COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMITTEES ON THE HEADQUARTERS BUILDING.*

BY H. A. B. DUNNING, CHAIRMAN.

The progress made during the year just closing toward the completion of the Headquarters Building project to be officially reported in this communication, affords my associates and myself great satisfaction especially as we are able to report that the building is actually under construction. It must afford all branches of pharmacy and every one interested in its advancement and proper recognition, similar satisfaction to realize that this effort, directed and financed entirely by those connected with pharmacy, is now taking definite shape and is to be of a character and setting beyond our greatest expectations. The delays incident to the expansion of our project and to the completion of the Government's plans for the improvement of the matchless area in which our site is located, have been very trying. It is evident already that the result will more than compensate us and, in addition, we have profited greatly through the savings effected in building and operating costs.

It is difficult to make clear to those who have not visited this section of Washington and are not acquainted with the plans for its development, what a magnificent site we have and how fortunate pharmacy has been to retain it and to have such splendid coöperation from the Government agencies in developing it. It has been a long and trying experience to those who have directed the effort but it has provided an opportunity to acquaint the Congress and many Governmental agencies and officials with the services of pharmacy and the work of the ASSOCIATION. That the occupancy of this site by the ASSOCIATION has had the approval of the Congress and of the Governmental agencies charged with the responsibility of protecting the area against undesirable use, is a splendid tribute and should be a source of pride to those who are interested in pharmacy as a public health profession. Professional pharmacy could not have in America a more fitting location for its headquarters nor more appropriate surroundings or neighbors, than it is to have. The National Academy of Sciences, the Public Health Service, the National Institute of Health and the Naval Hospital surround it. It is probable that the only open location facing on Constitution Avenue will be occupied by the U. S. Office of Education.

It is inevitable that the occupancy of this site by the Headquarters Building, amid such surroundings, will give pharmacy future recognition and standing, as a profession, beyond any other effort that we could have made. This good fortune, and especially the faith and coöperation of the Government in enabling us to make our original plans so much more suitable to the purpose, places a real responsibility upon us to erect there an institution of appropriate beauty and of real service to the people of America. Anything less will subject us to a merited charge of ingratitude and of an inability to recognize one of the great opportunities that has been opened to a profession in our times.

Before our building is more than begun, avenues of service and of development that were not before thought of, have opened for us; if we travel them successfully, others will open and pharmacy will take its deserved place among the recognized guardians and promoters of the public health and welfare.

At the Miami meeting last year, we reported that working plans for the building were completed and ready for use. They were submitted to the authorities of the District of Columbia to learn if they complied with all requirements. The Commissioners of the District, acting as a zoning board, questioned the occupancy of the site by the ASSOCIATION on the grounds that it was a commercial organization. Chairman Hilton, Secretary Kelly and I appeared before a special committee of the Commissioners and submitted all information requested in reference to the ASSOCIATION, its operations and the source and use of its finances. In the meantime, the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Parks and Planning Commission had written in our favor. Upon completion of the hearing, our application for occupancy of the site as a professional and scientific organization was approved.

Work was then begun on a measure to be submitted to Congress providing for the closing of the short street, Upper Water Street, crossing our site and for the location of our building on

* See page 1076, October JOURNAL.

government property which was necessary for it to be on a line with the building of the National Academy of Sciences, in the adjoining square, as desired by the Government agencies. In the preparation of this legislation, we had the coöperation and guidance of the commissions named above. The measure was introduced in the Senate as Senate Joint Resolution No. 50 early in the recent session of Congress by Senator Goldsborough of Maryland and referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia. In brief the resolution authorized the Commissioners of the D. C. to close Upper Water Street between 22nd and 23rd Streets, N. W., transferring the bed of the street upon its closing to the Director of Public Buildings and Grounds as a part of the park system of the D. C. and authorizing the Director to transfer to the A. PH. A. such an area adjacent to the property already owned by the ASSOCIATION as shall be agreed upon by the Commission of Fine Arts, the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, and the ASSOCIATION so that the location and setting of its building will conform to the plans prepared by the first named commission and approved by the second, provided the A. PH. A. agreed to transfer to the United States at the same time, seventeen feet on the west side of its property for the purpose of widening 23rd Street as an approach to the Lincoln Memorial.

