

Section on Historical Pharmacy

Papers Presented at the Sixtieth Annual Convention

THE HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

FIRST DECADE 1852-1861.

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The art and science of pharmacy in the United States is so closely interwoven and connected with the American Pharmaceutical Association, that the history of the latter might also be called the history of pharmacy in this country. It is true, there have been some prominent pharmacists, commercial and scientific, who were not members of this national association. There also are other associations that have done good and noble work for the advancement of the profession. But this work has all been more or less local, and the inspiration that caused it can generally be traced back to the one great source, the American Pharmaceutical Association, and it may justly be said that whatever was broad and grand in its conception, right in its execution, and beneficial in its results, came from the one center, and the inspiration that spread from here can be felt today in every hamlet of the United States where a pharmacy exists.

In the years before the founding of the Association, there was scarcely any pharmaceutical work in this country worth mentioning. Here and there a man might have gained prominence as a pharmacist, but there was no concerted action, there were no higher aims, and if any association or combination of men was formed temporarily, it was solely for commercial purposes. This is not to be wondered at, for after the great struggle of the Revolutionary War, a time had to come where the thought of political development overshadowed everything else, where the efforts of every man were directed to extend and strengthen the new country, where new and broad fields of activity arose where practical, live industry demanded every minute of time, and one was hardly disposed to soar upward from the daily, necessary, practical work.

ORGANIZATION OF THE A. PH. A.

It was in the middle of the last century that a new era began in many branches and it is a most remarkable fact that in pharmacy, in the same year, two classes of citizens recognized the necessity of a higher and nobler field of activity in order to strengthen their profession. In the year 1851 the German apothecaries in New York organized for this purpose, and almost at the same time when these foreigners deliberated in their own way for the advancement of science, nine Americans met for a similar purpose in the College of Pharmacy of the City of

New York. It was the work of these nine men that gave rise to the American Pharmaceutical Association, and while it has been customary, and is generally admitted to be correct, that the year of birth of this Association is 1852, the work really began a year earlier, and it would therefore be of the same age as the German society. The immediate cause of the meeting of these nine men was a call from the New York College of Pharmacy to send delegates to a convention in New York, the object of the meeting to be "the adoption of a series of standards for the use of the drug inspectors at our different ports, whereby their action might be rendered more uniform and satisfactory; as well as the proposal of any measures that might be calculated to elevate the profession, and promote their interests throughout the country." It is well worth while to record the names of these men. They were:

George D. Coggesgall,	}	As delegates from the New York College of Pharmacy.
Dr. C. B. Guthrie,		
Thomas B. Merrick.		
Dr. Samuel R. Philbrick,	}	As delegates from the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy.
Thomas Restiaux,		
Samuel M. Colcord.		
Charles Ellis,	}	As delegates from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy.
William Proctor, Jr.,		
Alfred B. Taylor.		

Of these nine men, four afterwards became presidents of the new association, while the others served as vice-presidents or in other offices. The records at our disposal of this first convention, as it was called by the nine men, are not much more than an outline of what was really done, only the results being given. But it can be supposed that each one of the nine men was earnest and enthusiastic in the work for which he was selected by his college; that each one recognized the importance of the steps that were being taken, and that in their desire to extend the aims of this first meeting and form a national association, they all were spurred on by the same spirit. But there are two who stand out prominently above the others, two who might be called the "fathers" of the American Pharmaceutical Association, for for many years afterwards they both were present at every meeting; they never failed to take the liveliest interest in everything that concerned pharmacy; they devoted their energies to every detail of the work. Their enthusiasm, the depth of their thoughts, the purity of their motives, and the broadness of their conceptions of the work, mark them as leading men of their time. These two men are Samuel M. Colcord of Boston, and William Proctor, Jr., of Philadelphia. Two men of their types, so different from each other, yet united for the common purpose, were needed to give the new association strength and life. Mr. Colcord was a man of practical views and training, a man who understood the details of organization, and by his excellent advice and foresight succeeded in steering the young society through the many shallows that threatened it on all sides from enthusiastic and well-meaning, but incapable, friends. On the other hand, we see in Mr. Proctor the man of science, the man to whom pharmacy was a profession, the capable teacher, the man who at once inspired the new society with that exalted and noble spirit of higher education and higher work, and set aims before its members of which they had never dreamt, and which to reach had never entered their thought; but under his guidance the seemingly impossible was accomplished.

The work of the Convention was only provisional, and a committee was appointed to put the wishes of the Convention before Congress. An effort was made to establish a standard for a certain number of drugs, of which Opium, Scammony, Elaterium, Iodine, Gum Resins, Cinchona Bark, and Rhubarb were the most important. But while the object of the Convention was not overlooked, a greater work was accomplished at the same time. The members cast their eyes forward and recognized that in order to make this work lasting and broaden its field of usefulness, a larger and more representative body of pharmacists should meet, and thus the idea of founding a national association was born. It was therefore resolved to adopt a preamble and resolution to be sent broadcast all over the United States to every druggist whose name and address could be obtained, to encourage all societies, scientific or otherwise, to send delegates to the next Convention, and thus forward the object in view. These resolutions, that embody many sentiments that have agitated pharmacists up to the present day, were issued in the form of a circular, signed by the Chairman of the Convention:

"Sir:—At a meeting of Delegates from the Colleges of Pharmacy of the United States, held in this city, on the 15th of October, 1851, the following Preamble and Resolutions, explanatory of themselves were offered, and, after a free and full discussion, unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, The advancement of the true interests of the great body of Pharmaceutical Practitioners, in all sections of our country, is worthy of earnest consideration; and

WHEREAS, Pharmacists in their intercourse among themselves, with physicians, and the public, should be governed by a Code of Ethics calculated to elevate the standard, and improve the practice of their Art; and

WHEREAS, The means of a regular pharmaceutical education should be offered to the rising pharmacists by the establishment of Schools of Pharmacy, in suitable locations; and

WHEREAS, It is greatly to be desired that the united action of the profession should be directed to the accomplishments of these objects; therefore,

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this Convention, much good will result from a more extended intercourse between pharmacists of the several sections of the Union, by which their customs and practice may be assimilated; that pharmacists would promote their individual interests, and advance their professional standing, by forming associations for mutual protection, and for the education of their assistants, when such associations have become sufficiently matured; and that, in view of these important ends, it is further

Resolved, That a convention be called, consisting of three delegates each, from incorporated and unincorporated Pharmaceutical Societies, to meet at Philadelphia, on the first Wednesday in October, 1852, when all the important questions, bearing on the profession, may be considered, and measures adopted for the organization of a National Association to meet every year.

The objects set forth in the above, I trust, will meet the hearty approbation of yourself and the apothecaries of your place, and lead to the formation, (if not already in existence) of such an association as will cooperate in the furtherance of the proposed association.

