

## OKLAHOMA.

*President*, Clarence Pullen, Muskogee.

*First Vice-President*, C. I. Hartman, McAlester.

*Second Vice-President*, H. S. Caldwell, Oklahoma City.

*Secretary-Treasurer*, H. S. Shackelford, Wynnewood.

Oklahoma City was selected as the 1922 convention city.

## PENNSYLVANIA.

*President*, Josiah C. Peacock, Philadelphia.

*First Vice-President*, F. J. Blumenschein, Pittsburgh.

*Second Vice-President*, E. J. C. Grohman, Butler.

*Secretary*, Louis Saalbach, Pittsburgh.

*Treasurer*, F. H. E. Gleim, Lebanon.

Buena Vista Springs was chosen as the place for holding the next meeting.

## TEXAS.

*President*, W. Arthur Skillern, Dallas.

*First Vice-President*, William Collins, Amarillo.

*Second Vice-President*, W. H. Wentland, Manor.

*Secretary-Treasurer*, W. H. Cousins, Dallas.

*Home Secretary*, J. W. Graham, Austin. Fort Worth was chosen as the 1922 meeting place.

## UTAH.

*President*, Harry Coombs, Salt Lake City.

*First Vice-President*, Edward Johnson.

*Second Vice-President*, Clark Watson.

*Secretary*, E. C. Smith, Salt Lake City.

*Treasurer*, Eugene E. Corn.

Salt Lake City was chosen as the 1922 meeting place.

## VIRGINIA.

*President*, J. E. Jackson, Tazewell.

*First Vice-President*, Harry Orchard, Lynchburg.

*Second Vice-President*, S. C. Brooks, Washington, D. C.

*Secretary*, A. L. I. Winne, Richmond.

*Treasurer*, Miss Maud Lambert, Roanoke.

Natural Bridge was selected as the place for holding the 1922 meeting.

## WEST VIRGINIA.

*President*, F. C. Kramer, Parkersburg.

*First Vice-President*, H. L. Potts, Grafton.

*Second Vice-President*, H. O. Baer, Wheeling.

*Third Vice-President*, J. W. Hill, Sistersville.

*Secretary-Treasurer*, P. H. Kelly, Montgomery.

## THE PHARMACIST AND THE LAW

## "A MEDICAL TRAVESTY."

In the Senate the 1921 vintage of Volstead legislation is being described as "a medical travesty." The description fits perfectly. Senators Lodge, Wadsworth, Knox and Williams are referring to "Old Doctor Congress" as the latest authority on dosages. That is exactly what the Volstead Anti-Beer Bill proposes.

These Senators are discovering what the House discovered. The House closed its eyes and voted for it just the same. Congress is about to tell the physician that, despite his years of study, his beliefs and his professional judgment to the possible contrary, a half pint of spirits is all any patient needs or should or must have within any ten-day period.

The vanguard of prohibition is unmoved by protests that this will fill graves. Testimony to the effect that liquor did save many influenza victims is brushed aside. That whisky is needed in affections like pneumonia to save the patient in the dreaded collapse that comes at

"the turn" is ignored. That, conceivably, it may be needed in some quantities is anathema.

The trend is that if physicians cannot find some drug other than liquor that will give about the same results they and their patients must get along without such stimulants. The "drys" have made up their mind that liquor is not necessary in the practice of medicine. Their actions indicate this.

While some Senators believe this latest legislation is unconstitutional, that will not halt the bill. The "revolt" amounts to but little or nothing except to call public attention again to the sweep and reach of the "extra-dry" program. There was never a more effective lobby than that maintained by the "drys" or a Congress more acquiescent than the present Congress.

And now that Congress is to set itself up as an authority on the administration and dosage of drugs, will it proceed to fix the amount of morphine that may be administered and the quantity of novocaine, strychnine or even

ipecac, quinine and "KI" that may be prescribed?

Just when may the "dosage tables" for the guidance of physicians and pharmacists in the administration of paregoric, Epsom salts and castor oil be expected? Or will Congress go in unreservedly for "drugless healing"?—Editorial, *Philadelphia Public Ledger*.

#### FRAUDULENT PRESCRIPTIONS.

The retail drug trade has been called upon by Prohibition Commissioner Haynes for coöperation with the authorities in an effort to check the situation arising from the passing of fraudulent physicians' prescriptions for liquor. In a statement regarding the matter, Mr. Haynes says: "In the past month I have received several communications from directors calling my attention to the appearance in their States of fraudulent physicians' prescription blanks.

"In detecting the offenders our only hope lies in the faithful coöperation of the retail druggists. I have noticed that some directors have circularized the retail druggists in their States in regard to this matter. I now wish that all directors at an early date would notify all retail druggists in their States to be more alert in the detection of forged prescription blanks, and to do all in their power to apprehend persons attempting to pass such blanks.

"Believing in the integrity of the retail druggists, I do not think that any of them would wantonly or knowingly engage in the practice of honoring fraudulent prescriptions, but I do feel that they should be cautioned in regard to this matter now before there is a noticeable increase in the issuance of these spurious prescriptions."—*The Druggists' Circular*.

#### NARCOTIC FIELD FORCES SEPARATED FROM PROHIBITION AGENTS.

The narcotic field force of the Internal Revenue Bureau has been entirely separated from the prohibition forces, and narcotic investigations are to be conducted through 12 divisions in the United States and one in Hawaii, Commissioner Blair announces. This change is one step in the reorganization of the prohibition field forces, whereby the 12 prohibition departments have been abolished and the investigative work placed under the various State prohibition directors. The change with respect to narcotic work, it is believed, will result in greater efficiency in handling the illegitimate drug traffic, and also has its

administrative advantages.

