

EDITORIAL NOTES

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THE PROPOSED MUSEUM AND LIBRARY OF THE A. PH. A. HEAD-QUARTERS BUILDING.

The President of the United States, Senators, Congressmen, representatives of civic, literary, scientific and educational organizations, were invited to attend a reception in Washington on December 3, in honor of Dr. George F. Bowerman's service to the public. This service has been rendered during twenty years in the library of the City of Washington. The extension work of the library has developed under the direction of the librarian, but it is to the intensive work we wish to make reference, whereby the library ministers to all classes of the community; through its industrial division it helps all classes of business and professional men; its pamphlet and clipping collections furnish up-to-date information to newspaper men and others.

The National Wholesale Druggists' Association has recently compiled a history of its fifty years of service, which presents not only an historical account of events but is interestingly told, and serves as a reference work of the annual proceedings of that organization. The acknowledgment of copies of the History of the N. W. D. A. by the library of the School of Business of Columbia University brings the thought that Industrial and Business courses are not complete without information relative to the country's resources, their utilization, manufacture, and their part in trade and commerce. It emphasizes the need of similar compilations by all organizations—national, state and local—so their activities and im-

portance may be recorded and add to the sum of knowledge.

Another matter that impressed the importance of historical records at this time was a request for data from Assistant Curator of the Museum of Charleston, John Bennett, relative to the time when American pharmacists or apothecaries were first licensed. There is no question regarding the enactment of South Carolina, December 18, 1817, which provided for the licensing of apothecaries in the state, requiring also an examination by the Medical Society of South Carolina or the Board of Physicians of Columbia, S. C. The need for such legislation was discussed as early as 1793. The first pharmacy board of Georgia was organized in 1826. Here then are points of interest as to what states and cities can enter into priority contests. The first apothecary's license was granted in Charleston to Richard Johnson, May 1, 1818. Mr. Bennett* will be grateful for information bearing on this subject. This is also a matter of consideration by several of the editors of the History of American Pharmacy, as it concerns pharmaceutical education, legislation and history of boards of pharmacy.

The fine progress made in the compilation of the History of American Pharmacy speaks well for the editors and brings to mind the further thought that the history of nearly every state differs, just as history relating to other activities is more or less distinctive. Honoring Don Pedro Menendez de Aviles (at Aviles,

* See JOURNAL A. PH. A., June, 1921, p. 475, and pp. 661-665, August JOURNAL, 1923.

Spain) recently, recalls the founding of America's oldest city, St. Augustine, and also that in what are known as newer states there are cities and towns that were founded before the signing of the Declaration of Independence—San Antonio in 1714, and Isleta (New Mexico) prior to 1600. The Spanish missions were hospitals as well as forts; cities have grown up that were begun as communistic colonies, for example, New Braunfels (German) and what is now Dallas (French); doubtless the early history of pharmacy was impressed by these pioneers and, particularly, the *materia medica*. The French settlement referred to would probably have been entirely wiped out if it had not been for the discovery of *Krameria* in that section. These notations are incidental, but it is hoped the references will stimulate an interest in the Museum and Library, which will have its beginning as soon as the A. Ph. A. Headquarters Fund has been completed.

THE BUBONIC AND PNEUMONIC PLAGUE.

Fortunately the brief epidemic of pneumonic plague is under control; there is, however, the constant danger of outbreak until the sources of infection have been destroyed. Dr. Wu Lien-teh, Director and Chief Medical Officer of the North Manchurian Plague Prevention Service, is now carrying on special research work at Johns Hopkins. The two forms of the disease are the result of the same germ—the pneumonic condition causes a more rapid spread than the bubonic because of the accompanying cough; the bubonic form is transmitted by fleas that have been in contact with members of the rat family. In Manchuria the marmot, allied to the American ground hog, is the carrier, and, unfortunately, the fur of marmots provides the living for a considerable part of the population, therefore their destruction would destroy the livelihood of many. Preventative measures hold down the number of cases of the disease.

ERADICATING BOVINE TUBER- CULOSIS.

A report of the Tuberculosis Eradication Division of the United States Department of Agriculture shows increasing economy in the work of eradicating bovine tuberculosis from the country. The average cost of a tuberculin test made during the year ended June 30 was 30 cents. The previous year the average cost was 35 cents; the year before that, 46 cents. This

reduction in two years of approximately one-third was accomplished by confining activities more largely to circumscribed areas. Much time and expense were thus saved by reducing the need of travel.

CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING IN SMALL GARAGES.

