

*President*, John E. Holmes, St. Anthony.  
*Vice-Presidents*, Roy Hermon, A. B. Colwell,  
 H. T. Emmet.  
*Secretary*, J. C. Anderson, Boise.  
*Treasurer*, Orville Jackson, Eagle.  
 Boise was chosen for the 1926 meeting.  
 John Culley, of Ogden, was one of the  
 speakers of the convention.

#### OFFICERS OF DISINFECTANT MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION.

The following officers were elected at the 12th annual convention of the Insecticide and Disinfectant Manufacturers' Association:

*President*, Frederick A. Hoyt.  
*First Vice-President*, H. W. Hamilton.  
*Second Vice-President*, Evans E. A. Stone.  
*Treasurer*, Robert J. Jordan.  
*Secretary*, H. W. Cole.

#### OFFICERS OF BALTIMORE DRUG EXCHANGE.

The following officers were elected at the 21st annual meeting of the Drug Exchange Bureau of the Baltimore Association of Commerce, December 14th:

*President*, H. H. Robinson.  
*First Vice-President*, Horace Burrough.  
*Second Vice-President*, Philip I. Heuisler.  
*Secretary*, William J. Lowry.  
*Treasurer*, J. Emory Bond.  
*Executive Committee*, Willoughby M. McCormack, William A. Sailer, John C. Muth.

The Bureau went on record as opposing a piecemeal reduction of the tax on alcohol, though it has declined to take a position for or against the proposed reduction.

### THE PHARMACIST AND THE LAW.

One of the inconveniences connected with free government is the voluminous code of laws. Last year forty states passed more than 13,000 laws, many of which are substitutes or amendments of prior measures. We are told that Washington State passed a law authorizing schools for teaching the art of hair dressing and facial massage, licensing persons to carry on the practice and providing penalties for violation. Illinois made provision for rewarding man, woman or child for capturing or killing a bank robber. Ohio provided for the daily reading of ten verses from the Bible, without comment, another state requires memorizing of the Ten Commandments. In New York 3186 measures were offered and 686 of these became laws; in another state 1773 measures were presented of which 1173 were enacted.

#### METRIC STANDARDS BILL UP IN CONGRESS.

One of the first bills introduced in the new Congress is the Metric Standards Bill (H. R. 10), sponsored by Fred A. Britten, Representative from Illinois. It provides for the gradual adoption of metric units of weights and measures in merchandising throughout the United States after a transition period of 10 years.

Under the proposed law, manufacturers will continue to use any measures they desire in production, but commercial transactions are to be on the decimal basis, already em-

ployed to advantage in United States coinage. The Britten Bill establishes familiar terms for the main metric units, for the meter may be called the "world yard," the liter "world quart" and 500 grams "world pound."

The states of Illinois, California, North Dakota, Tennessee and Utah through their legislatures have memorialized Congress to pass such a metric law. Metric advocates declare that adoption of the world standard units will benefit internal and world trade, education, agriculture and household economy.

#### PRICE MAINTENANCE BILL.

Representative Clyde Kelly has introduced H. R. 11 into the House of Representatives; it has been referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. The bill reads:

##### A BILL.

To clarify the law, to promote equality thereunder, to encourage competition in production and quality, to prevent injury to good will, and to protect trade-mark owners, distributors and the public against injurious and uneconomic practices in the distribution of articles of standard quality under a distinguishing trade-mark, name, or brand.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That in contracts relating to the sale or resale of an article of commerce the genuineness of which is attested by the trade-mark or special brand

of any grower, producer, manufacturer, or other trade-mark proprietor, who is in fair and open competition, actual or potential, with other growers, producers, manufacturers, or owners of similar or competing articles, which contracts are made by the owner of such articles, hereinafter referred to as the vendor, with wholesale or retail dealers, hereinafter referred to as vendees, whenever such contracts constitute transactions of commerce among the several States, or with foreign nations, or with or in any district or Territory subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, it shall be lawful for such vendees to agree to sell such articles at the prices prescribed by such vendor and such agreements shall not be construed as against public policy or in restraint of trade or in violation of the Act of Congress of July 2, 1890, or of any of the Acts supplemental thereto: *Provided*,

(a) That any such article may be sold by the vendee at a price other than that prescribed by the vendor (1) if such vendee shall in good faith discontinue dealing in such article, or (2) if such vendee shall cease to do business and shall propose to sell such article in the course of discontinuance of such business, or (3) if such vendee shall have become bankrupt or a receiver shall have been appointed for his business: *Provided*, That such article shall have first been offered to such vendor by such vendee or his trustee in bankruptcy or receiver at the price paid therefor by such vendee, and that such vendor, after reasonable opportunity to inspect such article, shall have refused or neglected to accept such offer.

(b) That any such article which shall have become damaged or deteriorated in quality may be sold by such vendee at a price other than that prescribed by such vendor: *Provided*, (1) That such article shall have been offered to the vendor either in exchange for a new article of the same kind, or at the price paid therefor by such vendee, and (2) that such vendor after reasonable opportunity to inspect such article shall have refused or neglected to accept such offer, and (3) that such article shall be sold by such vendee only with prominent notice to the public that the price of such article has been reduced because it is damaged or deteriorated in quality, as the fact may be.