A public hearing was held on the resolution during which no objection was made to the measure. The Commissioners of the District requested certain amendments to protect the sewers and sewer appurtenances, which were agreed to, and the Resolution passed the Senate as amended. After another public hearing before its Committee on the District of Columbia, the resolution passed the House of Representatives without change on May 9, 1932, and was later signed by the President. It was printed as Public Document No. 18 and is quoted on page 721 of the July issue of the A. PH. A. JOURNAL.

In securing this legislation, we are indebted especially to Senator Goldsborough, to Senator Capper, *Chairman*, and Mr. Ring, *Secretary* of the Senate Committee of the D. C.; to Congresswoman Norton, *Chairman*, Congressmen Patman and Hill, members and Mrs. Horton, Clerk, of the House Committee of the D. C.

During the passage of the resolution, the two Commissions again reviewed the plans for our building and approved them with the provision that marble should be used in place of limestone to conform with the exterior material required in all buildings facing on Constitution Avenue. They also considered the location and setting of the building and requested Architect Pope to submit a plan showing the most suitable location and landscape treatment of the grounds. The Commissions approved the Pope plan which locates the building twenty feet in advance of the building line of the Academy of Sciences and provides a simple but artistic treatment of the grounds and walks, making the services of a landscape architect unnecessary. The reasons for the advanced position of the building were the greater height of the location and the smaller size of the building as compared with those adjoining, and that it was the last building in the line as the buildings of the Naval Hospital are to be placed much farther back and the grounds between our building and the Potomac River terraced. The advanced position was required to give the proper perspective and is more acceptable to us as it provides additional space in the rear for such additions as may be required.

Upon the passage of the resolution and agreement as to location and setting, revised bids were requested from the lowest bidders with alternates for exterior marble. The George A. Fuller Company, of New York, were the lowest bidders of those approved by Architect Pope and the Council of the A. PH. A. was requested to authorize the President, the Secretary and the Treasurer to enter into a contract with that firm in accordance with the terms and conditions specified by Mr. Pope and which protects the ASSOCIATION against decline and advances and makes it benefit by any savings. The basic contract price was $237,000, and all extras and allowances brought this to $270,000 approximately. The use of select Danby Imperial Vermont Marble, the finest grade obtainable, will increase the cost, but it is expected that the savings effected will offset this advance. Mr. Pope will supervise the selection and installation of furniture and equipment, so as to have them harmonize, and estimates that these will cost from $10,000 to $15,000. The balance in the Building Fund is estimated to cover all costs of building, landscaping and equipment, and there are special funds for the furnishing of the offices of the Secretary and the Editor provided by the pharmacists of Maryland and Texas, respectively. It is expected that a sum sufficient for the endowment of the upkeep of the building will be collected from the subscriptions still unpaid, and those who have not paid are urged to do so as promptly as possible.

The building contract was signed as of June 1st, and a brief ground-breaking ceremony was held at the site on July 1, 1932, as reported in the A. PH. A. JOURNAL for July and the pharmaceutical press generally. Chairman Moore of the Commission of Fine Arts, President Fowler of the D. C. Medical Society, President Adams of the A. PH. A., Honorary President, Sir Henry S. Wellcome, President-Elect W. B. Philip and your Chairman were the speakers, and ground was broken by Chairman Hilton of the Council. It was a brief but very impressive ceremony. It had to be arranged so hurriedly as to prevent the attendance of many who desired to—and this is regretted. More formal exercises are planned when the building is dedicated—and of which longer notice can be given.

Special attention should be drawn to the special funds made available by the pharmacists of Maryland and Texas for the purposes mentioned as other states may wish to provide similar contributions for which due recognition will be given. This is the time to make such purpose known as there are a number of special purposes for which such funds could be used to great advantage. The Museum, Library and meeting rooms are to be equipped and materials provided. There will be space for pictures of notable pharmacists, historical buildings and events, collections of books and other items. It would be splendid if each state and territory of the Union could be identified by some special contribution to the building—bearing its name—or otherwise identified.

All the old buildings on the site are now removed and excavation for the foundation is well under way. The builders plan to have the structure enclosed before winter weather so that interior work may be carried on during the cold weather—and to complete the work in the spring of 1933.

The plans do not include a chemical laboratory as originally planned. It is the desire of the Commissions already named that the front building should be small and low, as a part of the frame of the Lincoln Memorial, and contain the impressive Procter Memorial, Museum and Library, which will be open to the public and will inform them of the service and value of pharmacy. The offices of the ASSOCIATION are placed in the rear of the first floor and the lower floor is devoted to a meeting room, several offices, storage space and to heating and other equipment.