Our medical brethren have, as you doubtless are aware, an organization similar in character, holding its sessions annually, in which all matters pertaining to their profession are fully discussed—the beneficial effects of which are already apparent—although the Association has been in existence but a few years.

They cannot give to the subject of Pharmacy the attention it requires and deserves, neither is it a matter legitimately falling under their cognizance, but it belongs to the pharmacists themselves.

The medical profession and the community at large rightfully look to us for the correction of any existing abuses, the advancement of the science, and the elevation of the business of an apothecary to the dignity and standard of a profession.

To this end we invite you to the formation of such associations, in view of the Convention, to be held in Philadelphia, on the first Wednesday of October, 1852.

Communications, intended for said Convention, may be addressed to William Proctor, Jr., Philadelphia; George D. Coggeshall, New York, or D. M. Colcord, Boston.

Any communications touching the subject of the above letter will be cheerfully responded to by the President of the Convention.

C. B. GUTHRIE,
President Convention Colleges of Pharmacy."

THE FIRST ANNUAL CONVENTION.

Thus a call was issued, and the first meeting of the new association took place on October 6, 1852, in the College of Pharmacy of Philadelphia. At this meeting there were eighteen pharmacists present, representing the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy, the College of Pharmacy of New York, the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, the Richmond Pharmaceutical Society, the Cincinnati College of Pharmacy, and the Maryland College of Pharmacy. Besides, there were a few others present without credentials, among them Mr. Charles Bache of San Francisco, Cal. Mr. Daniel B. Smith of Philadelphia was elected first president. Mr. Smith was a thoroughly educated apothecary, well versed in all branches of pharmacy and of science generally, well-read in general literature, and in every way fit and able to preside over the meeting. At this meeting the name "American Pharmaceutical Association" was unanimously adopted. The official proceedings of the first meeting, however, speak throughout of the "Convention of Druggists," so that it should be rightly considered the second meeting of the Convention, and toward the end of the meeting a motion was made by Dr. Stewart "that when this Convention finally adjourns it will accept the invitation of the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy, and adjourn to meet, as the American Pharmaceutical Association, at Boston, on the fourth Wednesday (24th) of August, 1853," showing that the members at that time considered the Pharmaceutical Association as a continuation of the Convention, and they should therefore have really called this their second meeting.

It is natural that in such a new enterprise, intended to spread out all over the United States, much difference of opinion as to its scope, its usefulness, its aims and objects, should exist, and that probably heated debates were held over the adoption of the constitution. The first two meetings, therefore, those of 1852 and 1853, were largely devoted to the discussion and adoption of a constitution, and of a code of ethics.

The first difference of opinion arose as to who should be admitted to membership. As the Convention has simply been a convention of delegates, some argued that this was the proper point of view, that in this way every section of the country desiring to have a voice in the national association could do so by forming a small local association and sending a delegate. They argued that isolated pharmacists desiring to take part could still become members through the courtesy of the committee. They argued that if everybody were taken in as a member, the action of the Association could be influenced by the ingress of members from large cities, who might be wholly disconnected with societies in these cities, and even inimical to them, and above all, they thought that by making the association an association of delegates, cities would be encouraged to form local organizations in order to be entitled to representation. On the other hand, it was argued that a more liberal basis should be adopted. Here it was said that every one who wished to partake in the deliberations should be welcome, if he was willing to sign the constitution and code of ethics. It was argued that by making it a delegate association the national association would be subject to influence of local organizations and would be hampered in its free action, and it was considered right that the association should be independent of all local

bodies and should put membership of the individual above membership by delegation. It was believed that if the liberal basis were adopted there would be no danger from opposing views, rather confidence was expressed that the true and right could only be found by giving every representative, no matter what his views were, an opportunity to listen and to argue. This debate at the first meeting of the Association, as will be seen, determined its future usefulness and life, and it speaks well for the broadness of view and for the correct conception of the leading men, that nearly all of them advocated the liberal view of membership, and it was therefore made as broad as possible. The Association would never have obtained the high standing and notice that it now possesses, if only delegates of existing associations could have become members.

After this vital question had been decided, the adoption of the balance of the constitution, as proposed by the committee under the chairmanship of Mr. William Proctor, Jr., passed without further objection, and the constitution of the American Pharmaceutical Association was adopted at this first meeting. Since then changes and additions have become necessary from time to time, but in a general way the fundamental thoughts as there expressed have remained the same and will remain the same as long as the Association exists.

The Business Committee, to whom the question of importation of drugs was referred, brought a new resolution, which shows what a decisive step this young association took and that it was not inclined to let anything pass by unnoticed, that they considered to come under their jurisdiction. The resolution read:

“RESOLVED, That in the opinion of this Convention, the law against the importation of adulterated drugs, chemicals and medicinal preparations, has already effected much good by excluding large quantities of inferior drugs from the market.

Resolved, That inasmuch as the usefulness of this law will be proportioned to the ability and conscientious discharge of duty of the Examiners, that this Convention shall respectfully and urgently represent to the appointing power the cardinal importance of preventing the removal of qualified Examiners on mere political grounds.”

Similar resolutions were adopted at many later meetings.

The question of the sale of poisons also claimed the attention of the young association, and gave rise to a lively debate. Considering that there existed then hardly any state laws regulating the sale of poisons, it is certainly to the credit of the national association that they brought the attention of the authorities to this important matter.

Another subject that attracted the attention of the young association and which was brought up in a report by Mr. Proctor, was pharmaceutical education, and it must be noticed that from this day forward hardly a meeting passed in which this all-important subject was not discussed and enlarged upon, so that the impulse of higher education in pharmacy always came from this central point. Resolutions were also passed at this meeting, as well as at many others, against the spreading of quackery, and secret and quack medicines were denounced in the strongest terms. It will be seen that already at the first meeting the foundations of the various Sections into which the Association later divided its work were laid. The Committee on Education developed into the Educational Section; the Committee on Drug Inspection into the Section on Legislation, and the Committee on Secret Medicines and Quackery into the Commercial Section. In

the beginning the Executive Committee was created which later grew into the Council of the Association.

In order to gather statistics on the advancement of this new association, a committee was formed to investigate the status of pharmacy in the various states and bring in reports about the number of pharmacies, their scope, the manner in which they were conducted, and anything pertaining to them.

Another important work begun at the first meeting was a recommendation from the Executive Committee to collect formulae of physicians in various localities with a view of publication. Here, then, at the first meeting of the American Pharmaceutical Association, the idea of a National Formulary originated.

THE SECOND ANNUAL CONVENTION.

