

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to the Association and its branches shall become the property of the Association, with the understanding that they are not to be published in any other publications than those of the Association, except by consent of the Committee on Publication."—By-Laws, Chapter X, Art. III.

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 typewritten, with wide spaces between the lines. Care should be taken to give proper names correctly, and manuscript should be signed by the reporter. To maintain its activity and representation each Branch should see that at least three of its meetings during the year are reported in the Journal.

BALTIMORE.

The December meeting of the Baltimore Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association was held at the Emerson Hotel on Monday evening, December 20, 1920, at 8.15 P. M., President Charles C. Neal in the chair.

Dr. A. L. Sullivan, State Food and Drug Commissioner, addressed the members on the subject of the "Manufacture of Oil of Wormseed in Carroll County, Maryland," bringing out the following interesting facts:

That with the exception of a small quantity produced in Missouri and in Carolina, the large bulk of Oil of Wormseed is produced in Maryland, the oil belt being about 15 miles long and about 4 miles wide; that Oil of Wormseed has been distilled in this section for over a hundred years, the native wild herb having been improved by cultivation and fertilization. There are ten or twelve stills in operation, with an annual production of oil varying from 11,000 to 40,000 lbs. Early in March a seed bed similar to that required for tobacco is sown, and when the plants are about six inches high they are transplanted to fields, the plants being set about 16 inches apart in rows which are three feet apart. Heavy fertilization and intense cultivation are necessary. The herb is harvested by hand sickles to prevent rough handling, and consequent loss of seed, and the curing of the herb is along lines similar to making hay. Formerly the herb was distilled in pot stills, the herb and water being boiled together. About twenty-five years ago a steam still was constructed and in 1910 the first all-metal still was used. The average time of distillation is about 35 minutes. The oil is a bright, clear, light lemon-yellow liquid, having the unpleasant odor of the wormseed herb. It is known to the trade as "Baltimore Wormseed Oil." The distillers of the oil claim that a large quantity of absolutely pure oil is made which will not meet

the requirements of the U. S. P., and that the seed yields oil having a specific gravity varying from 0.937 to 0.968. It has been suggested that the character of the oil should be judged by the amount of ascaridol it contains, which is its main constituent, together with cymene and hydrocarbons. Investigations along the lines of best varieties, of harvesting, distilling, and determination of purity, were suggested, as these would give valuable data and lead to the production of better grades of oil and increased yields.

The proposition that the Baltimore Branch become affiliated with the Engineers' Club of Maryland was discussed and referred to the Executive Committee.

B. Olive Cole was elected Secretary-Treasurer to fill the office made vacant by the death of Frontis Lentz last February.

The invitation to meet with the Washington Branch of the A. Ph. A. during January was accepted. B. OLIVE COLE, *Secretary*.

CHICAGO.

The 114th meeting of the Chicago Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association was held Friday evening, December 17, 1920, in the School of Pharmacy Building.

The attendance, especially of the younger members, was very good.

President Clark presided. The secretary reported a large increase in membership, derived especially from the senior class at the School of Pharmacy and from the soldier and sailor members resident in Chicago.

The subject of the evening was: "Boards of Pharmacy Questions—Good and Bad." H. C. Christensen was announced to lead the discussion but was detained out of the city.

Professor W. B. Day was called upon to present the subject. He replied with a most excellent résumé on the origin and development of Boards of Pharmacy, their methods of examination and examination questions. He

pointed out the many reforms accomplished in Board methods under the leadership of Secretary Christensen of the N. A. B. P., notably the reciprocity movement, the prerequisite movement and the standardized examination. Forty-four states now provide that a registered pharmacist in any state may, with a certain procedure, become licensed to practice pharmacy in any of the other states. Sixteen state boards now require by their state law that future candidates for registration as pharmacists shall be graduates of recognized colleges of pharmacy before taking the examination. In sixteen other states a modification of the law is now being sought that will permit of this prerequisite educational requirement. The Boards are concerting, also, in an effort to bring their examinations to a specified standard. That is, the examinations in each state shall consist of written work on chemistry, materia medica, pharmacy and pharmaceutical and chemical arithmetic, of an oral examination and a practical, examination in prescription reading and compound. Along with this standardization of the examination as a whole, an effort is being made to improve the quality of the questions asked, so that they will not be ambiguous, unimportant, too difficult, nor dwell on minutiae nor be merely memory tests, but will require for their answer a fair and reasonable general knowledge of the subjects under consideration. Professor Day illustrated his talk with many reminiscences and Board questions.

Others who ably entered into the discussion were: Professors A. H. Clark, C. M. Snow, M. A. Miner and E. N. Gathercoal; Messrs. Wm. Gray, I. A. Becker, M. P. Covnot, W. T. Roeseler, and F. O. Merrill.