The laboratory will be placed in a separate building later and provision has been made for its erection. It will have separate chemical, physical and biological laboratories and necessary offices. It is already apparent that such a laboratory as was originally planned could not accommodate the work now required for the U. S. P. and N. F., and that to place it even temporarily in the main building would be a needless expense. The plans for the laboratories and building have not been developed in any detail but the general plan has been approved by the Government's commissions as entirely feasible.

It can already be seen that the building now being erected is but the beginning of an institution of greater magnitude than we could at first visualize. It is probably fortunate that our progress was delayed as we have been given the time to grasp somewhat more clearly the splendid opportunity American Pharmacy has before it and to realize the helpful interest and coöperation that our very location will give us from the various public and private institutions of the Capital city. As soon as the various agencies controlling pharmaceutical education and training, registration, professional legislation, standards, law enforcement and the other ethical and professional functions are located in this institution, pharmacy may look forward to a wonderful development of its services and of its recognition.

In carrying forward the entire project we have had splendid encouragement and assistance from various persons, institutions and organizations too numerous to even mention at this time. When the building is dedicated an earnest effort will be made to make fitting acknowledgment.

At this point of progress, we should mention, in addition to those connected with the Congress named above, the officers and members of the Commission of Fine Arts, of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, and of the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia, whose helpful interest and consistent support have made our work more successful and much more pleasant.

As Chairman Moore so well said at the ceremony on July 1st, and after reviewing our trials, "At any rate, we are here to-day to break ground for a building which shall stand as a symbol of ethics in trade, honesty and fidelity in ministering to human needs, and constant advance in the science of good health."

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE U. S. P. XI COMMITTEE OF REVISION TO THE 1932 MEETING OF THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

BY E. FULLERTON COOK.

The close of the second year of revision is rather an unsatisfactory time to make a statement concerning many of the decisions. The majority of texts still exist in one of the formative stages and are subject to further changes before they are finally accepted.

Every text under revision passes through a series of steps. Having been admitted it is referred to the Sub-Committee responsible for its revision. Frequently several Sub-Committees are involved, as when a galenical preparation calls for a biological or proximate assay or a pharmaceutical ointment or solution needs a chemical check covering purity and assay. The Sub-Committee Chairman or one of his associates considers the criticisms or suggestions in the literature, makes the necessary experiments or studies and offers the text to the Sub-Committee for review. Comments from Sub-Committee members are considered before advancing the revised texts to the General Committee where again they are published in full and comments invited. At this stage, in accordance with the General Principles adopted by the Convention, the General Chairman issues "an abstract of proposed changes and new texts" for general publicity, and comments from the public are invited. All suggestions or criticisms are published in the official Circulars with credit given to the authors, and are then assembled with the text for consideration in the preparation of the manuscript. In the performance of this duty the General Chairman is largely assisted by the chairmen of Sub-Committees who confer over the texts for which they are responsible. Experts in various fields are also consulted.

Galley proofs are then issued in duplicate to the members of the General Committee, and again comments are assembled and given consideration before the "page proof" is prepared. During the U. S. P. X revision about 250 copies of "page proof," in 64-page booklets, were distributed among specially selected readers and their comments and suggestions once more reviewed before actual printing began.

In the current revision many texts have advanced to the stage of submission to the General Committee and on these some comments have been received and the preparation of text in manuscript form has already been started, but about one hundred additional admissions have just been announced and these have only started upon the revision route.

Scope.—The Sub-Committee on Scope has practically completed its first review of U. S. P. X titles and also of the newer field of materia medica. The first review of official titles resulted in the admission of over 350 titles with no opposing votes. The remainder of the 622 titles of the U. S. P. X were then considered in groups, the titles being listed and a discussion of their merits invited as a guide to their admission or deletion. When these opinions were before the Sub-Committee the vote was called. These discussions and votes by mail resulted in many more admissions and some deletions, but still quite a number of the U. S. P. X titles remained undecided. Up to this point in Scope decisions a two-third vote of the Sub-Committee had been required to decide either admission or deletion. A few titles failed to register a two-third vote (16 votes) either for or against admission, when voting by mail, and these came before the personal conference at the Pocono meeting in 1931, where they were discussed before the entire group and again voted upon, a majority then deciding. Even then a few U. S. P. X titles remained undecided and were again discussed and voted upon at the Philadelphia Conference on Scope held a few months ago. At the Philadelphia Conference the time of the Sub-Committee was largely devoted to the consideration of new substances for the U. S. P. XI. Prior to the conference, 82 titles had been suggested by various members of the Sub-Committee on Scope, substances which, in their individual opinions, were worthy of consideration for acceptance by the new Pharmacopœia. Forty-four other titles were also proposed by persons who were not members of the Sub-Committee, and finally every title accepted by the 1931 New and Non-Official Remedies was placed before the Sub-Committee for study.

