

John S. Mecinske, 2219 S. Michigan St., South Bend, Ind.; H-661, Olav Opjorden, Milan, Minn.

(*Motion No. 35.*) Vote on applications of contributors to the Headquarters Building Fund for membership in the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

88. *Life Membership.* In accordance with Article IV of Chapter IX of the By-Laws, Mrs. Bertha L. Peacock of Philadelphia, Pa. has become a Life Member through the payment of \$15.00.

E. F. KELLY, *Secretary.*

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to the Association and Branches shall become the property of the Association with the understanding that they are not to be published in any other publication prior to their publication in those of the Association, except with the consent of the Council."—Part of Chapter VI, Article VI of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

BALTIMORE.

The April meeting of the Baltimore Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held at the Emerson Hotel, Wednesday evening, April 4, 1928, President L. M. Kantner in the chair.

The occasion was the annual debate between the teams of the School of Pharmacy of the Medical College of Virginia and the School of Pharmacy of the University of Maryland. The question was—

RESOLVED: That the Capper-Kelly Bill would benefit both the pharmacist and the public.

The debaters for the affirmative were: W. M. Bridgers and W. P. King of Richmond.

The debaters for the negative side of the question were: Leon Feldman and John Wilson of Baltimore.

The judges were Oliver Y. Harris, Attorney-at-Law; Dr. Irving F. Mather and R. E. Lee Williamson.

The debate was won by the Richmond Team, the decision being two to one in their favor.

Prof. W. G. Crockett of the School of Pharmacy of the Medical College of Virginia, brought greetings from his faculty and pleasantly recounted the advantages of the friendly

visits and contacts through the annual debates. Prof. E. E. Ericson of the Department of English of the University of Maryland, also spoke of the benefits to be gained by the students through such extra-curricular activities.

E. S. Sater, who is the embodiment of school and association spirit, spoke concerning the great impetus and support given toward the realization of the Headquarters Building of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION by the students of the colleges of pharmacy throughout the country, stating that \$210,000 has already been subscribed to this project by students.

Music was furnished by Mr. Richard V. Mossop, Violinist, and Mr. Harry Lehne, Accompanist.

Prof. W. G. Crockett and the visiting debating team from Richmond were entertained at an informal dinner at 6.30 P.M. by the members of the faculty and debating team of the School of Pharmacy, University of Maryland.

Secretary Joseph G. Noh of the Pennsylvania Pharmaceutical Association will be the speaker before the Baltimore Branch on the evening of May 3, 1928, subject—"State Ownership Law."

MAY MEETING.

The May meeting of the Baltimore Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held at the Emerson Hotel on Thursday, the 3rd, 1928, President L. M. Kantner presiding.

Secretary Joseph G. Noh of the Pennsylvania Pharmaceutical Association was the speaker, his subject being "State Ownership Law."

The speaker prefaced his direct remarks concerning pharmacy by noting the advance made in many lines of endeavor, particularly referring to the evolutionary changes made in travel and transportation.

He stated that pharmacy too had progressed, but that comparisons should be made with the period previous to the World War, as during that time pharmacists bought drugs in large quantities, when quick turnover salesmanship was not especially essential. He also stated that some business the pharmacists formerly enjoyed was now being diverted to the patent medicine shops, groceries, soda fountain and cigar stores, but pointed out that instead of the individuals wasting time in banging competitors the pharmacists should organize and overcome the obstacles of the profession. In his opinion these obstacles included the high taxes paid by the pharmacists and the problems the independent pharmacists met through mergers, mass production and mass distribution.

Secretary Noh read the text of the Ownership Law of Pennsylvania, and recited the experiences of the pharmacists in securing the passage of the bill.

He pointed out the advantages of the law to pharmacists in that stores will be established upon pharmaceutical principles and policies by registered pharmacists; that the profession will be kept free from bartenders by the prevention of drug stores being opened by bootleggers; that the independent druggist will be preserved and encouraged to render individual service not possible from the chain stores; that the profession will be protected for the young man entering pharmacy, as well as for the wholesalers and manufacturers.