In 1853, the second meeting of the Association was held in Boston, August 24-26. At the roll call it was found that forty-four members were present, representing the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, New York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Virginia, Maryland, Tennessee, Ohio, and Indiana, certainly a satisfactory growth for one year. This meeting, too, was largely devoted to considering matters pertaining to the strengthening of the bonds of membership, and to the methods of inducing the apothecaries to join the Association. It is really remarkable how ingenuous the Executive Committee was in finding ways and methods of bringing the existence of the Association to the knowledge of the fellow-pharmacists of the United States. Although the results were in some years very discouraging, faith was never lost in the final growth and national influence of the work. At the second meeting a proposition was made to appoint local secretaries, that is to say, designate a man in each large city to act as local secretary of the Association, with a view of forming local societies or of making propoganda for the national organization. At a later meeting the name of "local secretary" was changed to "correspondent," and these offices were retained for a number of years.

A number of interesting scientific papers were presented at this meeting, some of them regarding subjects that have ever since remained of the greatest interest to pharmacy. Mr. Charles A. Smith read a paper on the importance of the cultivation of indigenous drugs. As a result a committee was appointed to further the ideas expressed by Mr. Smith, and in a later meeting we have at various times correspondence of this committee with authorities at Washington and reports of greatest interest.

A subject of a peculiar nature created a long and heated debate at this meeting. A motion was made that members of the Association adopt the name "pharmacian" to designate their profession. The motion was finally withdrawn, but in connection with this it is to be remarked that the name for the apothecary of those days, as shown in all reports, was not "pharmacist" as today, but "pharmaceutist," and wherever "druggist" appears, a wholesaler is understood. The constitution itself in those days began with the words, "All pharmaceutists and druggists, etc., meaning thereby the retail apothecaries and the wholesale dealers. This question of a new name agitated the minds of the members for a number of years and the same motion was repeatedly made, to adopt the word

“pharmacian” as designating “apothecary.” At one time the French word “pharmacien” was used, putting an accent on the last “e”, in order to indicate that the French pronunciation was desired.

At this meeting the first mention of the United States Pharmacopœia was made, Mr. Proctor proposing a resolution to request the committee on revision to issue a cheap, correct edition of the United States Pharmacopœia in duodecimo form, “as it will enable every apothecary and physician to possess a copy of that guide, and those pharmacutists and classes of persons for whose government it was created would know its real nature, extent and requirements.”

Another method for propoganda was adopted by ordering a large number of proceedings, over 1000, for distribution throughout the United States. The president of the second meeting was Mr. William A. Brewer, of Massachusetts. With the second meeting the forming and welding together of the Association had been finished. It was now in existence, it had a serviceable constitution, it had adopted a code of ethics of the highest kind, it had gone through the test of the furnace of opposing thoughts and irrational schemes, it was now ready for work, and the later meetings showed that it had become conscious of its power, its influence, and its usefulness.

THE THIRD ANNUAL CONVENTION.

The third meeting of the American Pharmaceutical Association was held in Cincinnati, July 25-26, 1854. At first glance it appears as though a reaction had set in, and the forward stride of the new society had been checked. There were only twenty members present at the roll call, none from New York, and from Pennsylvania and Massachusetts only the two irrepressibles, Colcord and Proctor. But the reason for this reaction was not lack of interest, but misfortune of the times. An epidemic of cholera was raging through the Eastern States, and prevented the attendance that otherwise would have been in evidence. Mr. William B. Chapman, of Cincinnati, was elected chairman. The meeting itself, because of the small number present, did not feel justified in proposing and advocating new things, and restricted its work particularly to the consideration of various reports. Among these, Mr. Proctor’s address to the pharmacists of the United States on the subject of education was adopted and ordered printed for general distribution throughout the United States. The same resolution was passed in reference to a report relating to the expediency of seeking commercial action on the special examination of drugs. The question of unofficial formulæ was discussed and a resolution passed that formulæ presented by Matthew of Buffalo, Cummings of Maine, and Meakin of New York, be collected and retained by the secretary, with a view to publication when similar contributions accumulated sufficiently to justify it. The corresponding secretary reported on the various correspondents which, as was stated before, were appointed with a view of encouraging the apothecaries in various parts of the country to join the association. He had appointed 43 and addressed them several times. Of these 16 had accepted, 5 had declined, and 22, more than half, had not answered at all. As this method of propoganda seemed to have failed, another method was proposed, namely, “that this association recommend to several colleges of pharmacy and pharmaceutical associations the appointment of committees and correspondents from their own bodies who shall

address the apothecaries of their respective sections upon the object of this association for the promotion of its designs."

The various reports and discussions on the sale of poisons also gradually assumed definite form, and it was resolved to appoint a committee of three to draft a law regulating the sale of poisons, to be submitted to the association, and if approved, to be presented to the legislature of the several states. In order to encourage the members to take part in scientific investigations and present papers to the association, two prizes for the two best essays were promised.

The question of a proper name for registered apothecary again came up without producing any results. As some parts of the constitution did not meet with the approval of the members, a committee was appointed for its revision.

THE FOURTH ANNUAL CONVENTION.

At the fourth meeting in New York, in the year 1855, under the presidency of Mr. John Meakin of New York, the question of revision was again discussed. That this revision of the constitution should last for several years is quite natural. The original small convention of druggists of a few colleges had now become a national association, with members from all parts of the country, who naturally brought different ideas and differences of opinion as to certain leading clauses. But in all these deliberations we notice the desire of every one, whether he was an adherer of the original wording, or a progressive with new and more radical ideas, to discuss the matter in the interest of better and higher pharmacy, and to subordinate all personal wishes to this one great aim.

One peculiar change in the names of the registered pharmacist is to be noted in the proceedings of the fourth annual meetings. The name "pharmaceutist" in the constitution is changed to apothecary so that in Section I, Article 2, mention is made of "apothecary" and "druggist." In the following edition of the constitution, however, the word "apothecary" is again dropped, and the word "pharmaceutist" replaced. Section VII was also added to Article 2 on the election of honorary members. This Section begins with the words "pharmacists, chemists, and other scientific men." The question of a definite name, therefore, had not yet been settled.

At the third meeting a committee had been appointed to submit a design of a certificate of membership. The leading spirit of this committee was Mr. Andrew Geier of Boston, who took great interest in a proper design and also expended considerable money for this purpose. Mr. Geier, having died in the course of the year, the committee wished to be extended, and Mr. William Proctor, Jr. was put in his place.

From a resolution passed at this meeting, "That the mere publication of reports and other papers, especially reports of committees not unanimous, shall not be considered as an expression of the views of the Association," it may be inferred that even at that time, just as at present, opponents often made the Association at large responsible for expressions of individual members or of committees, and to guard against this misrepresentation this resolution was fortunately passed.

