

EDITORIAL NOTES

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MEDICO-PHARMACAL RESEARCH LABORATORY IN A. PH. A. HEAD- QUARTERS.

Honorary President Louis Emanuel, of the American Pharmaceutical Association, writes that "one of the most potent factors leading to the usefulness of the American Pharmacy Headquarters to the retail pharmacist, and to his struggle to preserve the art of extemporaneously compounding medicines lies in the establishment of a Medico-Pharmaceutical Research Laboratory, the function of which should consist in devising formulæ for such contemporary medicaments as may be indicated by the more recent advances in medical practice. This service should include such literary compositions as will enable the pharmacist properly to approach medical practitioners with a view to displaying his ability to render competent technical service. I am of the opinion that such a laboratory will supply the initiative, or creative impulse, that is lacking in the average pharmacist, and which is otherwise induced, primarily, by a motive of self-interest, or more rarely by a scientific mentality. Such a laboratory will make for progress, and will serve promptly to spread the more recent improvements in the science of pharmacy to every authorized pharmacist in the land."

FROM THE JANUARY HEADQUARTERS' NEWS LETTER.

New Year News: Burroughs, Wellcome & Company have just sent in a check for \$10,000.00 for the American Pharmacy Headquarters' Building fund. Over \$100,000.00 in

cash, drawing interest, is now held by the A. Ph. A. bonded officers for the Pharmacy Building to serve all pharmaceutical interests.

Every Week Hundreds of Pharmacists are now pledging their support to the successful completion of the great All-Pharmacy Headquarters' Building project. New subscriptions are coming in continually and throughout the entire United States drug interests are giving valuable assistance in placing the facts about the undertaking before all who are interested in pharmacy.

Wholesalers and Manufacturers are directing their salesmen and field representatives to urge all retail pharmacists to subscribe, and to assist in collecting the subscription cards. Wholesalers and manufacturers also are subscribing themselves and they are giving the entire undertaking the serious consideration which it should receive. Every day the Publicity Director is in receipt of letters from wholesalers and manufacturers giving their unanimous endorsement to the undertaking and offering to distribute subscription cards and facts about the undertaking along with their own printed, strong endorsement of the project.

SOME ANTIQUITIES OF MEDICINE.

Frederic E. Bullen read a paper on above subject at the December meeting of the Guild of Public Pharmacists, in London. A few quotations from this interesting paper follow.— "From *Cockayne's Saxon Leechdoms* (960-980 A.D.): 'If to a man loss of appetite happen let him take Betony, as much as will weigh three

silver pennies (say 72 grains) and drink it in sweetened water.' 'Against Lice, one penny-weight of quicksilver and two of butter, mingle all together in a brazen vessel.'—John Mirfield, physician of the 14th century: 'A person may be preserved from plague infection by smelling and swallowing musk, aloes wood, storax, calamita, amber, and such like aromatics.'—*Pharmacopœia Pauperum* (18th century): 'Dr. Mead's snail water is distilled from carminatives, spirits of wine, spring water, garden snails, cleansed and bruised, and earthworms, washed and bruised, and is said to be admirably well contrived both for cheapness and efficiency, for those whose circumstances and manner of living have not habituated them to any delicacies.' "

The last publication abstracted by the author is *Bulleyn's Bulwarks of Health* (16th century). He says: "An interesting and little known attempt at prohibition in London is mentioned under the section dealing with ale; it is worth reproducing in full, I think. 'The rinsepichers had a good medicine prepared for them, for the Maior of London, upon a politicke consideration, anno 1560, made an order against Mighty Beere and Ale, as well for the health of the Commons of London as for their profit. Whereat the Aleknights were not a little offended, and do continue still as true souldiers to the strong Beere and Ale which is their Captain, notwithstanding my Lord Maior's Decree, as it plainly appeareth in their flushing, red, coppered noses.' "

BOTANY OF THE BIBLE.

Dr. Ephraim Hareubeni of Jerusalem, former botanical adviser to the British Government in Palestine, is very much interested in the botany of the Bible and his contributions along that line evidence extended research in Biblical history and he has a botanical museum in Jerusalem. By reasoning he has determined that the "lilies of the field" are the daisies of Palestine, *Anihemis Palestina*. He also states that sage was the model for the "seven-branch candlestick." "And he made a candlestick of pure gold; of beaten work made he the candlestick; his shaft and his branch, his bowls, his knobs and his flowers were of the same" (Exodus xxxvii, 17). Throughout the ages the symmetry of the sage has been immortalized in the most precious of metals, has played a part in religious services and has held its place in art.

Italian archaeologists, in their excavations,

in Tripoli, of the ruins of the baths of Leptis Magna, have discovered a statue of Aesculapius.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE.

