

# THE DEPARTMENT OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES OF PHARMACY

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DEPARTMENT.

## THE ASSOCIATION HAS A NEW SECTION.

A NEW section has been created in the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy known as the Commercial Section. It will be in operation for the first time at the Portland meeting this August. As its name implies the Commercial Section will concern itself with those features of pharmaceutical education that have to do with the business, as distinguished from the scientific side of modern retail pharmacy. Whether the new section accomplishes what its sponsors expect depends upon (1) the energy and initiative of its recently appointed officers, and (2) the support it receives from the membership of the Association. As Chairman of the Section I speak for the officers in pledging out best efforts, and in the same capacity I plead for the help of the deans and faculty members of schools belonging to the Association.

The program of the Commercial Section, like that of the other sections, will be carried out on Monday morning, August twentieth. It will take the form of a conference, just as the sections on pharmacy, chemistry and materia medica hold conferences. The program will be devoted mainly to the character and amount of commercial instruction that should be offered in member colleges. Consideration will also be given to the texts now available and the texts which should be available for teaching commercial subjects.

Whether teachers favor or oppose the addition of business courses as required studies in Association colleges, they are urged to attend the Commercial Conference and present their views. Only by a free discussion, with all shades of opinion represented, can there issue from the Conference the sort of curriculum suggestions that need to be presented to the general membership.

Perhaps no subject in the field of teaching is more important just now than is the question of whether or not schools should reflect in their curricula the increasing ratio of commercial to professional practice in the modern American drug store. What subjects, if any, to add and the hours they are to have, and what subjects to drop to make room for the additions are matters about which all schools could well seek counsel. The Commercial Section will not supply the whole answer, but it is one agency of search and as such is entitled to widespread support and encouragement.

As Chairman of the Section I not only invite a full attendance at the first session but I earnestly entreat the teachers who will go to Portland to give the new division of the Association their sympathetic coöperation to the end that from the discussions and deliberations there may develop something of real value to pharmacy.

J. G. BEARD, *Chairman.*