He stressed the advantages of such a law to the public, pointing out the protection secured to public health in preserving the independent pharmacist as opposed to the cash and carry "cut rate" drug store. He also stated that the investments of the independent retailer were generally made in his

home town or state, whereas profits from chain stores often went to other states.

Secretary Noh stated that criticisms had been made against the Pennsylvania Ownership Law, but the advantages far outweighed the adverse criticisms. In discussing these he stated that under the law it was possible for the widow or administrator to continue the business for the period necessary to close an estate. However, in connection with the further continuance of a drug store by the widow, Mr. Noh stated that conditions surrounding fifty such stores had been studied, and in only one case had the business been a success. Also in case of rental rates being increased, it was possible to move the business from one place to another, but not to open new stores.

He stated the Ownership Law had been upheld in the State Court, in the U. S. District and Circuit Courts, and would come before the Supreme Court of the U. S. in October 1928.

Aside from any court decision, Secretary Noh stated that the advantages to pharmacists in Pennsylvania had been the organization of pharmacists for a common purpose; the consequent correction of other abuses; the formation of some thirty county associations and the solving of their local problems; the coöperation with physicians; and the friendly spirit engendered between individual pharmacists.

Music for the occasion was furnished by Mr. Joseph S. Blum, violinist.

B. OLIVE COLE, *Secretary-Treasurer.*

CHICAGO.

The 174th meeting of the Chicago Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held Tuesday, April 17th, at the University of Illinois Pharmacy building. The meeting was one of the most successful ever held, with an attendance of over two hundred.

President Gathercoal introduced the speaker of the evening, Dr. Paul S. Pittenger, director of the research laboratories of Sharp and Dohme. Dr. Pittenger, one of the foremost authorities on bioassay, gave a demonstration and lecture on the biologic assay of drugs.

He told first of the necessity of having the biologic standardization and its value to the pharmacist and physician. Many drugs, for which there is no method of chemical assay, can be accurately standardized by biologic means. Galenicals made from drugs without standardi-

zation have been found to vary from 30 to 444 per hundred of their intended value. Using such preparations the physician would never be able to know what results to expect from a given dose. By chemical and biologic standardization the variations in the galenicals have been overcome so that the pharmacist may dispense a product with the assurance of uniformity.

The susceptibility of patients to drugs is variable but other variables can be eliminated. No attempt is made in bioassay to determine what dose should be given to a human, but rather to obtain uniformity.

Bioassay methods are grouped into three classes; first, toxic methods, in which the smallest amount of drugs is determined which will cause death of the animal—examples of drugs in this class are digitalis, squill and aconite. Second, methods in which the action of the drug is determined without causing death to the animal. Examples of drugs standardized by this method are cannabis, epinephrine and ergot. The third class is the standardization of drugs on an isolated organ such as the standardization of pituitary on the isolated uterus, which was well described and illustrated by means of charts.

Dr. Pittenger explained the process and technique in standardizing tincture of aconite in which the minimum lethal dose is found and must agree with three different animals. He demonstrated the action of aconite on guinea-pigs to illustrate the method.

The next experiment was the action of digitalis on frogs. After injection of varying amounts of digitalis, a series of frogs were dissected to show the normal heart, the heart under the action of digitalis and the effect of a large dose, in which the auricles were distended and darker in color, while the ventricles were completely contracted and much lighter in color.

The technique and method of the digitalis standardization was also described and illustrated by means of charts. Gold fish are also used for the same assay by adding varying amounts of digitalis to the aquarium water and the m.l.d. found after three-hour period.

The section of epinephrine was also standardized on a dog. The dog was given chlorbutinol by mouth for the anaesthesia and the carotid artery connected with the manometer to register the rise in blood pressure. Immediately after injections of epinephrine into the femoral vein the rise in blood pressure was recorded on the kymograph.

White leghorn roosters were also injected with ergot to show the darkening of the comb produced through the constriction of the arterioles. This is the method generally used for standardizing ergot as the results run parallel quantitatively with results obtained by its effect on the uterus.