These narcotic divisions will remain the same as the old supervising Federal prohibition agents' departments with the exception of the Little Rock Division, from which the fourteen counties of Texas, now in that division, will be transferred to the El Paso Division, whereby the whole of the State of Texas will be within the El Paso Division. The various divisions will be designated by the name of the city in which headquarters are located; namely, Boston Division, Chicago Division, etc., except Hawaii, which will be known as the Hawaiian Division. The officer in charge of each division will be designated as Narcotic-Agent-in-Charge. All correspondence and reports from Narcotic-Agents-in-Charge will hereafter be signed by them in that capacity and forwarded direct to the commissioner's office for attention of Narcotic Division, and in view of the fact that all narcotic matters in that office are now handled in one division, the forwarding of duplicate copies of reports should be discontinued.

All matters pertaining to the administration of the narcotic laws coming to the attention of prohibition directors or collectors of internal revenue, which were heretofore taken up with Supervising Federal Prohibition Agents, should hereafter be referred to the Narcotic Agent in Charge of the division wherein the prohibition director or collector of internal revenue is located, and a thorough coöperation among these officers in the enforcement of the narcotic laws will be expected.

#### METRIC SYSTEM BILL INTRODUCED IN SENATE.

A bill similar to the one before the House has been introduced in the Senate by Senator Ladd, of North Dakota, which provides for the use of the metric system after a period of ten years in commercial transactions where weights and measures are involved. It is stated that over 103,000 petitions from leading national and State associations, firms and individuals urging Congress to secure the advantage of the general use of metric weights and measures for the people of the United States are on file in the Department of Commerce.

#### JAMAICA GINGER AN INTOXICATING BEVERAGE IN MASSACHUSETTS.

In an opinion in an action involving an alleged violation of the State prohibition law

through the handling and sale of Jamaica ginger, Justice Carroll, in the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, held that the offense was not the intention of the dealer, but his act and verdict of guilty was warranted by the showing that the defendant sold or kept for sale an alcoholic preparation "used so extensively for drinking as to become a beverage."

The court held further that "the fact that the preparation may be used as a medicine is no excuse for its sale if it is in reality an intoxicating beverage prohibited by law," and that "evidence tending to show that the Jamaica ginger was an intoxicating beverage, was commonly used as such, was admissible."—*Oil, Paint and Drug Reporter*.

### BOOK NOTICES AND REVIEWS.

*Chemical Reactions and their Equations.*  
By Ingo W. D. Hackh, Ph.C., A.B. P. Blakiston's Son & Co., Philadelphia, Pa., publishers. 138 pages. Price, \$1.75 net.

It is stated in the preface of this book that it was "written in order to supply students with necessary material and to expound the general principles of balancing equations" and that it should be studied, to the best advantage, in connection with some good text.

The balancing of equations is perhaps the most common difficulty encountered by students of chemistry, yet little or no effort has been made to publish a book which takes up this phase of chemistry by itself. It is obvious then that the value of a book of this type should appeal to all students of chemistry.

The book opens with a chapter on symbols and thoroughly describes their use as applied to atoms, molecules and ions. The second chapter takes up the different types of chemical formulas and, besides going into the nomenclature of the various chemical compounds, offers an extensive explanation of valence and its application and a discussion of the principles of oxidation and reduction. The next two chapters are devoted to equations, the first taking up those equations showing no change in valence and the other, those in which oxidation and reduction are involved. Both classes of equations are explained in detail and illustrated by a number of examples. The fifth chapter describes the several conditions and influences which have to do with the control of chemical reactions, grouping these agencies into three classes; namely, those under mechanical control, thermal control and electrical control. In the remaining sixth chapter more than two hundred equations, representing all types of reactions, are given. These are divided into twelve type groups, each group being explained by examples. This gives the student an unusual opportunity to study equations by association and comparison.

An excellent feature of the book is a list of questions and problems found at the close of each chapter. These offer plenty of drill upon the subject and enable one to drive home, by practical application, the important points of the preceding chapter.

The book closes with a valuable appendix composed of the following: 1. A table or key to the nomenclature of chemical compounds. 2. A list of the elements arranged according to their electro-motive force. 3. A brief discussion of the periodic system. 4. A solubility table for chemical compounds. 5. A table of type methods for the preparation of salts, and finally, a systematic index and glossary.

With all its commendable features, it is unfortunate that this book, like many other new ones, contains a considerable number of errors. While most of these are not very serious and probably would not escape detection by an experienced reader, at the same time, they are apt to lead those that are inexperienced very far astray.

The author of this book has succeeded in meeting a long needed requirement among the works on chemistry and presents his subject in an original and praiseworthy manner. It is a book which should be welcomed by all students of chemistry as an unusual aid to them in acquiring a clear understanding of what is so often a troublesome phase of the subject.

E. J. HUGGERS.

*Pertinent Facts on Latin American Medical Trade* is the title of a brochure which presents some interesting and valuable data to those who desire a better acquaintance with our Latin American neighbors. The book opens with a short discussion of "The Opportunity for Trade with Latin America" with particular reference to the Latin American physician as a consumer and to the means of "selling" him. Following this are individual maps of each country and important information such as