The fifth meeting of above named organization will be held in Geneva, July 20-25 of this year. Subscriptions for members (pharmacists and others belonging to allied professions being eligible) will be 15 Swiss francs, and for Associates 10 Swiss francs. Remittances should be sent to the Treasurer, Office, General Secretariat, 20, Rue General Dufour, Geneva. Members will be entitled to a copy of the proceedings of the Congress when published. A preliminary program has been issued and can be obtained on application to the above address. A cordial invitation is extended to members of the medical profession and other eligible persons to join the Congress and take part in its next meeting. One of the Vice-Presidents of Honor is Mr. C. J. S. Thompson, M.B.E., pharmacist, Curator of the Wellcome Historical Medical Museum, London.

NEW YORK'S MEDICAL CENTRE.

New York's great medical centre, formed by the fusion of the facilities of the Presbyterian Hospital, the Medical School of Columbia University and many other medical groups, passed from a project to a reality January 31 with the breaking of ground on the site at Broadway and 168th Street.

Dr. Butler, in his speech, said that the centre would be a lasting monument to the increasing power of knowledge to heal the physically and mentally ill.

"The first turning of the soil on this spot," he said, "is the beginning of the fulfillment of a prophecy that was made at the annual commencement of King's College, held 156 years ago. It is the beginning of the accomplishment of a dream that has been in the mind of many of us for a long generation past. It signifies that at last the two aspects of medicine, the scientific and the philanthropic, are to be united in bonds that cannot be broken, as part of a new and vital union of organization, of purpose and of public service.

"It means that a fully equipped university shall hereafter have at the service of its teachers in medicine an ample and thoroughly modern series of laboratories and clinics. It means that a noble hospital with a long record of public service behind it from this day forth

commands the best, the very best, that science, academic experience and personal devotion can give to ground the service of that hospital on the unshakeable foundation of modern science in all its many-sided phases."

DOCHEZ SERUM.

While results must be checked up on the Dochez Serum for Scarlet Fever, the *Journal of the American Medical Association* has given sanction to a press report, which seems most encouraging: "On January 28, Dr. F. G. Blake presented to the Connecticut League for Nursing Education the results obtained in treating scarlet fever with the Dochez serum.

"The facts are:

"Thirty-four uncomplicated cases treated on or before the third day showed no symptoms of scarlet fever. One of these was extremely toxic and unconscious, three were very toxic, eighteen were moderately severe cases, twelve were mild cases. Three of these patients had mild complications later. Ten patients without complications treated after the fourth day seemed to recover within eighteen to thirty-six hours.

"Nine patients with complications treated before the third day were all convalescent within eighteen to forty-eight hours. One of these was very severe and six were moderately severe. Out of the nineteen patients with complications treated after the fourth day, one with meningitis cleared up in forty-eight hours; one with general sepsis died, one with typhoid recovered and the remaining patients recovered."

The serum used was that of Dr. Alphonse R. Dochez, medical investigator in New York City, formerly of the staff of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research.

DIPHTHERIA ANTITOXIN RUSHED TO AFFLICTED IN ALASKA.

Every member of the A. Ph. A. has read the newspaper accounts relating to the carrying of diphtheria antitoxin to the afflicted in Alaska, so this note is only for record. The serum was started January 27 on its 948-mile journey to Nome from Anchorage. It was taken 297 miles on the Alaskan Railroad to Nenana, where it was transferred to dog team relays. The hardest and most experienced "sour-dough" mushers of the North answered a call for drivers broadcast over the telegraph wires of the United States Signal Corps.

Seppalla, champion driver in the dog Derbies formerly run at Nome, was expected to break his record of 74 hours and 30 minutes for 400 miles in the present relay. When he arrives he will have covered more than 600 miles, having journeyed 300 miles eastward to Katlag.

While dogs and men made heroic history in their "death mush" across the snows, Miss Emily Morgan—for a number of years a member of the Wichita, Kan., Public Health Nurses' Association—fought night and day, unmindful of self in the face of the diphtheria scourge, at Maynard-Columbia Hospital, of which she has charge. Miss Morgan went to Unalaska, as a missionary, about two years ago; later, she was transferred to the hospital at Nome. Miss Morgan served three years as an overseas nurse during the World War.

PRODUCTION OF CHEMICALS.