The newspapers recently carried a news item of the death from carbon monoxide poisoning, of a prominent Baltimore man, who was found dead in his garage with the engine of his automobile still running. With the onset of colder weather such accidents will probably increase in frequency, says the Surgeon General of the United States Public Health Service, who warns automobile owners of the danger involved in running a gasoline engine in a small closed space for any considerable period of time.

In tests of the exhaust of a small 23 horsepower automobile engine it has been found that it discharged approximately 25 cubic feet of gas per minute, samples of which gave an average of 6 per cent. carbon monoxide, or 1.5 cubic feet of deadly carbon monoxide gas per minute. Of course larger engines will give off more. Now a ratio of 15 parts carbon monoxide to 10,000 parts of air is considered a dangerous concentration to be exposed to for a considerable time; and the small 23 horsepower engine in "warming up" and giving off only one cubic foot of carbon monoxide per minute would contaminate the air of a small closed garage, 10 by 10 by 20 feet, to the danger point in about three minutes.

TREATMENT OF CARBUNCLE BY MAG- NESIUM SULPHATE.

During the last six years, the author has treated twenty-eight cases of carbuncle by a very simple method with no deaths. Most of the cases occurred at the nape of the neck or on the back, but whatever the situation the treatment is the same. This consists in applying to the whole of the inflamed area a paste of magnesium sulphate prepared as follows:—In a hot mortar is placed 11 ounces of glycerin, and 1.5 lb. of dried and powdered magnesium sulphate is added, slowly stirring and mixing with a warm pestle all the time. The product is a thick white cream, which, on account of its hygroscopic nature must be kept in a covered jar. The paste is applied, spread thickly on a piece of sterile, white lint sufficiently large to cover the whole of the inflamed area. A piece of jaconet is placed over the lint to cover it entirely, and cotton-wool in abundance over

and around the part. The dressing is left unchanged for twelve or twenty-four hours, and then renewed. Within a few days, the central slough separates and a raw granulating surface is left. The soothing effect of the paste is very marked, and the relief of the patient after one or two applications is very great. Appropriate after-treatment is described.—A. E. Morrison, F.R.C.S. (*Brit. Med. Journ.*, April 19, 1924, 703)—Through *Pharmaceutical Jour.*

HUNGARY REQUIRES LICENSES FROM GATHERERS OF AND TRADERS IN CRUDE DRUGS.

In order to establish confidence in Hungarian crude drugs the Bureau of Medicinal and Industrial Plants issues licenses to gatherers and dealers. These licensed medicinal plant traders are divided into two groups: domestic brokers and exporters. The brokers are the retail dealers who are allowed to trade only with the domestic drug houses or exporters. The exporters are the wholesale dealers, who must submit their goods for export to tests by the testing station of the Bureau of Medicinal & Industrial Plants. At present there are 54 export firms in Hungary, of which a considerable number are corporations with large invested capital, and 2,050 domestic dealers. The Bureau has the right to revoke the license of anyone guilty of breaking its regulations and to publish the name of the offender in the official organ, "Herba." This control has been so successful that the government department is now working in complete harmony with the trade association, which has as members producers as well as dealers in medicinal plants.—Through *Pharmaceutical Era*.

DARLINGTON'S TEN COMMANDMENTS OF HEALTH.

Dr. Thomas Darlington, in an address at the close of the first annual American Education Week Exposition, in New York City, presented the following "Ten Health Commandments:"

1. Keep your mouth closed when breathing, also when angry.
2. Drink cool water with your meals, also between them.
3. Bathe daily, a shower, if possible.
4. Eat slowly; this leads to eating sparingly. Make your meal a ceremonial pleasure.
5. Exercise daily and breathe deeply while so doing, but avoid over-exertion and never eat when fatigued.
6. Never read or transact any business while eating.

7. Work ten hours, sleep eight and use the balance for recreation and meals. Always rest on Sunday.

8. Ever keep a contented mind. Equanimity means longevity.

9. Neglect no portion of the body. Employ a physician to examine you at regular intervals and so watch for the beginnings of disease and build up resistance and pay some attention to his opinion and direction.

10. Moderation in all things.

He also said that the enforcement of law is better done by education than by penalties.

TOXIC EFFECTS OF TETRA-ETHYL LEAD.

The hazard of tetra-ethyl lead is in manufacturing plants. Sodium thiosulphate has been mentioned as a chemical antidote for its toxic effects, such as resulting dermatitis, and jaundice; it is said to assist in the restoration of kidney function. An editorial in the *Jour. A. M. A.*, November 8, concludes "physicians may watch for possible manifestations of this form of lead poisoning, even though the evidence thus far available is negative."*

*Except in manufacturing plants and under similar conditions; it seems a remote inference that there will be danger of lead accumulation in the streets; this, however, may be otherwise in garages.—EDITOR.