A resolution which reappears from time to time and the subject of which has come up in meetings almost to the present day, is the question of entertainment. It could easily be understood that pharmacists of the places of meetings consider-

ed the convention an honor to their city, and extended the well-known American hospitality in the most liberal way. The resolution reads :

“Resolved, That as a body we decline in advance any convivial or other entertainments, and esteem it important as our members increase, to prevent the practice of the last three years in this respect, from being considered a precedent for the future.”

As in previous meetings, we again find reports of a committee appointed “to enquire whether any and what amendments are required to the law regulating the importation of drugs and medicines, to render it more efficient, uniform and advantageous to the public at large.” The gist of these reports always emphasized the need of educated and able men for collectors of the places of import, as well as honest inspectors and assayers. The fearless language in which this committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. C. B. Guthrie, expressed its views, taking the firm stand against “the party cry of the age; to the victor belong the spoils,” must be noted, although we may easily understand that in those days, where the principle of spoils permeated both political parties, from the highest to the lowest member, this plea was useless. The demand for officials who would act in the interest of the purity of drugs alone, was like a cry in the desert. And yet, without doubt, these repeated messages and resolutions sent to the President of the United States and to Congress, added their part in finally producing the pure food and drug law, which has worked such a revolution in the quality of drugs.

The student of American economic history knows that in the years between 1850 and 1860, a new industry arose in the United States, that is, the cultivation of the grape-vine, and it was principally in Ohio, in the fertile fields and hills around Cincinnati, that the first successful efforts were made in this respect. It is therefore natural that this national association took notice of this new industry. A committee appointed at the third meeting on motion of Mr. William Proctor, Jr., now handed in a very interesting report. Unfortunately the author of this report and its leading spirit, Mr. William Rehfuss of Cincinnati, himself a large producer of wine, had died before the meeting and in his place Mr. Ellis F. Wayne read the very able paper on the growth and production of wines in the west, and on Catawba brandy and tartar. This report and one presented the following year, are probably the most interesting scientific reports on this subject that have ever been rendered in chemical or pharmaceutical associations.

A great deal of time and care was devoted in this meeting to home adulteration, and the able stand that the American Pharmaceutical Association took in those days against the adulteration of crude drugs as well as finished products, as bought in a great many shops, show the earnest and fearless spirit of the members.

THE FIFTH ANNUAL CONVENTION.

At the fifth annual meeting in 1856, held at Baltimore, Md. we notice one innovation that was undoubtedly of great advantage to the Association. Up to this time the new president had always been elected at the first session of the meeting and immediately installed in office. It was therefore impossible for him to deliver what might be called an annual report. At the fifth meeting the change was made, so that the meeting was called to order by the retiring president, who continued in office for the first day and the new president was elected

on the second day and installed. This gave the retiring president an opportunity to read an address at the first session of the meeting, in which he reviewed the work done during the past year and made such suggestions and propositions as seemed to him serviceable and necessary. As is well known, this custom was further extended in later meetings, and greatly served to improve and advance the usefulness of the Association and help to bring the proper subjects to the attention of the members. Thus we find, at this meeting for the first time, a real presidential address, in which Mr. John Meakin gave some excellent advice for the guidance of the meeting. On the following day the chair was surrendered to the newly elected president, Mr. George W. Andrews of Baltimore. Besides this change in the order of business, a very important amendment was made in the constitution of the Association, by dividing the Executive Committee into two standing committees, and appointing the Committee of Progress of Pharmacy, which ever since has performed its work independently as a separate committee, and has gradually risen to that perfection which has for years characterized its work.

A further addition to the constitution consisted in the fact that the objects of the Association (Article I) were divided into five different sections. These five sections are well known to every member of the Association, having been cited many times since then, and stand in our constitution today almost in the same words as at that time. A new section (7) was added to Article II, "of the members" creating the "life members," after paying the dues for ten consecutive years. In this division, also, the word "pharmacist" is retained. Of the other committees appointed at this meeting, the committee of Syllabus deserves special attention, which two years later handed in a most remarkable and exhaustive report. Mr. William Proctor, Jr. was chairman of this committee.

The committee appointed at a previous meeting to report on a certificate of membership sent in a very interesting report, in which the design of the adopted certificate was explained in detail. It is too long to reproduce here, but any student of pharmacy can find it on pages 10 and 11 of the Proceedings of 1856. A number of certificates were sold at that meeting, sufficient to cover the total expenses of the committee.

A great number of collected unofficial formulae caused quite a discussion, and a new committee, consisting of ten members representing all parts of the country, was appointed to continue this work and report at the next meeting.

This year, for the first time, honorary members were elected, the first three being Mr. Daniel B. Smith of Philadelphia, Mr. Thomas Farrington of Boston, and Mr. Madison J. Bailey of New York.

Mr. Guthrie proposed the following, which was accepted :

"That in view of the fact that great inaccuracy and discrepancy is known to exist in the weights and measures in common use among pharmacists of the United States, a committee of three be appointed by the chair to take this subject into consideration and report at the next annual meeting."

This committee remained in existence for a number of meetings, and their reports form some of the most interesting parts of some of the proceedings.

A noteworthy paper was read by Mr. E. S. Wayne on various mineral products. He submitted a sample of paraffin from the cannel coal of West Virginia, and

stated that a ton of the coal, when distilled at a moderate temperature, yielded from 700 to 800 pounds of liquid products, which, when subsequently treated, furnished 50 pounds of paraffin. Mr. Wayne suggested that paraffin properly purified would answer as a substitute for a wax and that an oil may be extracted from the liquid products obtained by superheating, so mild in quality as to be substituted for lard and olive oil in ointments, thus obtaining both wax and oil from the coal. This report is interesting for the reason that it shows that paraffin and paraffin oil, which are now gained exclusively from crude petroleum, antedates the introduction of petroleum and its various products.

Another interesting paper presented at this meeting was one by Mr. Edward Parrish, entitled, "Pharmacy as a Business," in which harmony between the business and the profession of pharmacy is defined. It is a paper that should be read by all those who erroneously believe that a commercial pharmacist cannot be a professional man, or that a professional pharmacist must necessarily be a poor business man.

For the first time in the history of this Association, a committee was appointed to consider a report upon the expediency of having the Association participate in the work of the next decennial revision of the Pharmacopoeia. The roll of members at the fifth meeting shows that from the original nine the number of members had risen to 141, of whom 47 were present at the meeting.

THE SIXTH ANNUAL CONVENTION.

At the sixth meeting in 1857, held in Philadelphia, Mr. Charles Ellis was elected president. The Nominating Committee this year, in bringing in a report, made a notable change. Up to this time it had been the custom to select the president from the members of the place of meeting, intended evidently as a compliment. The Nominating Committee presented three names, that of Mr. Charles Ellis of Philadelphia, Mr. T. B. Guthrie of New York, and Mr. Henry F. Fish of Connecticut, and in doing so considered it necessary to explain their action. They said:

"Our reason for so doing is because this is the first instance of our meeting twice in the same city. By following former precedents we should select our presiding officer from the place of our meeting, and if this course is still pursued it is evident that a president cannot be selected from the rural districts. Although the Association never has and never should sacrifice merit to locality, yet the committee deem the present time a suitable one to make a change in the mode of nomination, and would offer three names, all well qualified."