The lecture was followed by a general discussion in which Dean Day expressed his deep appreciation of the lecture and demonstration given by Dr. Pittenger. Mr. Becker inquired concerning correlation of the digitalis assay with the electrocardiogram. Mr. Gray expressed his appreciation and made inquiry regarding the standardization of an ampul of digitalis for hypodermic use.

Dr. Pittenger was given a rising vote of thanks.

S. W. MORRISON, *Secretary*.

DETROIT.

The March meeting of the Detroit Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held in the Y. M. C. A. Building, Thursday evening March 22nd.

Thirty-six attended the dinner and this number was increased to more than a hundred before the opening of the session.

President Wheeler called the meeting to order and on motion of Mr. Seltzer the reading of the minutes were dispensed with.

Dr. Robert J. Ruth founder of "National Pharmacy Week," was introduced. He delivered a very interesting lecture with the first showing of the film "Sunshine from the Sea." The film showed the complete history of Cod-Liver Oil from the time the fish are caught until it reaches the consumer. The process of manufacture and the estimation of medicinal value were described in detail. The first two reels of film were devoted to the effects of vitamins A and D. He showed experiments carried out in the laboratories and the wonderful results obtained by the use of Cod-Liver Oil.

A general discussion followed and a very interesting use of Cod-Liver Oil in the poultry business was explained by the speaker.

Mr. Webster referred to Dr. Ruth as the founder of "National Pharmacy Week." Mr. Seltzer moved a rising vote of thanks for the most interesting talk which was educational and entertaining. The motion carried unanimously.

APRIL MEETING.

The April meeting of the Detroit Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held April 19th in the Y. M. C. A. Building.

The program was given over to the pharmacy students who presented papers before the Branch at the February meeting and were chosen at that time to compete for the prizes offered to the students presenting the best papers at the April meeting. The following students competed:

Donald Breisch and Richard Charles Byce of the University of Michigan; Milton Rose and Francis Clawson of the Detroit College of Pharmacy; I. Helper of the College of Pharmacy of the City of Detroit.

The papers presented by these students were all worthy of consideration and it was only after careful deliberation of the judges—Deans Kraus, Stout and Scoville that the winners were chosen.

Chairman W. L. Scoville of the Committee said it was difficult to judge papers presented on so many varied subjects. He complimented the students for their fine work and presentation, and announced the following winners:

The G. H. Dykeman prize of \$25.00 to Richard Charles Byce of University of Michigan; the F. F. Ingram, Jr. prize of \$15.00 to Francis Clawson, Detroit College of Pharmacy; membership in the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION to Donald Breisch.

It was suggested that the papers presented by the students be printed. Professor Stocking said the papers covered such a wide scope that it would be difficult to find the proper Journal.

Owing to the absence of many of the regular members the usual interesting discussion of the papers was lacking. The absence of Mr. Seltzer the "father" of the Student Programs, of Messrs. Webster, Rowe and Ingram, were keenly felt. Owing to illness, Mr. Dykeman, donor of the first prize was unable to attend.

President Wheeler thanked the students for their splendid turn-out and for their efforts in supplying an interesting program.

The usual excellent dinner preceded the meeting.

BERNARD A. BIALK, *Secretary*.

PHILADELPHIA.

The April meeting of the Philadelphia Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held Tuesday evening, April 10th, at the P. A. R. D. building, President Nichols presided. The meeting followed the regular dinner which was held earlier in the evening at the Touraine Apartments Restaurant.

The minutes of the March meeting were read by the Secretary and approved. Upon

learning that Dr. Krusen, President of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science had applied for membership in the A. P. H. A., the members voiced their approval of Dr. Krusen as a member of the Branch subject to the action of the parent body.

The Secretary announced the appointment of the President of the following committees to serve for the ensuing year.

Practical Pharmacy.

Quintus Hoch, *Chairman*.

Charles T. Pickett.

Ambrose Hunsberger.

Membership.

Leo G. Penn, *Chairman*.

Wm. J. Stoneback.

George W. Perkins.

Peter Rohn.

E. T. Hahn.

Entertainment.

J. W. E. Harrison, *Chairman*.

J. J. Kelly.

Arno Viehoever.