PHARMACISTS IN LITERATURE.

Another pharmacist appears in a new novel by James Agate, "Blessed Are the Rich." Very seldom is the pharmacist in fiction a character we have pardonable pride in—some novelist should be encouraged to give us a less depressing representative or a worthier example than is usually described.

PHARMACISTS IN STATE LEGISLATURES.

Lee S. North was elected to the Pennsylvania Senate. H. S. Caldwell, President of Oklahoma City Retail Druggists' Club, Burton Kidd of Poteau and L. W. Weaver are Oklahoma legislators, as well as retail pharmacists.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

The Messenger is to be published monthly by the College of Pharmacy of the City of New York, Columbia University; the editor is Prof. Curt P. Wimmer.

The Bronx Pharmacist is to appear at regular intervals and is edited by S. Kopald.

Success to both publications.

PERSONAL AND NEWS ITEMS.

A commendatory review of the YEAR BOOK, A. PH. A., Vol. 11, 1922, by our fellow-member, **Prof. Otto Raubenheimer** appears in the *Pharmazeutische Zentralhalle*, No. 46, Nov. 13, 1924. The publication referred to was established by the late Dr. Hermann Hager (honorary member A. Ph. A.). The editor is Prof. Dr. Paul Borisch, and the publisher is Theodor Steinkopf, Dresden.

Thomas D. Mc Elhenie, honorary president of the American Pharmaceutical Association, 1922-1923, suffered a stroke of apoplexy, November 19, and was taken to Cumberland Street Hospital, Brooklyn. We are indebted to Professor Raubenheimer for this information. Mr. Mc Elhenie was the first President of the New York Veteran Druggists' Association.

Dr. Joseph Jacobs, of Atlanta, Ga., and Miss Elizabeth Smith were married November 11, 1924. Congratulations are extended.

Editor Hugo Kantowitz has arranged an itinerary for an American Pharmacists' Tour of Europe under the auspices of *Apotheker Zeitung* in 1925, leaving New York July 9 and returning September 1.

J. H. Rehfuss, now of Stockton, Calif., a former president of the Kings County Pharmaceutical Society, paid a visit to New York, accompanied by Mrs. Rehfuss. Friends of the visitors tendered them a dinner at the McAlpin.

Carl Weeks spoke on "General Business Conditions in Merchandising" before Idaho Pharmaceutical Association, at Boise; he stressed the efforts to raise the plane of the profession of pharmacy and advocated adherence to the ethics of pharmacy.

W. Bruce Philip, Chairman of the House of Delegates, A. Ph. A., in his address before the Idaho Association said that the public expected protection as well as service, and the efforts of pharmacists should be directed to give both.

Clarence O. Ballou is always an advocate of the American Pharmaceutical Association and carried its message to his fellow-members at the Boise meeting.

Director of the division of foods, feeds and drugs, **H. M. Robertson**, of the Alabama Department of Agriculture, is warning dealers, who are not registered pharmacists, that the list of drugs that can be handled by them is restricted; domestic and household remedies must be sold in original and unbroken packages.

Secretary Samuel C. Henry, of the N. A. R. D., advises druggists to give most careful thought and consideration before signing acceptances, particularly those given with orders or in advance of the receipt of merchandise.

"*The Carolina Journal of Pharmacy* for November is dedicated to **Kelly Edmond Bennett**, of Bryson City, in recognition of his faithful work as an examiner on the North Carolina Board of Pharmacy, and in appreciation of his loyal support of the North Carolina Pharmaceutical Association and its policies, particularly during his service as a member of the State Senate."

William Jay Schieffelin, New York, an advocate of the metric system, says that comparative tests in a commercial manufacturing laboratory showed that with the system there is a possible saving of time of about 50 per cent. in writing, 54 per cent. in weighing, and 55 per cent. in pricing.

The Chandler medal (**Prof. Charles F. Chandler**) for 1924 has been awarded to **Prof. E. C. Kendall** of the Mayo Foundation, University of Minnesota. Prof. Kendall was the first to isolate the active constituent of the thyroid.

Wilhelm Bodemann, reporting the round table celebration of **Samuel C. Henry's** anniversary, speaks of it as a "Wiegenfest," and also reports a *post festum* when the Secretary of the Milwaukee Veterans, **E. G. Raeuber**, was pleased to apply a deserved measure of appreciation in terms of friendship.