Consequently the following motion was passed:

Resolved, That in the future meetings of this association, the nomination for president be made from the members at large, without regard to the precedent which has hitherto governed us in selecting that officer from the members in the place where said meetings are held."

From the report of the Executive Committee it is noticed that even at that early time in the history of the Association, lack of copies of the proceedings of previous meetings, that has been deplored so many times since, already existed, and the committee made a plea to all the members to send any superfluous copies that they might have in their possession.

The Committee on Weights and Measures presented a very remarkable report, comprising ten pages of the proceedings, which show the earnest attention

given to this subject, and is at the same time one of the most unique papers of the proceedings. In this report they propose a decimal system, retaining the old names of weights and measures, and making the gallon of water the standard. The question of temperature and density is entirely ignored. This gallon is divided into ten pounds, each pound into ten ounces, each ounce into ten drachms, each drachm into ten scruples, and each scruple into ten grains. The weight of a grain in measure is also the lowest weight, and rises in the same decimal scale to scruples (ten grains), drachms (ten scruples), ounce (ten drachms), pound (ten ounces), and stone (ten pounds), so that one gallon of water would weigh one stone. This new decimal system of their own invention, they declared to be superior to the French system, of which they say, "the French is very beautiful in theory and is calculated to charm the classical man, but there are few such in trade and commerce." The proceedings do not mention any discussion or remarks relating to this unique report. Perhaps the meeting was taken by surprise by its radical proposition. The Committee, however, was continued, and Mr. William Proctor, Jr. and Mr. John Meakin added to it. For a number of meetings this subject of weights and measures formed one of the leading topics of debate, and it is very interesting to observe how, under the guidance of men of science, the Association gradually cleared its mind and worked its understanding up to the general metric system.

The report of the Committee on Unofficial Formulae was presented by Mr. Meakin of New York, and referred to the Executive Committee for publication with discretionary power. We find about twenty pages of the proceedings devoted to these formulae. They were presented by various members from different parts of the country and printed without any comment, and no attempt was made to simplify or explain them; yet this part of the proceedings of 1857 may be considered as the first attempt to publish a forerunner of the National Formulary.

The Committee on the Revision of the Pharmacopoeia made a lengthy report, recommending that a committee of ten should be appointed to "represent the pharmaceutical knowledge and skill of the Northern, Southern, Eastern and Western States in a preliminary revision of the Pharmacopoeia." Realizing that the American Pharmaceutical Association, not being an incorporated society, could not be represented at the convention for revising the Pharmacopoeia, it was proposed that their report should be handed to some incorporated college of pharmacy, and the committee further made this recommendation, "that a committee to nominate ten members for a Pharmacopoeia Committee, and report at a future sitting, be appointed by the chair." In consequence of this report the desire, not to say necessity, of incorporating the Association arose, and we have hereafter for many years, a Committee on Incorporation. This committee reported at various meetings, but the desired result was not reached until 1888, when the act of incorporation was finally obtained. It will be seen, therefore, that it took an agitation of thirty-one years for this committee to accomplish its aim.

The Executive Committee also reported that according to the instructions received at the last meeting, they sent a petition to the Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Howard Cobb, urging upon him the necessity of selecting the right person for the position of collector of the ports of entry and inspection of

drugs. They also state that a similar report was forwarded from the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy, by all the medical associations of that state and also from Philadelphia. They close their report with the words:

"A most efficient officer of long experience has been displaced, and the post filled by one totally unknown to the College of Pharmacy, apothecaries, or importers of the city, and who claimed the appointment solely upon the score of his political services and qualifications. The Committee feel constrained to protest in their own name, and in the name of the Association and the interests of humanity, against the prostitution of this wise and salutary measure to the mere purposes of political partisanship, and therefore recommend that the Association take such action as shall bring this matter before the next session of Congress for the purpose of so amending the law that it shall be protected from such management as nullifies its provisions."

As a result of this report it was resolved that a committee be appointed to memorialize the next Congress in the name of this association for such an amendment to the drug law as shall place it upon a better basis and make it a more effectual protection to the community and the interests of the apothecary.

The same clear, concise, and fearless language that is shown in these reports and resolutions is also found in a report presented by Mr. Proctor on the relation between physicians and pharmacists, and the physicians were urged to cooperate with the Association to bring about a more satisfactory relationship, particularly as to the dispensing of medicines on extemporaneous prescriptions.

Quite a number of scientific papers, as proposed by the Executive Committee, as well as voluntary essays, were presented at this meeting. Two of these deserve special mention, presented by two pillars of pharmacy, one by Mr. Edward Parrish, the other by Mr. John M. Maisch. Mr. Parrish's paper, called "Ethical Analysis" is rather a philosophical one, but based on close observation both of science and practice. After reviewing the different methods and analyzing chemicals, assays, and plants, he tries to apply these same rules of analysis to the pharmaceutical profession, and to the individual pharmacist, and shows how an analysis of his thoughts, character, and actions, might be of service to himself and to the profession at large. His paper ends in a number of questions of an ethical nature, questions that have agitated the pharmaceutical world ever since, questions of moral standing and ethical action that will probably continue to be discussed and analyzed as long as pharmacy exists. But probably no other paper delineates so well the character of this prominent man, the purity of his methods, the beauty of his thoughts, and the height of his aims in his profession. It might be called his profession of faith and shows that in the turmoil of commercial and political upheaval, which filled the air at that time, his mind was principally filled with those ideal thoughts for which he is known to the few of his contemporaries that still live and which he reveals to us in this paper in such a beautiful way.

The other paper, by Mr. Maisch, was called "On the use of our indigenous plants." It is the first paper of importance that Mr. Maisch presented, and it may also be said to be indicative of the man. *Ex ungue leonem*. He urges in this paper the study of indigenous plants for the purpose of replacing plants from the whole world as then used in medicine by domestic ones. He urges the student to look for them, to love them, to analyze them, to use them. He shows that it is one of the most beautiful phases of the vocation of pharmacy to use leisure hours in

this direction. His language is simple, but clear and precise. It shows his love of this subject, and this paper may be called the outline of his whole future life. What he here urges other to do, what he proposes as so much worth while, he did afterwards in the many years of his useful life and from this day the proceedings of the Association are filled with the most interesting and useful papers from his pen. He followed this article shortly afterwards by the very remarkable paper on "Essential Oils" in the proceedings of 1858.

THE SEVENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION.