For the January meeting, the Secretary announced the annual reports and election and paper by Dr. Bernard Fantus and Prof. C. M. Snow on Elixirs.

E. N. GATHERCOAL, *Secretary*.

DETROIT.

"Benzyl Succinate and Its Possible Therapeutic Uses," by Dr. Mortimer Bye, of Frederick Stearns & Co., and the "Relationship between the Structural and Physiological Action of the First Four Alcohols of the Marsh Gas Series," by Dr. Oliver Kamm, of Parke, Davis & Co., were the two papers read before the Detroit Branch, A. Ph. A., at its December meeting.

Before a record attendance that completely

filled one of the parlors of the Wayne County Medical Society building, these two men gave, in a manner that was most interesting, the history of their subjects as developed in the latest investigation.

After the reading of the papers a lively discussion followed which brought out the possible relationship of the two papers.

The customary dinner was served preceding the meeting:

CROSBY B. WASHBURNE, *Secretary*.

NEBRASKA.

The November meeting of the Nebraska Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association was held on the evening of November 8, 1920, in the library of the College of Pharmacy, at 8 P.M. On account of the large number in attendance the meeting was adjourned to one of the lecture halls. Dr. Rufus A. Lyman presided. The following subjects were discussed:

1. The "dry law" in its bearing upon the manufacture of alcoholic preparations and upon research.
2. The existing drug-store whiskey evil. The whiskey and brandy prescription evil. How may these evils be overcome?
3. The scarcity of dyestuffs and stains and the influence upon manufacture and research. The problem as stated by the Society of American Bacteriologists. The opportunity for the United States.
4. The powers and limitations of Board (Pharmacy) rules.

The discussion of topic No. 1 was opened by Dr. Lyman, who called attention to the difficulty in securing alcohol for manufacturing and experimental purposes. The discussion led to the use of denatured alcohol. Dr. A. Schneider proposed the following motion:

Moved, That the Nebraska Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association considers the use of corrosive sublimate and of wood alcohol for the purpose of denaturing alcohol as a criminal act and that corrosive sublimate and wood alcohol, or any other equally poisonous substances, should not be used for the purpose of denaturing alcohol or other substances."

It was moved by Mr. Mikkelsen and seconded by Dr. Lyman that this motion be placed on the records.

Topic No. 2, *viz.*: "Whiskey Drug-Store Evil" was warmly discussed. That the evil

existed in certain parts of the United States was freely admitted and the conclusion reached was that the remedy for the evil lay in the hands of the internal revenue officers. Mr. Fink, Professor Burt, Dean Newton, Mr. Mikkelsen, Mr. Haschenburger, and others took part in the discussion. The following motion was proposed by Mr. Haschenburger:

"Resolved, That the Nebraska Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association go on record as favoring a dispensary under government supervision for the sale, on physicians' prescription, of whiskey and brandy in states where the 'bone dry' law does not bar the sale of intoxicants."

This motion was seconded and carried.

Topic No. 3 was opened by Dr. Schneider, who called attention to the difficulties encountered in securing scientific apparatus, stains for bacteriological work, etc., occasioned in part by the war and in part by the proposed national independence of the United States. The subject was discussed by Mr. Fink, Dean Newton, of Creighton College of Pharmacy, Mr. Niels Mikkelsen, of the State Board of Pharmacy, Dean Lyman, and others. The summary of the discussion was to the effect that the existing situation presented unusual opportunities for the United States, but whether or not the United States would be able to take advantage of such opportunities was left in doubt.

President Niels Mikkelsen, of the Nebraska State Board of Pharmacy, discussed the power which a State Board of Pharmacy had in making rules which would increase the efficiency not only of the Board itself but which would place pharmacy on a higher basis. He unqualifiedly declared that the state should take the initiative in elevating pharmacy, but if the state should fail in that regard, the Board should not hesitate in carrying out those measures by board rule, which may be necessary for the better safeguarding of the public health, citing as an example the State Board of Oregon.

ALBERT SCHNEIDER, *Secretary.*

NORTHERN OHIO.

The Northern Ohio Branch, A. Ph. A., held its third meeting of the 1920-21 season, Friday, December 1st, at the College of Pharmacy, Western Reserve University, President O. E. Muhlhan presiding.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and approved.

Membership Committee: The following applications were received for the local branch: E. Davey, V. H. Poellinger and Professor Motley. They were elected.

