

EDITORIAL

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THE YEAR WITH US.

A cross-word optimist gives the answer for an equation of four digits that means success as—1925—because one plus nine are ten, and ten times two times five are one hundred per cent.—a full measure of success.

Looking into the future the majority are hopeful of better things, hence, the New Year celebration is not a rejoicing because another year has come to a close, but an expression of hope that the one being ushered in will carry with it greater success and happiness. The beginning of each new year brings the prophet and the historian back to back—one writes of things accomplished, the other of what will be done. An opportunity grasped and achieved leads to one of greater moment. Here then we have another viewpoint—1925 profiting by the achievements of the past year, will have greater significance—opportunity is the essential hope and prospect of the New Year and inspiration comes from those that have passed. The structure of a building is secure on a firm foundation; our work rests on pharmacy and not on the many divisions that are attached, no matter how important and essential they may be for its successful conduct.

Looking backward over a period of years, great progress in pharmacy is discerned; there is no cause for being unreasonably impatient with its present status; each reader will make his own survey, but non-essentials should not receive undue consideration. Every trade and profession has something to contend with that is not pleasing; life throughout is checkered—consequently its activities.

The American Pharmaceutical Association has a history that all related and attached organizations have pride in, because their constituents have contributed thereto and share the honors of its accomplishments—the headquarters project is to mark an achievement of pharmacists of these bodies before the records of 1925 have been closed. Carl Weeks, in speaking of the Headquarters Building, referred at length to an address delivered at the opening of the new building of the Equitable Life Insurance Company of Iowa, and he closed his comments, which are apropos, in this way:

“There is evidence of these heart qualities (Unity, Strength and Beauty) in the labor of many minds and hands which have contributed to make this structure a symbol of unity, strength and beauty. Let us here renew our pledge of loyalty to this institution, its founders and our fellow workers, and in the enjoyment of the inspiring atmosphere of our new home let us take on new enthusiasm for our chosen task. As we dedicate this home to the use of our institution in a larger field of service* * *let us also dedicate ourselves to a more devoted ministry to our fellow men and through this institution resolve to make our lives a fuller expression of the ideals of usefulness in our activities, strength of character, and beauty of spirit.

“Let this building declare to the people what we are.”

Rather than speak only of what is to be done, as will be noted, we prefer to write of what is in prospect because of what has been done. The earlier workers

within our Association have given us our present opportunities; we can realize on them but we are not entitled to all of the credit. So in looking forward to what will be done, we must also look backward, not only within the very limited sphere of the affairs of pharmacy but outward by way of the points of contact with all other activities.

While we welcome the New Year in a spirit of optimism, the chronicles of 1924 remind us that during last year men regained a clearer vision, many of the disagreements which held the world during the past seven years were removed, a more decent and friendly spirit returned and, in consequence, men have begun to labor and hope, bring up crops, restore the balance in industry, and set their individual lives in better order; the spirit of coöperation and confidence is more in evidence. Writing in the *Philadelphia Public Ledger* of January 4th, Mr. George E. Roberts, of the National City Bank of New York—after pointing out that one of the chief obstacles to good business has been the lack of balance in industry—said:

“The world is passing out of such a situation, and this is the chief reason for confidence that it is entering upon better times. Prosperity is a state of balanced industry, with production and prices so well adjusted that the exchanges are readily made. This situation is more nearly approached to-day than at any time since the great disturbance occurred.”

E. G. E.

THE STANDARDS OF PHARMACY.

EACH annual convention of the American Pharmaceutical Association and of the organizations closely affiliated impresses the mission of pharmacy, the responsibilities of pharmacists and their desire to measure up to them. Expression of these desires may differ but the essentials are the same; the higher educational requirements of those who enter pharmacy and the advances in teaching methods of the schools and colleges of pharmacy, restricting the number of students and of pharmacies, have the same objects—to better qualify educationally and morally those who practice pharmacy; character tests are applicable to pharmacies as well as to students and pharmacists.

The sources of the foregoing comments are the transactions and papers of the Buffalo convention. Another line of evidence that may be referred to is the watchfulness during the discussions of resolutions so that they may express clearly and definitely the views of the members of these bodies on matters that mean protection of the public. More and more stress is being laid on the necessity for as exacting requirements of students for college entrance as for graduation, and that pharmacy ownerships should be limited to those who are qualified by education and observant of the obligations of pharmacy.

The value of the code of ethics of pharmacists (for the same guide has been approved by all or nearly all associations and institutions of pharmacy) is in the beneficial results derived from its practical application and that it reaches the consciences of those who assent to it as a rule of conduct. The code inspires higher ideals in the members of the profession and encourages them to aspire to the realization of the ideals, thereby bringing them into closer relation; adherence to it is the visible evidence of the stability of the organizations in question, and this comment

expresses some of the thoughts which flowed from the study of their transactions and papers referred to, while others speak for the progress of the art and science of pharmacy.