#### LIQUOR MAY NOT BE USED IN FLAVORS AND MEDICINES AFTER FEBRUARY 1.

Effective February 1, 1926, use of whisky, brandy, or gin in medicinal preparations,

flavoring extracts, toilet waters and such articles mentioned in section 4 of title 2 of the prohibition law, is forbidden under new regulations issued by the Treasury Department as T. D. 3787. But the withdrawal of alcohol and wine for that purpose will be authorized, as well as withdrawal of whisky, rum or brandy, "for use in particular cases in which the formula has heretofore been approved by the department." In considering applications in such cases, "the length of time which the permittee has operated his general business, the length of time he has used this particular formula, its relation to other formulas used by him and to the formulas for manufactured products generally in which alcohol or wine is used, and the quantity of spirits used in the manufacture of the article, will be taken into account."

The new ruling provides further that it shall not be construed in any wise "to limit or restrict the use of whisky, brandy and other distilled spirits for use in the treatment of diseases on physicians' prescriptions, form 1403; or their use by retail druggists in compounding prescriptions in accordance with the terms of their permits."

#### ALCOHOL PERMIT RULING.

Prohibition administrators are authorized by T. D. 3784 to suspend withdrawals of spirits by permittees at the time of the issuance of a citation for revocation in any case under sections 5 and 9 of the national prohibition law or regulations thereunder, "and to the same extent as may be done by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue in person." The new ruling, accordingly, revokes section 1903 of regulations 60 "and all other regulations inconsistent therewith to the extent of such inconsistency." Under the Andrews reorganization, prohibition administrators were assigned the duty of granting or refusing permits and the new decision authorizes them to deal with suspension of withdrawals as well as with revocations.—*Oil, Paint and Drug Reporter*.

#### ALCOHOL TAX REDUCTION APPROVED BY THE HOUSE.

Provision for the sliding reduction of the tax on non-beverage spirits was retained in the revenue revision bill when it passed the House of Representatives. The house rejected an amendment without committee sanction which would have taxed denatured alcohol at the rate of 1 cent a gallon, and adopted an amendment offered by Representative Green, chair-

man of the Ways and Means Committee, making it clear that the internal revenue tax on spirits shall apply to imported spirits in addition to the duty thereon and that smuggled spirits shall be held to be imported spirits and subject to such tax. Mr. Green explained that the necessity for this amendment arose from a department of justice ruling for the sale of seized smuggled alcohol by United States marshals free of tax.

#### CRAMTON BILL IN CONGRESS.

The Cramton Bill will again have its day in Congress. It is said Mr. Cramton doubts that hearings on the Bill are necessary this session of Congress in view of the voluminous character of the hearings held on it last Congress. He is expected to press it before the

House judiciary committee before many weeks, but if the matter is to be taken up the alcohol trades will insist upon having hearings to present their opposition to the bill.

#### ALCOHOL TRADES ADVISORY COMMITTEE HAS ASKED TO BE RELIEVED.

D. H. Blair, Commissioner of Internal Revenue, is understood to have indicated his willingness to have the Alcohol Trades Advisory Committee liquidated. The committee, since the reorganization of the prohibition service under L. C. Andrews, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, has not been called upon to function with regard to a number of treasury rulings, decisions and regulations.

### BOOK NOTICES AND REVIEWS.

*Chemistry in Modern Life.* By Svante Arrhenius. Translated from the Swedish and revised by Clifford S. Leonard, pp. xiii—286. D. Van Nostrand & Co., N. Y., 1925. Price \$3.00.

This splendid volume representing the last addition to the recently proposed Library of Modern Sciences, is truly a masterful contribution to technical literature. The work was originally intended to serve as a non-technical exposition of the romance of chemistry in its magnanimous applications in modern industry. However, a thorough inspection of the work, impelled by reading the interestingly written themes, discloses the book to be rather more valuable as a technical reference or collateral text instead of a popular exposition as anticipated by the writer. The numerous monographs commence with historical data incident to the ancient conceptions regarding the constitution of matter and progress through the subsequent developments in chemistry, pure and applied, up to and including the modern present age of Electro chemistry.

These topics, intended for the average non-technical reader, in reality present fundamental principles with a lucidity far excelling many textbooks devoted exclusively to any of the purely scientific themes in particular. The reviewer in this instance refers to the chapters, "Energy," "Electricity and Chemistry," and "The Course of Chemical Reaction."

These chapters deal with the laws of physics as applied to the interpretation of certain chemical phenomena. The research accom-

plishments and prolific scientific contribution of Guldberg and Waage, Hittdorf, Van't Hoff, Helmholtz, Ostwald and others, are duly credited and presented in a manner readily comprehended. Fundamental laws of Mass Action, Transport Velocity in Migration of Ions, Potential Series, etc., are a few of the topics introduced.

Professor Arrhenius reveals his modesty in never referring to his epoch-making contributions to electro-chemistry, while the translator of his own accord mentions the excellent work of the Swedish savant in the province of Immunology.

The data comprising the chapter on Dyes, Perfumes and Drugs, is within the scope of the book, briefly treated, and presents very little new material of pharmaceutical importance, yet is ably and interestingly discussed.

In view of the decadent professional attitude of the average practitioner of American pharmacy, this little volume is as a pearl discarded. Its value will be fully appreciated by the pharmaceutical, industrial and professional chemist, and students generally, and represents a valuable acquisition to technical literature of 1925.

SIMON MENDELSON.

*Entwicklung und Stand der Pharmazeutischen Grossindustrie Deutschlands.* Von Dr. Johann Heinrich Merck ans Darmstadt. Octavo 89 pp. Georg Stilke, Berlin, N. W. 7.

Who in the pharmaceutical, medical, chemical and technological realm does not know the name of Merck in Darmstadt, a firm over 250