The Department of Commerce announces that, according to the data collected at the biennial census of manufactures, 1923, the establishments engaged primarily in the manufacture of chemicals, other than sulphuric, nitric, and mixed acids, explosives, fertilizers and wood-distillation products, reported a total output valued at \$630,493,969, an increase of 61.3 per cent. as compared with \$390,768,434 in 1921, the last preceding census year, and of 9.8 per cent. as compared with \$574,141,030 in 1919. In addition, establishments whose principal products were sulphuric, nitric, and mixed acids reported, for 1923, a combined output valued at \$24,404,580, and subsidiary chemical products to the value of \$37,596,338 were manufactured by establishments in other industries, making an aggregate of \$692,494,887, comprising chemicals to the value of \$675,797,974 and by-products, residues, and amounts received for contract work, \$16,696,913.

The value of chemicals produced by the aid of electricity amounted in 1923 to \$105,357,452, or 15.6 per cent. of the total value of chemicals produced, and in 1921 to \$57,979,720, or 13.1 per cent.

£20,000,000 WHISKY MERGER.

London reports the biggest whisky deal in modern times, involving £20,000,000, which has been agreed upon provisionally by Buchanan Dewar, John Walker & Sons, and the Distillers Company.

PERSONAL AND NEWS ITEMS.

Charles W. Holton, President of the American Pharmaceutical Association, was the guest of honor at a dinner on February 5. The testimonial was tendered by the New York Branch, A. Ph. A., with coöperation of New Jersey Pharmaceutical Association and Essex Pharmaceutical Association, in honor of Mr. Holton's election as President, A. Ph. A. The dinner was given at the Down Town Club in Newark, and was a complete success.

H. V. Arny has called upon a number of New York retail pharmacists during the past month, in the interest of the American Pharmacy Headquarters, and sent in six subscriptions for \$100 each, and reports others in prospect.

John Bennett, assistant curator of the Charleston Museum, has sent in a blank form of Apothecary and Druggist License first issued by the Medical Society of South Carolina, under the authorizing law of December 18, 1817. (See p. 1175, December JOURNAL A. PH. A.)

Theodore Weicker, vice-president of E. R. Squibb & Sons, was guest of honor, January 3, at a celebration commemorating the 20th anniversary of his association with the firm, and given by its representatives. Carleton H. Palmer, as spokesman, at the close of his address presented Mr. Weicker with a rock-crystal service of a hundred pieces, with a center piece of old English spode ware filled with twenty American Beauty roses.

The entire board of directors of E. R. Squibb & Sons, Dr. Edward H. Squibb, J. A. Stursburg, J. N. Babcock, F. W. Nitardy, A. W. Brigham and Dr. John F. Anderson, participated in the celebration which was directed by R. D. Keim, also a director and the general sales manager of the firm, who acted as toast-master.

I. V. S. Stanislaus, pharmaceutical editor of *Pharmaceutical Era* and member of the faculty of Brooklyn College of Pharmacy, was the speaker at the monthly meeting of the Pharmacy Alumni Association of Temple University, January 21; the subject of his address was "Derivation and Composition of Volatile and Essential Oils."

The American Pharmaceutical Association is well represented on the roster of officers and committees of the Drug and Chemical Square Club; among other names we find—**Henry B. Smith**, *President*; **Edward Plaut**, *Chairman of the Board of Directors*; **Hugo H. Schaefer** and **Robert R. Lampa**.

H. A. Shoemaker, of the University of Oklahoma, has taken charge of the Headquarters Campaign in that state; special letters have been sent to all Oklahoma pharmacists.

Theodore Wetterstroem, Chairman in Ohio, has sent in further reports of his success, to which the names of the following subscribers should be added: Edith Spayd, Toledo; Thos. Evans, Newark; Theo. C. Flick, E. Liverpool; C. G. Piercy, Columbus; Henry Pollack, Cleveland; Guilermo Clutter, Springfield; J. H. Lease Co., Salem; M. Radcliffe, Hamilton; Frank Eber, Youngstown.

Chairman Jelinek is nearing the 100 per cent. for the State on the Headquarters project; the following are additional names of subscribers: Walter G. Hohn, Pine City; Wm. H. Schultz, Stewart; Halverson Drug Co., Alexandria; J. M. Eichinger & Son, Mabel; Minneapolis Drug Co.; W. E. Martin, Virginia; D. W. Jones, Mabel; A. M. Gilbert, Halstad; Earl Greenberg, Minneapolis.

E. L. Newcomb, Publicity Director, and **Al Falkenhainer**, Associate, have lined up and interested a majority of wholesale druggists and manufacturers for the campaign, so that in all states literature is being distributed advising those who have not contributed of the coöperation of others. The folders carry the endorsement of the respective firms.

Frederick J. Wulling, through whose resolution the Scientific and Practical Section of the Minnesota State Pharmaceutical Association was established at Duluth in 1905, has been appointed for the twentieth time, by as many Association presidents, as *Chairman* of the Section. The programs of the Section during the past nineteen years have given the Association an enviable standing. The Dean presided at the recent State meeting.