The seventh meeting of the Association, in 1858 was again held at Washington, and Mr. John L. Kidwell of Georgetown, elected president. The retiring president, Mr. Charles Ellis, read his report at the first session, and gave a short review of the history of the Association during the first six years. This meeting was perhaps the most scientific of the first decade, as a great number of scientific papers were presented on various subjects. The Executive Committee, according to custom, prepared a list of forty different subjects for investigation for the ensuing year, allotting each one to a member who took special interest in his subject, and leading men, representing both the commercial and scientific sides of pharmacy, accepted the subjects.

The report of the Committee on Weights and Measures, which in 1857 had presented such a unique report, again occupied many pages of the proceedings. The majority of the committee were evidently in a doubtful state of mind, and they discussed the subject by philosophical reflections on the difficulties and infirmities in all earthly things in general, and in weights and measures in particular, without presenting anything tangible. In a prophetic mood they expressed this desire, which has long since become a reality:

"When earth shall have an electric current encircling it from the Atlantic shore to the Pacific shore, conveying its messages from point to point for love or profit, at least its commercial wants should be known in uniform words, meaning the same here and in London, in Paris and Lisbon, in Constantinople and Sierre Leone, in Rome, if she has anything to sell, and Norway. What a grand idea it would be to be able, as we shall be, to flash our orders to London, Liverpool, Berlin and Paris for any wants we may have unsupplied, and when we speak of pounds or ounces here they understood the same there. Or still more, if we extend the limit of our orders to the remoter nations, to know that the same uniformity rendered the orders as intelligible in one portion of the world as another. The members of this Association may not live to see this, but it is not a prophecy, for the lines have gone across the conquered seas that proclaim the harbinger of such a day; and though it may be far off, yet the time will come when a uniform currency and a uniform system of weights and measures will be one of the indications of a millennial day, awaking harmony, peace and prosperity in all the lands of the earth."

A supplement to this report was handed in by Mr. Meakin, who evidently viewed the situation in a clearer and more practical way, and recommended the adoption of the French decimal system, modifying it, however, in so far, that he proposed a centennial scale instead of a decimal, skipping each second link. He makes the centigram the unit, the gram or 100 centigram the next step, and the hectogram, 100 grams the following. In the same way he proposes the centiliter and liter. No action was taken by the Association and the committee was continued.

The report on local unofficial formulae greatly enlarged the list, which were

ordered printed as before. The report of the committee on the desired amendments to the United States law regulating the importation of drugs and chemicals, read a petition presented to Congress, which in able, concise, and fearless words covered the subjects as discussed in the former proceedings. A member of the government was present at this meeting, Mr. E. J. Brown of the Patent Office, and made some very interesting statements relative to the introduction of some foreign medicinal plants in this country. As a result of his remarks a committee was appointed to confer with the Agricultural Department of the Patent Office for further conference.

The subject relating to the revision of the Pharmacopoeia was continued as proposed in the previous meeting, and a committee of three was appointed to whom the accumulated correspondence and suggestions in reference to this subject was referred for further report.

Among the many scientific papers presented at this meeting, two are worthy of special mention, one by Mr. I. G. Graham, called, "The process of percolation or displacement, its history and application in pharmacy." While today this subject is a very familiar one to the young student of pharmacy, it was certainly an epoch-making paper. It put before the pharmacists of the United States this method of making preparations in a clear and concise way, and the propositions made by a number of teachers in this direction, particularly Messrs. Parrish and Proctor, gradually bore fruit.

The other paper was that of Mr. E. R. Squibb of New York, called "Notes and suggestions upon some of the processes of the United States Pharmacopoeia, especially directed to the Committee of Revision." This paper, comprising nearly fifty pages of the proceedings, is typical of a great many others of the same nature, all directed to improve the methods and processes of the Pharmacopoeia, and shows the enormous interest that professional pharmacists in those days took in the new work that was put before them—the revision of the Pharmacopoeia. Mr. Squibb's paper is probably the most complete of its kind, going alphabetically through the whole list of articles in pharmacy, showing in a clear, short, but scientific manner, the defects that existed and proposing new methods.

The greater part of the proceedings was taken up by a report of the Committee on Syllabus, which committee, however, seems to have resolved itself into one man who was its guiding spirit, Mr. William Proctor, Jr. This report, comprising sixty-four pages, most of them printed in very small type in order to save space, may be called a work on "The Practice of Pharmacy," which indeed it is. It deals with every part of pharmaceutical manipulation that may be mentioned and taught in a college. It represents, we might say, the thorough work of the author, and he presents it here to his fellow teachers and fellow members of the Association in this disinterested way. Any teacher on pharmacy might take this Syllabus as his guide and by following it, know that he does his work well. For although many things have been changed since then, many new methods been invented, and many drugs and chemicals that he mentions have been dropped from the Pharmacopoeia, yet the fundamental thoughts have remained the same, and always will remain the same, because they represent the fundamental principles of pharmacy, good practical work based on sound scientific theory.

THE EIGHTH ANNUAL CONVENTION.

Boston was again selected as the place for the eighth annual meeting, which was conducted under the presidency of the venerable Mr. S. L. Colcord. It was one of the most fruitful meetings the Association ever had, interesting both to the commercial man as well as to the student of pharmacy. The retiring president being absent, the acting president, Mr. Robert Battey, made a short address which dealt largely with the question of membership. The cause for this was probably the report that the Executive Committee presented at the first session, when they read the list of names of new members. They reported that they had an additional number of names, but were in doubt as to whether these men were eligible or not. The proceedings do not make any clear statement as to what objections existed, but from the arguments made on the subject and from other indications, we may surmise that some of the candidates belonged to the eclectic and homeopathic schools of medicine and some were chemists and not apothecaries. The Executive Committee seemed to be in doubt whether under the rules of the constitution which spoke only of pharmacutists and druggists, these men were eligible. A notable discussion arose, some advocating the broadest liberality of accepting members, others being very strong and set in their opinion to exclude everyone that did not strictly come under the words of the constitution. The subject was finally referred back to the Executive Committee. The acting president again mentioned this subject without making any definite recommendations, and the question was left undecided, to be taken up at the next meeting. In connection with this the standing of delegates from pharmaceutical societies or colleges in reference to their eligibility as members was also discussed, and the question raised whether the Association had a right to inquire into their character and ability. After various remarks on this subject it was decided by the president that according to the constitution the Association had no right to do so and that these delegates must be accepted as members if they choose to become such. This policy has ever since been followed.

From a resolution passed, not to use the name of the Association for advertising purposes, we infer that such efforts had been made and that this tendency of certain manufacturers to join the Association for this purpose already then existed.