It was moved by L. C. Hopp and seconded by R. W. Terry that the American Pharmaceutical Association be invited to Cleveland in 1922. Carried, unanimously by a rising vote. It was then carried by vote that the Northern Ohio Druggists' Association, the branch of the American Chemical Society, and Academy of Medicine, be asked for their hearty coöperation in inviting the American Pharmaceutical Association to Cleveland in 1922. Carried. The following resolution was introduced by Professor Edward Spease and seconded by E. R. Selzer:

WHEREAS, Prohibition has placed the druggist in an unenviable position due to the necessity of alcohol in his business; and

WHEREAS, It has become perfectly apparent to the public mind that flagrant abuses of the alcohol privilege exist; and

WHEREAS, The burden of censure falls upon the druggist; and

WHEREAS, Some druggists, as well as other persons, have entered the manufacturing field for the purpose of making alcoholic medicines and extracts for which there was no pre-prohibition need; and

WHEREAS, Many hitherto valuable medicines, by being sold as liquor substitutes, have been and will be forced from the market; and

WHEREAS, Public opinion has already surrounded the drug business with an odium and is sure to bring about additional burdensome restrictions, intended merely to stop the sale of liquor substitution; and

WHEREAS, It is the feeling of those interested in the welfare of Pharmacy that action must come from the associations of drug interests, if pharmacy is to endure; therefore

Be it Resolved, By the Northern Ohio Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association that it is opposed to the violations, both in spirit and in letter, of the Prohibition Law and the permit privilege; and

Be it further Resolved, That the Legislative Committee be authorized to take such steps as it deems advisable to stop these violations, and to cooperate with such agencies as are striving for law enforcement.

Carried.

W. F. HAGEMEISTER, *Secretary*.

CITY OF WASHINGTON.

A meeting of the City of Washington Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association was held December 15, 1920, in the lecture hall of the National College of Pharmacy, 808 Eye St., N. W.

On motion of S. L. Hilton, the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was dispensed with.

The Secretary read a letter from Mr. J. W. England, dated April 23rd, in which a number of topics, approved by the Executive Committee, were presented to the Branch for consideration. Mr. Hilton thought that there was no objection to the general plan, but as each branch has its own problems of local importance, these should receive first consideration. This seemed to be the consensus of opinion of the membership and the Secretary was instructed to report at the end of the year what topics had been considered. Letters from Secretary W. B. Day regarding the soldier and sailor members located in Washington, and from President C. C. Neal, of the Baltimore Branch, were read.

The balance of the evening was devoted to a discussion of the revision of the National Formulary and the list of proposed deletions and additions sent by W. L. Scoville, Chairman of the Revision Committee. Each item on this list was discussed separately. There was objection raised to the deletion of Elixir Bismuth, Petrolatum Emulsion, Glycerogel, Salicylic Acid, Liniment of Ammonium Iodide, and Wine of Tar, and to the addition of Compound Mustard Ointment and suspension of Benzyl Benzoate, but otherwise the list was approved.

Interesting features of the evening were comments and suggestions regarding the revision in its relation to the Harrison Narcotic Act and the Volstead Act by Mr. J. M. Doran, of the Prohibition Unit, and proposed additions of a number of crude drugs now in general use, by Dr. Arno Viehoever, Bureau of Chemistry. The drugs suggested included Roman Chamomile, Dog Fennel, Brazilian Jalap, Mexican Scammony, Horehound, Pennyroyal, Areca Nut, Blessed Thistle, Asparagus root, Calamus, Sweet Fern and Sage. Mr. Fuller also discussed this subject and advocated the admission of Levant Wormseed, Balmony and Maryland Figwort.

A nominating committee, composed of Messrs. Kalusowski, Taylor and Garrels, was appointed.

H. C. FULLER, *Secretary*.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

A. PH. A. COUNCIL LETTER NO. 10.

(Abstract.)

Letter in December Issue, p. 1205, should be numbered "No. 9."

WASHINGTON, D. C., November 30, 1920.

40. *Election of Chairman of the Commercial Section—Result of vote (see item 37)*. Adam Wirth, of New Orleans, has received a majority of affirmative votes for Chairman of the Section on Commercial Interests of the A. Ph. A.

41. *Appropriation for the Drug Trade Board of Public Information—Result of vote*. Motion No. 38, a motion to correct the minutes of the fifth session of the Council held in Washington by striking out the date "1921" in the motion of Mr. Fischelis relating to the appropriation of \$150 for the Drug Trade

Board of Public Information, has received a majority of affirmative votes.

42. *Election of active members—Result of vote*. Motion No. 39 (Applications Nos. 245 to 269, inclusive, for active membership) has received a majority of affirmative votes.

43. *Time of next annual meeting*. On October 24, 1920, your Secretary received a communication from Louis J. Hennessey, Secretary of the Convention and Tourist Bureau of New Orleans, requesting that he be informed as soon as possible of the day of our meeting in New Orleans next year in order that conflicts between our Association and other associations meeting in that city might be avoided. For the purpose of discovering the time best suited to all concerned, a letter was addressed to the Secretary of the American Conference of Phar-