Comments upon N. N. R. titles were invited from members of the Sub-Committee, the discussions were copied in full in the Bulletins and the first vote recorded. This decision was not accepted as final, however, and the Sub-Committee was called together at Philadelphia, on April 30th, with all but two members present and every new title in the proposed lists was discussed and a new vote recorded. The Sub-Committee on Scope must be commended for its earnest

and persistent conduct of the work placed upon it and the conclusions are submitted with the knowledge that they represent the honest judgment of the group.

The Sub-Committee is made up of all medical members of the General Committee, including the President of the Convention, 18 in number, and 5 pharmacists. The Sub-Committee members are Dr. Reid Hunt, *Chairman*, with Messrs. Bastedo, Beardsley, Bethea, Brown, Christian, Dooley, DuMez, Edmunds, Fantus, Hirschfelder, Lascoff, LaWall, McCoy, Nelson, Roth, Seltzer, Simpson, Starr, Tatum, Underhill,[1] H. C. Wood, Jr., and C. B. Wood.

The General Chairman has announced to the members of the Sub-Committee on Scope, to the General Committee of Revision and again in this public statement, that a free discussion of these first decisions is earnestly desired, and that comments will be copied in the Circulars and referred to the Scope Sub-Committee for their further consideration. General statements are of little help to the Committee. Criticisms or comments should deal with specific items and offer, if possible, facts to support the opinion expressed.

In the case of the Pharmacopœia, the argument that a preparation is extensively used by physicians and therefore should be standardized, largely lost its force with the understanding in the Sub-Committee that a formula and standard would almost certainly be provided by the National Formulary if omitted from the U. S. P. This doubtless had its influence in deleting a preparation like the Infusion of Digitalis which Hatcher and others have shown to be unreliable, especially in view of the ample provision made for efficient digitalis medication through the introduction of the standardized powdered drug, the standardized tincture and a new hypodermic digitalis solution.

Deletions Proposed.—The following U. S. P. X titles, 108 in number, have not been admitted to the U. S. P. XI:

Aconitina
Antitoxinum Tetanicum Crudum
Benzaldehydum
Buchu
  Fluidextractum Buchu
Calcii Glycerophosphas
Calumba
  Tinctura Calumbæ
Cambogia
Cimicifuga
  Fluidextractum Cimicifugæ
Cinchonidinæ Sulphas
Colchici Cormus
  Extractum Colchici (Cormi)
  Fluidextractum Colchici (Seminis)
Colocynthis
  Extractum Colocynthidis
  Extractum Colocynthidis Compositum
Cotarninæ Chloridum
Cubeba
Elaterinum
Emplastrum Capsici
Emplastrum Plumbi Oleatis
Eucalyptus
  Fluidextractum Eucalypti
Ferri Carbonas Saccharatus
Ferri Chloridum
Ferri Phosphas Solubilis
Ferri Sulphas Exsiccatus
Fluidextractum Belladonnæ Foliorum
Fluidextractum Cinchonæ
Fluidextractum Hyoscyami
Fluidextractum Rhei
Fluidextractum Scillæ
Gambir
  Tinctura Gambir Composita
Glyceritum Phenolis
Granatum
  Fluidextractum Granati
Guaiacolis Carbonas
Hydrargyri Iodidum Rubrum
Hydrastis
  Fluidextractum Hydrastis
Hyoscyaminæ Hydrobromidum
Infusum Digitalis
Ipomea
  Resina Ipomœæ
Jalap
  Resina Jalapæ
Krameria
  Tinctura Krameriæ
Linimentum Calcis
Liquor Arsenii et Hydrargyri Iodidi
Liquor Ferri et Ammonii Acetatis
Liquor Plumbi Subacetatis
Liquor Potassii Arsenitis
Liquor Potassii Citratis
Liquor Potassii Hydroxidi
Liquor Sodæ Chlorinatæ
Liquor Sodii Hydroxidi
Liquor Zinci Chloridi
Lobelia

[1] Deceased, June 28, 1932.