Each annual convention has its influence; whether it is realized at once or not, in after years there come results which had their inception when the thoughts were first presented in resolution, discussion or paper. E. G. E.

AMERICAN PHARMACY HEADQUARTERS WILL LINK THE RESEARCH
WORKERS OF SOUTH AMERICA WITH THOSE OF THE
UNITED STATES.

DR. H. H. RUSBY—past president of the American Pharmaceutical Association, well and favorably known as a scientist and for his explorations in South America, Mexico and the Southwest—has pointed out benefits to be derived by the establishment of the A. Ph. A. Headquarters, and in doing so he has drawn upon the records of his explorations, which have added largely to our *Materia Medica* and to our knowledge of the botany of South America. His name will always be linked with South American discoveries in plant life, and now he seeks to link more closely the pharmacists of the land of his explorations with those of the United States and strengthen the ties which are bringing the nations of North and South America into closer friendly relationship, and coöperation in science and commerce. The valuable contribution by Dr. Rusby will be read with interest; it follows:

“So much has been written, and by so many contributors, regarding the importance of a permanent home for the American Pharmaceutical Association, and the advantages that it would afford for editorial and educational work, for the making and storage of records, for the accumulation and exhibit of relics and historical exhibits and of general collections of pharmaceutical interest, and for affording facilities for surveys, investigations, and researches, that little remains to be said on these subjects. Indeed, it would appear that nothing more would be necessary to establish the claims of the Association to public support in this great undertaking. There is, however, one great field of usefulness for such a home about which little has been said, namely, that of pharmaceutical missionary work in tropical America, through the establishment and cultivation of mutually helpful relations with our professional brethren in those countries. This is a work of high importance and, unlike most missionary work, it is likely to return advantages to ourselves worth many times what it costs in time, labor, and expense.

“It is very easy for us of the North, with our vast resources of every kind for the promotion and advancement of our profession, to indulge in harsh criticism and to look with disdain upon the shortcomings of our Southern colleagues, and it is for us, as the more highly favored party, to offer our services in improving their condition whenever and wherever willing coöperation can be secured. We have done something of the kind in Cuba, because of our close political relations with its people, but there is no good reason why our activities should not be extended beyond the range of such relations. There are many centers of population in tropical America where the membership of our association might be extended with profit to

such members and to the communities in which they serve. Having had rather exceptional opportunities for judging of conditions there, I can see no serious obstacle in the way of establishing branches of our association in those countries, as we have done in so many of our States. The benefits that might result from such an extension of our influence may be far greater than any estimate that we can form at the present time.

"While commercial returns to our country may not properly be regarded as our incentive, the possibility of such results is well worthy of consideration. There is another direction, however, in which the relations contemplated could be made of the greatest value to our association, namely, in aiding in our research work, and it is in this connection that an association headquarters would be of exceptional use. In fact, it is difficult to see how such work could be carried on in a systematic way without such a headquarters.

"Numberless pharmacists and other professional men in tropical America have interested themselves in the investigation of the problems that so abundantly present themselves in those regions, but find themselves handicapped by the insufficiency of libraries, laboratories and apparatus. Through the medium of our Association home, assistance could be given in these directions that would bring results otherwise impossible. On the other hand, our own investigators could derive the greatest assistance through the coöperation of tropical correspondents. What one of us has not found his investigations blocked by the need of some material or basic information that he had no means of securing, and which could have been supplied had a proper correspondence organization existed such as our proposed home might easily perfect? Not only might we thus be enabled to secure such information and material when the requirement arose in the course of an investigation, but there would doubtless be a continuous flow of such contributions, without solicitation, as soon as it was known that an organization existed for taking care of them.

"I can think of no other way in which American pharmacy and the allied sciences would be likely to profit so much as by a well-organized bureau conducted by our research division, for carrying on a work of this kind, facilitated by the accommodations that could be supplied by our headquarters building." E. G. E.

RESULTS OF ELECTION OF AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCED.

The Board of Canvassers—E. V. Howell, Chairman, E. V. Kyser and F. O. Bowman—has announced the results of the count of ballots, electing L. L. Walton, Williamsport, Pa., *President*; William C. Anderson, Brooklyn, N. Y., *First Vice-President*; Clyde L. Eddy, New York City, *Second Vice-President*; and *Members of the Council*, H. C. Christensen, Chicago, Ill., Samuel L. Hilton, Washington, D. C., and Julius A. Koch, Pittsburgh, Pa. These officers will be installed at the Des Moines Meeting.

A. PH. A. HEADQUARTERS' FUND PAYMENTS SHOULD BE MAILED TO TREASURER.

Subscribers are requested to send the installments due on their subscriptions to the Headquarters' Fund to Treasurer E. F. Kelly, Charles and Franklin Streets, Baltimore, Md., without waiting for further notice. The Headquarters' Building Campaign Committee is endeavoring to keep collection expenses as low as possible, by saving postage costs, etc., and, therefore, prompt and full coöperation as indicated will be appreciated.