

PROCEEDINGS OF THE LOCAL BRANCHES

"All papers presented to the Association and Branches shall become the property of the Association with the understanding that they are not to be published in any other publication prior to their publication in those of the Association, except with the consent of the Council."—Part of Chapter VI, Article VI of the By-Laws.

ARTICLE III of Chapter VII reads: "The objects and aims of local branches of this Association shall be the same as set forth in ARTICLE I of the Constitution of this body, and the acts of local branches shall in no way commit or bind this Association, and can only serve as recommendations to it. And no local branch shall enact any article of Constitution or By-Law to conflict with the Constitution or By-Laws of this Association."

ARTICLE IV of Chapter VII reads: "Each local branch having not less than 50 dues-paid members of the Association, holding not less than six meetings annually with an attendance of not less than 9 members at each meeting, and the proceedings of which shall have been submitted to the JOURNAL for publication, may elect one representative to the House of Delegates."

Reports of the meetings of the Local Branches shall be mailed to the Editor on the day following the meeting, if possible. Minutes should be typewritten, with wide spaces between the lines. Care should be taken to give proper names correctly and manuscript should be signed by the reporter.

CHICAGO.

The 169th meeting of the Chicago Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held Tuesday, November 15th, at the University of Illinois School of Pharmacy with President Gathercoal in the chair.

Dean W. B. Day presented the following resolution, which was passed by the Branch:

"WHEREAS, the publications of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION are of the greatest value to the members of the Association and to pharmacists generally, and

Whereas, reference to these publications is greatly facilitated by means of the index, and

Whereas, no general index for the Association's publications has been issued since 1902; therefore be it

Resolved, by the Chicago Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION that we recommend to the Council of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION that the Council consider the publication of a general index covering the PROCEEDINGS and YEAR BOOKS for the period included between 1902 and to the present date and plan to issue decennial indexes of its YEAR BOOKS and JOURNALS thereafter."

President Gathercoal then introduced Mr. R. E. Terry of the School of Pharmacy, who told of the botanical characteristics of Ephedra and the various species of Ephedra, which grow along the western coast of the United States. The species—*Californica Nevadensis*—contain no alkaloid. Only the Chinese varieties contain the alkaloid ephedrine.

Dr. Karl Nielson of the Abbott Laboratories next spoke briefly of the origin of *Ma huang* in China 3200 B. C., when it was used as a diaphoretic, for fever, cough and numerous other ailments. Dr. Nielson gave the analysis of Ephedra. The alkaloid ephedrine and pseudo-ephedrine are not found in the roots or fruit. There is a possibility that the nodes may contain another alkaloid. The plant grows to about eighteen inches in height and bears an edible fruit. The plant has an astringent taste and has a high tannin content. The alkaloidal content consists of from 15–20% of pseudo-ephedrine and 80–85% ephedrine. He told of the method of extraction and analysis. The yield of ephedrine is only 1/2 to 1%. Ephedrine and pseudo-ephedrine are optical isomers. Pseudo-ephedrine is dextro-rotatory and ephedrine is laevo-rotatory in alcohol but dextro-rotatory in water. He told of methods of separating the two alkaloids in various solvents. The similarity in chemical structure to epinephrine and to tyramine was illustrated. Pseudo-ephedrine does not possess the therapeutic properties of ephedrine. The two alkaloids have been prepared synthetically, although not on a commercial scale. The synthetic is the racemic form.

The salts of ephedrine are stable in aqueous solutions and may be boiled or autoclaved. A solution will keep at least six months with no chemical change and no bacterial growth.

A solution in oil appears to produce a slight change on standing but apparently sufficiently stable for all purposes.

The alkaloid is very slowly decomposed in the human body and can be given orally a distinct advantage over epinephrine for treating certain types of diseases.

Dr. Moore, of the University of Illinois College of Medicine, next presented the therapeutics of ephedrine. The advantages of stability, ease of administration, slower action, low toxicity make the drug very valuable. It is used in asthma to relax the smooth muscle, locally in the nose, to relieve congestion, to shrink mucous membrane, in shock to raise blood pressure following apinal anesthesia, in urticaria and allergic conditions and in the eye as a mydriatic with no interference of accommodation.

The effects wear off with no ill effects, and no secondary vaso-dilation and no secondary hemorrhage. Ten times as much may be administered by mouth as hypodermically. Over-doses may be accompanied with dizziness, a condition of uneasiness and sometimes vomiting. Pseudo-ephedrine is weaker in action and produces a vaso-dilation instead of vaso-constriction.

A general discussion followed in which questions were asked concerning the various preparations and uses. A rising vote of thanks was tendered the speakers of the evening.

S. W. MORRISON, *Secretary-Treasurer.*

HONEST MEN IN PUBLIC LIFE AND PRIVATE ENTERPRISE.

Senator Guy D. Goff addressed the West Virginia Journalism Conference at Morgantown, W. Va., October 28th.

Speaking of the Journalist's duty, he said, in part:

"The great journalist will not listen to flattery, but will realize that even the exceptional men are more the products than the producers of their surroundings. A realization of this fact will do much to check the tendency to make a noise, and bring home to all of us that the man who is doing good work, in any calling, will do it better, if he but learn to find his pleasures in doing it thoroughly, rather than in advertising it widely. Insight, foresight and knowledge are what the world demands of journalism, and all great editors have been inspired with a faith so fixed, that they kept on striving until victory was assured. They had hope, faith and love, and in them they found the strength to see when others were blind."

We quote from his remarks on good citizenship, the following:

"The capacity of man to rule himself will be tested in the very near future. Not by the greatness of his wealth, nor by his valor in the field, nor by the extent of his dominions, nor by the splendor of his genius. The dangers of free democratic government come from within. The worship of self, the love of power, the lust for gold, the weakening of faith, the decay of public virtue and the lack of private worth—these are the perils that threaten our future, the enemies we have to fear, the traitors which infest our camp. There

is no peace between them and our safety, nor can we avoid them and turn back. It is not enough to rest upon our post. No man or nation can stand still. We must mount upward or go down. We must grow worse or better.

"We don't need socialism, or imperialism, or free trade, or public ownership, or State and National control of trusts, as much as we need honest men in public life and private enterprise who have standards of morals and conduct higher than insatiable self interest."

BALTIMORE VETERAN DRUGGISTS.

The Baltimore Veteran Druggists' Association held their monthly meeting at Hotel Rennert with a record-breaking attendance.

A start was made to celebrate the birthdays of those who had escaped trial during the vacation season. Secretary DuMez exercised his official prerogative in not announcing his anniversary, but John Fuller Frames and E. G. Eberie were commended to the tender mercies of Chairman R. E. L. Williamson and responded splendidly in telling the stories of their respective careers.

ONTARIO'S LIQUOR ACT IS CALLED A SUCCESS.

D. B. Hanna, Chairman of the Ontario Liquor Control Board, in discussing the report of the Board, states that one of the most noticeable results of the new law has been a reversal of attitude toward the bootlegger. Those who as customers once contributed to his support, Mr. Hanna says, "are now aiding the government to suppress the traffic."