The Professional Relations Committee will be announced later.

President Nichols then brought up the subject of future programs and a discussion followed as to the advisability of using the new building of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science for future meetings and also whether a light luncheon should follow the session. It was decided, as an experiment, to hold the next meeting of the Branch at the new College building.

The three speakers of the evening were William L. Cliffe, Ambrose Hunsberger and J. W. E. Harrison. They discussed certain pharmacy regulations in Pennsylvania.

Mr. Cliffe spoke about narcotics and pointed out, among other topics, certain pitfalls for the unwary, the status of the manufacturer and retailer and regulations on Paregoric. He particularly called attention to the following pamphlet: Treasury Department, Bureau of Prohibition, Regulation No. 5, relating to the importation, manufacture, production, compounding, sale, dispensing and giving away of opium or cocoa leaves, their salts, derivatives or preparations thereof. The suggestion was made to invite the gentleman at the head of the narcotic division to some future Branch meeting.

Mr. Hunsberger addressed the Branch on certain laws and regulations in Pennsylvania,

pertaining to alcohol. Only bottled in bond whisky may legally be dispensed. The pharmacist should take every precaution to obey the laws in handling liquor prescriptions and keep such records as are required of him, carefully and intelligently.

The following motion was made by Mr. Hunsberger and approved by the Branch that "WHEREAS the annual tax on retail dealers in narcotic drugs was raised to \$6.00 as an emergency measure and

"WHEREAS the emergency upon which the increase in tax was predicated has passed

"Therefore be it resolved by the Philadelphia Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION that we respectfully urge a reduction in aforesaid tax to three dollars per annum."

The last speaker of the evening, Mr. Harrison, pointed out to the Branch certain interesting facts concerning the laws pertaining to foods and drugs and specialties. In his talk, he emphasized the difference between interstate and the intrastate regulations. These laws are broad and cover both man and beast. Under the intrastate regulations, you are criminally liable for everything wrong you do while the action of the interstate laws is directed against the goods. The difference between misbranding and adulteration was clearly brought out. The language on the labels must be specific.

Discussion accompanied and followed each talk.

MARIN S. DUNN, *Secretary.*



JOHN ATTFIELD, 1872.

At the age of 87.

PROFESSOR ATTFIELD ON CHEMISTS— A RETROSPECT OF FIFTY YEARS AGO.*

Professor Attfield has contributed a very readable letter to the *Chemical News* on the word "Chemist." He contends that it was applied originally to the body better known of late as Pharmacists or Chemists and Druggists. He demonstrates that there is historical evidence to prove that these were the successors of the old alchemists. He quotes much documentary confirmation of this view and traces

the term "chymist" as far back as 1680, when it was popularly ascribed to Ambrose Godfrey. A mass of the medical literature of the seventeenth century may be adduced to show the gradual but sure manner in which books on alchemy grew into books on pharmacy—a fact which must be recollected when we are tempted to form too harsh a judgment on the compositions of this date. The ancient alchemist, with his dream of transmitting the baser metals into gold, was so far as professional chemist: but no student of this class of speculation can fail to see that the whole tendency of his thoughts was to invent some marvelous specific which would cure universal illness, prolong life and be the healer of all possible disease. Even gold, when got by mystic aid, was not viewed so much as a chemical body, but rather as the basis of an elixir, *aurum potable*, *aurum mirificum* or otherwise. Time wore on, and for at least a century the word "chymist" (so spelt to the present day in the *Times* newspaper) was not a synonym for the man who was familiar with the science of chemistry. Now this science has assumed such importance, demands such exclusive study, and is so admirably cultivated, that the modern acceptance of the word "chemist" is used with a definite limitation. We are relieved from the necessity of entering further into the question by the lucid manner in which the professor has explained the case. One thing, however, we, as pharmacists, most gratefully acknowledge—we are indebted to the chemist proper for having wonderfully extended our horizon and for having placed the pharmacy itself on the basis of accurate research.

*From the *Chemist and Druggist*, as reprinted by this publication from its issue of April 15, 1878.