The question of a charter for the Association, which had already been taken up at the sixth meeting, brought with it the idea of having a permanent meeting place, as the opinion seemed to prevail that this was necessary for the granting of a charter. At various meetings, therefore, from now on, we find resolutions of this kind, at one time proposing New York as such a permanent place, at another time Washington, D. C., at another time Washington was proposed as the headquarters, to meet there every five years, and the others years to meet in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore. It is fortunate for the Association that all these attempts were unsuccessful, and that the migratory character of the Association was thereby preserved, which without doubt added greatly to its increase and thereby to its influence.

The question of cultivating medicinal plants in this country was again taken

up and it is remarkable how much time, thought, and labor was devoted to this subject. Not only were long reports presented, but also a very voluminous correspondence of the committee appointed for this purpose with the agricultural patent office at Washington. Special papers were also submitted by some of the leading members, dealing with certain plants and certain districts. The Agricultural Department in a very long and interesting letter to Mr. Kidwell, the president of the Association, mentioned a number of plants that had successfully been cultivated in the Propagating Gardens in Washington, and living specimens were presented at the meeting. These specimens comprised Melochia or Soap Plant from Egypt, Cork Oak from Spain, Green Tea from China, Wax Tree Plant from Japan, Wild Chamamile from Russia, Black Tea from China, Camphor Tree from China. Among the papers relating to these subjects the most notable is that by Mr. H. A. Tilden, on "Therapeutic value of foreign and indigenous medicinal plants." The committee to confer with the authorities in Washington on this subject was continued.

The most notable report of this meeting, and probably of all the meetings of the Association, was the report of the committee on weights and measures. It comprises more than 100 pages of the proceedings and is the most exhaustive treatise on this subject that has probably ever been written. It mentions the various systems of measuring and weighing of all civilized peoples, in Asia as well as Europe, from the earliest dates of history, and makes comparison and draws conclusions in a very interesting way. Any student of this subject should not neglect to study this report, as it is full of interesting details, facts, and conclusions. The committee finally comes to the conclusion that a new system which they evolve themselves, and which they call the Octenary System, is superior to any other, and they propose this system for adoption. The principal argument in favor of this system is the binary subdivision, which it admits, and they say in a prophetic mood, "We assure that its adoption is only a question of time." "We must avow our belief that France will be the first of nations to hail its advent and welcome its adoption." The author of this remarkable treatise on weights and measures was Mr. Alfred B. Taylor of Philadelphia. It is a peculiar coincidence that in the proceedings, right after this report of the Committee on Weights and Measures, and its strong and enthusiastic recommendation of this new octenary system, the committee on the revision of the Pharmacopoeia, in a very quiet way, recommends, two pages later, to the commission of revision, the changes in the system of weights and measures that had been made in Great Britain. The proposition agreed upon was to substitute the avoirdupois weight with the Troy form. This report on the revision of the Pharmacopoeia is also a very exhaustive and interesting one, and deals with a great many articles and preparations for which changes or additions were recommended. It was submitted by the chairman of the committee, Mr. Edward Parrish of Philadelphia.

In a similar, able way the question of Home Adulteration was treated and a great many instances of adulteration cited. As a characteristic sign of the times and the tendency to adulterate almost everything, it was mentioned that there was in the open market an article which was sold under the name of "the great adulterator," which, according to the originator, could be used to adulterate almost

any chemical in the market. This adulterator was, according to the committee, selenite or sulphate of lime. It was imported into New York in enormous quantities and there powdered for use.

An effort to write a "History of pharmacy and its progress as a science from the earliest period to the present time," was made by Mr. James O'Gallagher of St. Louis, in a very able paper that is full of interesting facts to students of pharmacy.

In these proceedings we also find the first mention of pepsin, which then began to be known to the medical and pharmaceutical professions. Mr. A. Cushman of New York wrote a very interesting paper on this subject, reviewed the history of the article and gave the views of various physiologists and scientists on its value. As the Latin synonym he gives "Chymosin Gasterase."

The most important papers of this meeting were written by Messrs. John M. Maisch and William Procter, Jr. Mr. Maisch's paper was on the behavior of essential oils to iodine and bromine, and may be considered a succedaneum to his paper presented at the seventh annual meeting in 1858. Many of the tests and investigations that he recommended in this paper have been retained by the scientific world to the present day and bespeak the infinite care and great working capacity of the author. Mr. Procter furnished a very able paper on "Formulae for fluidextracts in reference to their more general adoption in the next Pharmacopœia." Without going into the details of this remarkable and exhaustive paper, it may be stated that nearly all his recommendations later found their way into the United States Pharmacopœia, and in many instances the exact wording of the process as he recommended it have been retained.

THE NINTH ANNUAL CONVENTION.

In the following year, 1860, the Association again met in New York for its ninth annual meeting. Mr. Henry T. Kirstead of New York was elected president. After the introductory remarks of the president the report of the Executive Committee always formed the first part of the proceedings. It can be inferred that a great many of the manuscripts presented for publication were written very carelessly, and the Executive Committee requested that the manuscripts be fairly and legible written and in a proper state to be given to the printer, and "all papers and manuscripts not so submitted to be excluded from the report unless delay be granted by the vote of the association." This rather categorical demand which they presented in the form of a resolution created a long discussion, but was finally not accepted.

One of the most beautiful papers ever presented to the American Pharmaceutical Association was the address of the retiring president, Mr. Samuel L. Colcord. In this address the chairman deals with all the various subjects that were then of interest. He first regrets the delay in issuing the proceedings, he reviews the reasons for it, and urges the authors and committees to be more prompt and exact in remitting their copies. He says:

"I see no reason why our proceedings should not be published within thirty days after adjournment."

Speaking of the act of incorporation, he touches the subject of the broader and wider sphere of the Association to which it should aspire, and closes this appeal with the wonderful words:

"Taking this view of the subject into consideration, a charter with educational powers conferred, from some State encouraging such efforts, would answer our purpose better than one from the general government. We could then, in addition to encouraging local schools and colleges of pharmacy, organize a learned faculty on a uniform national basis: conferring on them the power of examining candidates and conferring degrees, granting diplomas and certificates of qualification. The appointment of professors could be made from the professors of any colleges or schools already organized, and as many could be appointed as would be required from time to time. Lectures and courses of instruction prepared by them and approved could then be at the service of any number of pharmacutists or assistants who would properly organize to receive them, by paying only the expense of their delivery, leaving it at their option to choose from any of the professors thus appointed, whose services could be secured at the terms mutually agreed upon. It would then become an object for men of talent to qualify themselves for the office and pursue it as a business, by having sufficient number of such classes, especially if the professors were connected with laboratories, botanical gardens, etc."

When he speaks of the question of adulteration he closes with the words:

"I cannot too strongly urge upon you the duty as well as policy of making no compromise with adulterations and adulterators. If there is any sin that should be exposed and punished, it is that which lurks unseen and works mischief and death upon innocent parties."

