held in the Northwest.

Under the chairmanship of Dean Wulling, the following program was carried out, beginning at 1:30 p. m. and closing at 6:20 p. m. It is noteworthy that the attention of all present was closely held to the proceedings for a solid five consecutive hours.

1. "A Report on the Examination of a Series of Drugs Bought in the Open Minne-

sota Market," by Prof. G. Bachman. This paper reported the analysis of something over one hundred drugs and preparations examined recently in the pharmaceutical chemistry laboratory of the University of Minnesota.

2. "Suggested Improvements in a Number of U. S. P. Preparations," by Prof. G. Bachman. The improvements suggested covered Liquor Potassii Arsenitis; Liquor Cresolis Compositus; Elixir Ferri, Quinae et Strychninae Phosphatum; and Glyceritum Amyli.

3. "A Historical Paper on the College of Pharmacy of the University of Minnesota," by Frederick J. Wulling. This paper covered the activities and history of the College during the past year and is the usual annual installment which Dean Wulling is writing on the history of the College.

4. "An Interview with S. W. Melendy on Early Minnesota Pharmacy," by Frederick J. Wulling. Mr. Melendy was to have prepared a paper on the topic of the interview, but on account of illness became temporarily incapacitated to write. Dean Wulling then interviewed Mr. Melendy and reported the interview in the paper which covers the pharmacy of Minneapolis in the early and late seventies.

5. "The College of Pharmacy of the University of Minnesota," by Mr. A. G. Erkel. This most interesting paper pointed out particularly that pharmacists do not sufficiently appreciate the fact that their calling is a trust in their hands and upon which each member, as a trustee, is bound to administer according to the duties which this trust imposes.

Upon vote of the Northwestern Branch and also later upon the vote of the State Association, printed copies of this paper are to be sent to every pharmacist in Minnesota.

6. "Early Minnesota Pharmacy," by A. H. Rose. Mr. Rose reviewed the conditions relating to pharmacy in Minnesota in the fifties and sixties. Mr. Rose, being one of the early pioneer pharmacists of Minnesota, was in a position to write authoritatively as well as interestingly. This paper and the interview with Mr. Melendy are the beginning of a series of papers on Minnesota pharmacy that it is hoped will be written in the near future as a possible basis of a comprehensive work of the history of pharmacy in the Northwest.

7. "The Cultivation of Belladonna in the Medicinal Plant Garden of the College of Pharmacy of the University of Minnesota and Elsewhere," by Manley H. Haynes. This paper embodied part of the research work that Mr. Haynes is prosecuting in the College laboratories toward the master's degree in pharmacy.

8. "The Prerequisite in the State of Washington," by A. F. Maxwell, member of the Washington State Board of Pharmacy. The writer briefly reviewed the conditions pharmaceutical in Washington which lead up to the prerequisite requirement by the Washington board. This paper prompted a vote to test the sentiment of those present on the prerequisite question. Eighty-four per cent. of all present voted for the prerequisite.

9. "A Review of Recent Progress in Pharmacy," by F. A. Upsher Smith.

10. "Cataphoresis or Iontophoresis," by F. A. Upsher Smith. This was a most instructive paper which dealt with the latest developments in ionic medication.

11. "As It Looks Today," by A. D. Thompson. Mr. Thompson was absent and George A. Welch read the paper. It related to the evils of price-cutting in the large cities and advocated higher ethical standards for pharmacy.

12. "Peroxide of Hydrogen Production, Past and Present," by Dr. J. S. Brewer. This very interesting and exhaustive paper covered the subject under the following headings: Historical; process of manufacture; consumption of the medicinal product; properties; method of clarifying; impurities; preservatives; corking the bottles; packing for shipment, etc.

13. "The Cultivation of Medicinal Plants as an Educative Factor in a Pharmacy Curriculum," by Prof. Edwin L. Newcomb. The recent additions in both area and plants to the medicinal plant garden of the College of Pharmacy of the University of Minnesota were reviewed and the value of the garden as an instructional factor emphasized.