Willis G. Gregory, dean of the School of Pharmacy of the University of Buffalo, recently has been reappointed a member of the State Board of Pharmacy, for a term of three years. He has also been appointed a member of the Pharmacy Council of New York State for the ensuing year.

R. F. Morgan, professor of Botany and Mineralogy at the University of Buffalo, recently has been elected a Fellow in the Royal Microscopical Society of London.

C. C. Glover, University of Michigan, spent a week recently inspecting high schools at Ludington, Reed City, and other nearby points.

Leon Monell, member of the faculty, University of Buffalo, has been in the west on

business for the Commonwealth Fund, in its survey of pharmacy.

Samuel S. Sadtler has called attention to an unusual and serious accident due to ignition of potassium chlorate in the person's pocket. Mr. Sadtler states that an effort was made to extinguish the fire by throwing a rug around the person, but potassium chlorate does not require oxygen of the air, consequently decomposition continued and caused injury—a bucket of water would have produced desired results.

C. Mahlon Kline is the new president of Philadelphia Drug Exchange and **Joseph W. England** was reelected as Secretary.

Adolph Schmidt, a former president of Pennsylvania Pharmaceutical Association, has been seriously ill with pleuro-pneumonia, but is now nearly up to his usual state of good health.

Dr. P. L. Rehm, in an article in the *Matin*, writes of the beneficent effects of garlic. He states that it was distributed as a tonic to the laborers who raised the pyramid of Cheops. Hippocrates, Galen, and the Arab doctors were equally convinced of its advantages.

M. M. Dementroux, a pupil and one of the earliest collaborators of Pierre Curie, died January 3, in Paris, as a result of the destructive influences of active radiations.

M. Soyer, first-class pharmacist of the French Naval Health Service, has been nominated professor of chemistry, physics, and natural history at the chief naval health school at Bordeaux. **MM. Floch and Marcelli**, also first-class pharmacists (France), have been appointed professors of biological chemistry at the branch schools of Brest and Toulon.

Carl J. Herzog, Secretary of the H. A. Metz Laboratories, Inc., New York, N. Y., sailed for Europe on the Steamer George Washington on January 10th for a two months' absence. He will visit Holland, Germany, Switzerland and France.

Ralph E. Hayes is now Western Divisional Sales Manager for E. R. Squibb & Sons, at Kansas City. Mr. Hayes is *President* of Northern Ohio Druggists' Association and *Vice-President* of the State organization; his removal to Missouri necessitated his resignation from the latter offices.

Dr. Hugh K. Moore of the Brown Company, Berlin, N. H., was presented with the Perkin medal for 1924, at a meeting of the American section of the Society of Chemical Industry, January 16.

The *Glass Container* for December contains an interesting, comprehensive and illustrated article by Surgeon General Hugh S. Cummings, giving an historical account of the organization, development and achievement of the Public Health Service.

Boletín de Farmacia Militar is published in Madrid under the direction and editorship of pharmacists of first class, most of them holding high rank in the service of this country.

The *Sunday Times*, of New Brunswick, in its issue of January 11, published the complete article by Dr. F. B. Kilmer, printed in the December *JOURNAL A. PH. A.*, pp. 1131-38.

Hessig Ellis Drug Company, of Memphis and Little Rock, used full display pages during the week of January 14 in Memphis, Little Rock, Shreveport, New Orleans and Jackson papers advising the public of the service of retail pharmacists.

MEYER BROTHERS DRUG COMPANY PURCHASE FINLAY, DICKS & COMPANY, INC., OF NEW ORLEANS.

The Wholesale Drug Company above named has been purchased by Meyer Brothers Drug Company. Messrs. F. A. and D. B. Dicks have retired from business.

TO PRODUCE MENTHOL IN THE UNITED STATES.

The Vick Chemical Company of Greensboro, North Carolina is to begin active operation looking toward the production of menthol in the United States. For the past two years this firm has been engaged in experimental work, conducted jointly with the Federal Department of Agriculture, on the cultivation of the so-called Japanese mint from the volatile oil of which menthol is obtained. The preliminary experiments indicate that this mint (*Mentha arvensis*, var. *piperescens*) can be grown successfully in the United States under proper soil and climatic conditions.

The coöperative experimental work was directed by the scientific staff of the Office of Drug, Poisonous and Oil Plant Investigations, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, at Washington, D. C., and the results obtained are available through that Bureau.

G. A. Russell, who has been actively engaged in volatile oil work for several years and during the past two years has been in charge of the above named government office, will direct the work on the production of Japanese mint in this country.