George R. Christ, President of New York State Pharmaceutical Association, is now a veteran of the New York Association; he also has attained his majority in the present ownership of his pharmacy in Brooklyn.

Prescott R. Loveland—in an article of the *Pharmaceutical Era*, of November 22—says "the time has arrived when pharmacists should cooperate to drive the fakirs out" of pharmacy.

Mrs. J. Floyd Tilford is President of the Women's Auxiliary of Kansas Pharmaceutical Association.

A manufacturer desires to engage several men for detail work among physicians. A good salary is assured; aside from usual qualifications some knowledge of chemistry applying to foods is necessary. Those wishing to apply should address Mr. Z. L. Potter, Clark Music Building, Syracuse, N. Y.

Howard M. Gore, Governor-elect of West Virginia, is now Secretary of Agriculture, succeeding the late Henry C. Wallace. In

this connection appreciation may be expressed of the officials who have been heads of this important Department. The Association and the JOURNAL have received much help and assistance from the Bureau of Chemistry and those associated therewith. This may also be said of other divisions of the Government—that of Commerce and Public Health Service. It is hoped at some time to speak at greater length of the service rendered to pharmacy and pharmacists and thereby give an expression of appreciation.

The organizations of the drug trade and pharmacy have been in conference this month with Secretary Hoover, for the discussion of means whereby uniformity may aid efficiency. Many articles sold in drug stores are put up in more sizes of packages than economy demands and, likewise, there are some package sizes of pharmaceuticals that can be discontinued; the same may be said of combinations in preparations, wherein an adjustment would serve economy. These are problems, not only

of the retailers, but of the wholesalers and manufacturers; conferences for such discussions will prove of great value.

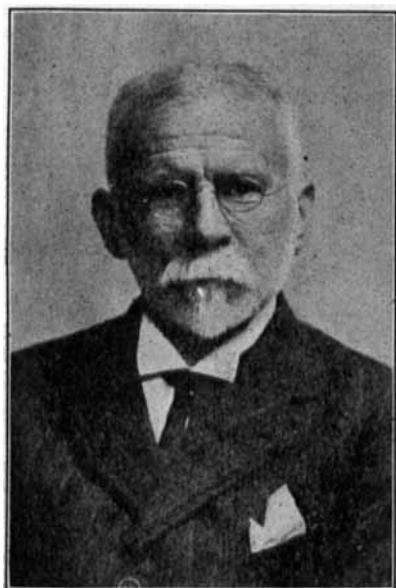
Secretary Hoover has a wonderful organization with which the public should have a better acquaintance. The Department in its various divisions renders most efficient service; unfortunately, space in this issue permits only of a reference to the Commerce Department's valuable Year Book, recently issued, which contains comprehensive economic information on domestic and foreign trade. An example of service is given in the following—"on the basis of an investigation involving 3,675 inquiries addressed by business firms to the Bureau it was found that the resulting business amounted to about \$427 per inquiry."

It is now 50 years since the "Pharmacographia" by F. A. Flückiger and Daniel Hanbury was published; both authors were honorary members of the American Pharmaceutical Association.

OBITUARY.

THOMAS DE ARMOND Mc ELHENIE.

Thomas D. Mc Elhenie, Honorary President of the American Pharmaceutical Association, 1923-1924, died November 27, in Cumberland



THOMAS D. Mc ELHENIE.

St. Hospital, Brooklyn, of uremic poisoning. Mention is made elsewhere of his sudden illness, which resulted in death.

The deceased affiliated with the American Pharmaceutical Association in 1872; he was one of the founders of Kings County Pharmaceutical Society (1877), and was Honorary President and a charter member of the New York Veteran Druggists' association.

Mr. Mc Elhenie closed an historical article, "Reminiscences," with these words: "I have done nothing notable but have tried to keep the faith in good pharmacy." * In the May issue of the JOURNAL for 1922, there is a brief sketch and a half-tone of the deceased is the frontispiece of that issue. Mrs. Mc Elhenie died July 3, 1921.¹

Mr. Mc Elhenie entered the drug business in 1865 as an employee of Zimmerman & Company of Wooster, Ohio; in 1870 he matriculated at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and graduated in 1872. After graduation he re-

* This article contains events in the life of the deceased, also the contribution "Memories of Seventy-Two;" the former is printed in Vol. VI, p. 276, the latter in Vol. XII, p. 437. For sketch see also, Vol. XI, pp. 323, 668, 714.

¹ See p. 557, July JOURNAL for 1921.