14. "The Future of Pharmacy as a Profession," by Richard J. Messing. This was an enthusiastic and forceful advocacy of better training for those entering the ranks and for higher ideals for those already in them. The reading of the paper was repeatedly interrupted by applause.

15. "Medicinal Plants Growing in the

Vicinity of Winona," by Prof. P. C. Myers of the Winona High School. This paper was illustrated with autochrome lantern slides. Something over forty medicinal plants were reviewed and about one-half that number illustrated with the lantern.

The College of Pharmacy exhibited about 250 of its more important medicinal plants. This exhibit aroused the interest of everyone present. The remarks concerning it were all in the superlative.

The next meeting will be held either in Minneapolis or St. Paul sometime during the winter.

F. J. WULLING, Secretary.



### NASHVILLE BRANCH.

On Thursday, June 13, the regular monthly meeting of the Nashville Branch was held in Furman Hall, J. O. Burge presiding.

The election of officers was postponed until the next meeting in September. A resolution was passed recommending the passage by Congress of a bill entitled An Act to Promote the Efficiency of the Medical Department of the United States Army, being House Bill No. 22263 and Senate Bill No. 5725, which seeks to increase the rank and pay of pharmacists in the United States Army.

On motion of R. L. Eves, seconded by Dr. J. R. McDaniel, the President of the Branch was instructed to invite the American Pharmaceutical Association to meet in Nashville in 1913.

A committee was appointed to confer with the Tennessee Pharmaceutical Association at their next annual meeting July 9, at Chattanooga, in regard to its meeting here next year jointly with A. Ph. A., in case the A. Ph. A. decides to meet here.

The reports of Secretary W. R. White and Treasurer C. C. Young were received and approved.

"The Study and Identification of Crude Drugs" was the subject for discussion. A very large and rare collection of crude drugs were exhibited by Prof. E. A. Ruddiman, belonging to the Pharmacy Department of Vanderbilt University, which were extremely interesting and instructive.

The same subject, however, will be continued at the next meeting in September.

WILLIAM R. WHITE, Secretary.

## Council Business

### COUNCIL LETTER NO. 21.

PHILADELPHIA, June 24, 1912.

*Members of the Council:*

*Motions 40 (New Record Book), No. 41 (Journalizing the Report on the Progress of Pharmacy), and No. 43 (Election of Applicants for Membership from Nos. 215 to 235 inclusive)* have each received a majority of affirmative votes.

*Motion No. 42 (Tentative Program for 1912 Annual Meeting)* has brought forth requests for changes by the chairmen of Sections, and these changes will be made, and the program printed in an early issue of the JOURNAL.

With reference to *Motion No. 39 (Temporary Secretary of Scientific Section)*, the following has been received from George M. Beringer:

"In my desire to have the work of the Association proceed uninterrupted, I made a motion a short time ago that Professor F. P. Stroup be named as Secretary Pro Tem. of the Scientific Section, as Secretary Prof. C. H. LaWall found that he would not be able to attend the Denver meeting. In making this motion I overlooked the fact that the Section had already selected an associate who was in line of succession to carry on the work in the absence of any of its officers.

To correct this error I now desire to withdraw the name of Prof. F. P. Stroup as nominee for Secretary Pro Tem. and substitute the name of F. R. Eldred. This is done with the approval of Prof. Stroup and with a desire to straighten out the inadvertent error and so to avoid any misunderstanding."

Do you approve of substitution of name of F. R. Eldred for F. P. Stroup in *Motion No. 39*? This will be known as *Motion No. 44 (Temporary Secretary of Scientific Section)*.

The following communication has been sent by the Chairman of the Committee on Publication to the Members of this Committee:

PHILADELPHIA, June 14, 1912.

*Committee on Publication:*

GENTLEMEN—The Committee on Publication is charged with the duty of issuing for the Association its annual volume or Year Book.

The manuscript copy of the Report on the