In equally strong and beautiful words he speaks of the Pharmacopœia, hoping that we may expect

"in due time a national work that should carry weight and authority with it sufficient to do away with all private formulæ for official preparations. It is to be hoped that the Pharmacopœia will be a work of fixed and available standards, and that all who follow the profession of pharmacy will strictly conform to it, that we may have one uniform standard throughout the country, no matter how great a change it may make in the preparations that have been previously in the market."

When he speaks of the conflict that sometimes exists between commercial and professional pharmacy he comes to the conclusion that there is a duty to be performed and says:

"As to the medicinal articles in which we deal, it is clearly our duty to create a demand for pure medicines of reliable quality, as the only safe articles for our patrons to purchase: we should therefore strive to create a demand for this class of goods in preference to the medium and lower grades of quality."

Finally he gives some beautiful advice to the young student or practitioner in pharmacy, saying:

"Should his heart be bent on a life of usefulness, a determination to explore and master the mystery and detail of the business, and acquire confidence to stand before his customers as one that can answer their wants equal to any competitor, and secure a list of personal friends from among them: should he explore the sciences, and investigate theories connected with his business, as amusements or pleasures, storing up knowledge for truth's sake, cultivate the acquaintance of those in similar pursuits, and make friends from among the stars of his own profession, and intimate acquaintance with the records of those denied a personal acquaintance: society would seek him for his worth, the mortar would yield him pleasure, the graduate would be to him a cup of happiness, and the outside world would form to him a concentrated variety of the same happiness which other people enjoy."

The whole address is characteristic of the man. In it he pours out the inmost thoughts of his heart; his infinite love for his profession, his readiness to work, his courage to face every difficulty that besieged his vocation, his great confidence in the bright future of professional pharmacy, his broad experience in all pharmaceutical subjects, his clearness of vision in giving advice to the young—all these

are reflected in this beautiful address couched in simple but effective language. It should be held up as a confession of faith, and should be recommended to every student of pharmacy in every college in the country.

That the Association was not afraid of too large a volume of work may be inferred from the report of the committee to present subjects for investigation for the following year. It proposed a list of fifty subjects, practical and professional, each one being assigned to one member.

It had been the custom for some time to accompany the meetings with exhibits of chemicals, drugs, galenicals, and other articles of interest to the pharmacist. Each year a committee was appointed at the beginning of the meeting to examine this exhibit and make a report to the Association. The exhibitors were not only wholesale dealers and manufacturers, but very often retail druggists brought the results of their laboratory and yearly work to the knowledge of their colleagues with good results.

A somewhat heated debate again took place on the question of membership, two of the leading men taking opposing sides, Mr. Edward Parrish taking the view of admitting everyone who was in any way qualified, while Mr. E. R. Squibb advocated a restriction of membership. One of his remarks closes with the words:

"If you take in these men (meaning some eclectics and chemists) you certainly will drive me out of the Association."

No action was taken by the Association, and the question was left open.

As the following year was to be the decennial meeting of the Association, it was proposed to prepare a notice of the work of the first ten years and Mr. Thomas S. Wiegand of Philadelphia was appointed by the chair to that duty. When the newly elected president, Mr. Henry T. Kirstead, took the chair, he foreshadowed in his remarks the dangers that surrounded the meetings of the Association from the political condition of the country, saying:

"At a time when sectional strife and jealousy has sown the seed of discord in almost every widespread organization: when not only political, but even religious questions have been embittered by mutual distrust and suspicion—it has been eminently gratifying in such times to witness the dignified indifference with which this scientific body has pursued the even tenor of its way." No clamor of demagogues has found an echo here. No factious whisper has ever disturbed your harmony. With true patriotism and philanthropy you have met year after year, from North and South, from East and West, to discuss, like brothers, questions involving the common good of all."

He little presaged that the very reason, the absence of which he blessed, would prevent the decennial meeting. It was planned to hold this meeting in St. Louis, and a committee was appointed to find out ways and means of having a larger attendance there than at any of the previous meetings. The report of the Committee on Weights and Measures is not printed in the proceedings of 1860. It is only mentioned that a debate took place on the same and that finally Mr. Squibb offered a resolution which was adopted, namely:

"That in the judgment of the association it is expedient and practicable in the official formulae of the Pharmacopoeia to abolish the use of measures of capacity, and to substitute for absolute weights and measures the term *parts*, meaning parts by weight: and that this association recommends such a change as the most simple, practicable, and effective one that can be at present made."

In connection with this another resolution was passed, which was proposed by the Business Committee, whose chairman was also Mr. Squibb, namely :

"That the change of weights recently adopted in the Committee of the Council for consolidation and revision of the British Pharmacopoeias, by which change the table of avoirdupois weight is adopted, with a new division of the avoirdupois into 480 parts, to be called grains, meets the approval of this association, and is recommended for adoption in the National Pharmacopoeia."

A very large part of the proceedings was taken up with a report of the Committee on Progress of Pharmacy, which indeed showed a zeal and working capacity to a remarkable degree. A long discussion also took place on the question of the sale of poisons, in which a great many medical men from New York who had been invited to the meeting, took part. A new poison law of the state of New York formed the subject of discussion. Many interesting views were advanced and the relationship between physicians and pharmacists in the prescribing and dispensing of poisons ventilated at length. However, no action was taken at the meeting, and a committee was appointed to report the following year.

A small voluntary paper presented by Mr. John Faber of New York on "Remarks on manufacturing pharmacy" was received with great favor. Mr. Faber recommended in this paper strongly the preparing of galenicals in the shops. He pointed out the advantages that the apothecary would gain by making his own tinctures and fluidextracts and dwelt particularly upon the benefit that the apprentices and young assistants would derive by seeing and doing such work. Nearly all the leading men present at this meeting endorsed this paper and expressed their approval.

With this meeting the first chapter of the history of the American Pharmaceutical Association may justly be closed. The meeting of the following year, which would have been the decennial one, did not take place, and when the Association met again in 1862, it did so under different political conditions. Hardly ever did an association fulfill its purpose in such a decided way as did the American Pharmaceutical Association in its first ten years. The membership had risen from 9 to 501. It had gained the attention of the pharmacists and local associations of the country, it had made itself known to the government at Washington. It had been instrumental in forming a great many associations in various states, it had advanced the cause of education and encouraged the colleges to additional work and higher aims. It had attracted to its ranks all the leading pharmacists of that time in the United States, as its roster will show. It had created a valuable pharmaceutical literature through the work of the committee on the progress of pharmacy, it had collected a treasure of information and put this at the disposal of everybody who wished to avail himself of it. It had raised the professional spirit, not only among its own members, but among the pharmacists all over the country. Its thought, investigations, works and deeds had given it the undisputed right to existence and leadership among the pharmaceutical profession of the United States of America.