

apprentice and his preceptor. They were on the job from early morn until nearly midnight; a night or two off, and every other Sunday, and all or part of the holidays—Christmas, New Year's Day, the Fourth of July and Thanksgiving; the stores of the smaller towns and cities observed a few other days and events; still the word vacation is as old as the Latin language, and Cicero and Horace used it to express leisure or freedom from labor; Pompeii was their "Atlantic City," and some other place their "New Orleans." In earlier days in England the term "Vacation" was applied to the interval of court sessions, then to the months intervening between school or college terms, and then to the period of rest and recreation, during which time progressive professional and business men also attended conventions. A close relation obtains in the latter application—the strongest argument for vacations is that it pays to take them, and the demonstration of the economic value of the conservation of human energy has been the propaganda which promoted the convention idea, established the vacation custom, and the shorter hours of labor, all of which necessarily have their limitations, as well as benefits. Conventions of men engaged in the same line of work are necessary for its development—the business of recreation is combined with that of discussing and promoting trade and professional interests.

The twelve to sixteen hour drug store day has given way to one of fewer hours for employers and employees, and a sign, "Closed all day Sunday," hangs on the front door of many of the larger stores; one stating that these stores are represented at State and National Associations is equally advisable and commendatory; observation of the dictum serves the public interest.

Some persist in ignoring all associations, except to profit at the expense of others; some continue to work from early morning until late at night, and taboo vacations; later, their jangled nerves can't be retuned, and when they collapse there is no rebuilding them. The New Orleans meeting of the American Pharmaceutical Association is a vacation opportunity for you.

E. G. E.

COÖPERATION IN AMERICAN PHARMACY THROUGH THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

BY JEANNOT HOSTMANN.*

In the May number of the JOURNAL (p. 327) Chairman Kelly of the House of Delegates has ably answered the oft-asked question "Why a House of Delegates?"

The present writer, in presenting some thoughts which he believes will help in making the House a real factor in American pharmacy, does so with the earnest request that every one interested in *organized pharmacy* and in all that the term implies will criticize the plan, either in person or in writing, before or at the New Orleans meeting where it will be discussed by the House.

The House of Delegates of the American Pharmaceutical Association was created by vote of the Association at the Denver meeting in 1912. The first meeting was held in Nashville in 1913. Originally its membership consisted of two del-

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legates from every pharmaceutical organization in the United States. At Atlantic City in 1916 two kinds of membership were provided for—voting and non-voting—or active and associate, as it were. Delegates from any pharmaceutical and allied bodies are accorded the privilege of the floor. The right to vote is possessed only by the delegates from state pharmaceutical associations, each one of which is entitled to send three delegates.

The gradual evolution of the House is slowly but surely bringing about the result its sponsors had in mind, *viz.*, the coördinating and co-relating of pharmaceutical organizations by means of closer affiliation between the state associations and the mother of organized pharmacy—the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

The writer believes that as a first step toward the goal sought for by Chairman Kelly a more permanent and active form of organization is needed and suggests the following:

1. That the secretary of the House communicate *at least once each week* with the officers of member state associations, either by letter or by bulletin or both.

Space will not permit the discussion of the need of this nor of the many benefits that would be derived therefrom. At the present time no state association knows what action any other association is taking upon matters of vital interest to all. Things happen in one state that probably will affect the pharmacist of some other state and he knows not thereof until it very often is too late for action. Such constant contact between state associations would do wonders in bringing about better understanding between and unity of action by the state associations.

2. That a legal representative or reporter be employed with headquarters in Washington who is to work in conjunction with the Committee on National Legislation and to keep the members of the state associations posted through the secretary of the House as to national legislative activities and who will be ready at any time to represent *American pharmacy* in the legislative halls in Washington.

The writer does not believe it necessary to point out the value to every member of the state associations of such service.

Some will say that this plan calls for duplication of certain activities. Mayhap it does. Granted this is so, the writer believes that any possible duplication will be of the beneficial and useful kind.

But you say "this will cost money." How is it to be financed? The writer has been informed that in the beginning a legal reporter can be secured for from \$1200 to \$1500. The office of the secretary will require about \$1000 for stenographic help and other expenses. \$500 should be held in reserve for emergency expenditures. How is this sum to be obtained? If thirty state associations will subscribe annually \$100 each the sum will be at hand, and surely \$100 a year is little enough when one considers the great benefits that will be sure to accrue to all from the activities of a House of Delegates functioning along the above lines.

The state associations represented in such a House of Delegates of the American Pharmaceutical Association would have behind them not only the prestige

of a membership numbering about 30,000 representing *all phases* of pharmacy from *all parts* of the United States but also that prestige which is the proud heritage of the American Pharmaceutical Association earned by 69 years of active service for the betterment of American pharmacy.

In closing, the writer would say that he believes that not only would such a House of Delegates aid in strengthening the American Pharmaceutical Association but it would also go a long way toward building up all other pharmaceutical organizations, be they local, state, or divisional.

SELECTION OF PLACES FOR MEETINGS OF THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

BY T. J. BRADLEY.*

If the places for the conventions of the American Pharmaceutical Association were selected with the sole object of convenience in transacting the necessary business, they would probably all be held at points in the northeastern section of the country, where the greatest concentration of population and membership is found. This however, would so affect the interest in the Association and its work that there would be a loss of membership and influence throughout the country and the Association would soon be reduced to the status of a local organization. It is necessary to visit the various sections periodically in order to keep up the wide-spread membership which is essential for a truly national organization. Also one of the most attractive things about regular attendance at the annual meetings is the opportunity this attendance affords for seeing parts of the country that would not be visited otherwise; to this can be added the pleasure of yearly meetings with the many friends we make in the Association.

The influences mentioned above make for holding meetings in widely different parts of the country, but the present high cost of travelling, and the concentration of membership in the northeast make it desirable to meet more frequently in the latter section than in the others, and the progression of meeting places must be a compromise between these extremes. During the last few years the Association has met in San Francisco, 1915; Atlantic City, 1916; Indianapolis, 1917; Chicago, 1918; New York, 1919; Washington, 1920; and this year we are to visit New Orleans.

The writer has given considerable study to these conditions and he believes that the Committee on Time and Place of Meeting should plan the places of meetings for more than one year in advance, so that a logical progression of places may be decided upon. In this plan only the general sections of the country should be designated, leaving the exact places to be selected each year. By this arrangement each part of the country will be visited as often as circumstances warrant.

In view of the facts presented above it appears that the Association should convene in the central states in 1922, in the northwestern states in 1923, and in the eastern states in 1924.

*Chairman Committee on Time and Place of Meeting, A. Ph. A.