Tinctura Lobeliæ
Manna
Mistura Glycyrrhizæ Composita
Morphinæ Hydrochloridum
Oleoresina Capsici
Oleum Cajuputi
Oleum Cari
Oleum Tiglii
Paraformaldehydum
Pepo
Phosphorus
Pilocarpinæ Hydrochloridum
Pilulæ Asafœtidæ
Pilulæ Hydrargyri Chloridi Mitis Compositæ
Pilulæ Phosphori
Plumbi Monoxidum
Pulvis Jalapæ Compositus
Pulvis Rhei Compositus
Quassia
Quininæ Hydrobromidum
Quininæ Hydrochloridum
Quininæ Tannas
Rhus Glabra
Fluidextractum Rhois Glabræ
Salicinum
Senega
Fluidextractum Senegæ
Syrupus Senegæ
Syrupus Scillæ Compositus
Strontii Salicylas
Strophanthus
Tinctura Strophanthi
Sulphonmethanum
Syrupus Rhei
Tinctura Asafœtidæ
Tinctura Cardamomi
Tinctura Cinchonæ
Tinctura Rhei
Tinctura Valerinæ Ammoniata
Trochisci Acidi Tannici
Trochisci Ammonii Chloridi
Ulmus
Unguentum Iodoformi
Unguentum Plumbi Oleatis
Uva Ursi
Fluidextractum Uvæ Ursi

New Admissions Proposed.—The following list is not yet the complete list, as some of the proposed items are being studied by the Sub-Committee on Therapeutics to determine the best form to admit, while others introduce legal complications, due to patents or trademarks, and these must be adjusted if the product is to be admitted.

The following twenty-five new titles have been proposed for admission.

Acriflavine
Antimiringococcus Serum
Antipneumococcus Serum—Type 1
Antiseptic Iodine Solution (exact formula to be determined)
Carbon Dioxide
Sodium iodoxyquinolinesulphonate
Digitalis Solution for Injection
Diphtheria Toxin for Schick Test
Diphtheria Toxoid
Emulsion of Mineral Oil
Ephedrine
Ephedrine Sulphate
Ethylene for Anesthesia
Fluorescein
Histamine Acid Phosphate
Solution of Histamine Acid Phosphate
Iron Arsenate (standardize for Ampul Manufacture)
Iron Arsenite (standardize for Ampul Manufacture)
Iron Citrate (Green) (standardize for Ampul Manufacture)
Liver Extract
Phenobarbitol Soluble
Rabies Vaccine
Tetraiodo-phenolphthalein Sodium
Tuberculin—Old
Typhoid Vaccine

A tentative summary of titles may be of interest: the U. S. P. X contains 622 titles of drugs, chemicals and preparations. The omission of 108 of these and the addition of from 25 to 50 new titles will still leave an extensive materia medica recognized by the Pharmacopœia, a list from which the medical profession should be able to select efficient and reliable medicines for almost every need. The 1932 British Pharmacopœia which has just appeared, contains 586 titles.

An Interim Revision.—Taking advantage of the authority granted the Committee of Revision by the Convention, it has been decided to announce new standards and assay methods for Cod Liver Oil and a modified manufacturing process for the Fluidextract of Ergot and for the Assay of Ergot.

In the case of Cod Liver Oil, each Gm. must contain the equivalent of not less than 400 Vitamin A units (see the 1931 A. D. M. A. Vitamin Report) and not less than 100 Vitamin D units (see the 1931 A. D. M. A. Vitamin Report) but the potency shall be expressed in terms of the internationally adopted Vitamin A and D standards.

The changes proposed under Fluidextract of Ergot have been shown to increase the permanency of the product and the assay changes render the assay more accurate.

The exact date for the announcement of these changes is still indefinite as the plan for the issuance of standards has had to be developed and the standards prepared. Those affected by change in the U. S. P. text for these products will, however, be given ample time for adjustment before the new standards go into effect and, in fact, most manufacturers are already familiar with the details of the proposed changes through wide publicity.

The Sub-Committees.—Every Sub-Committee has been actively at work during the year and the revision in every instance is well advanced.

Therapeutic and Posology questions are under the direction of Dr. Christian of Boston. Every question referred to his Sub-Committee has been handled with a promptness and definiteness which is most gratifying in revision work. A half-dozen problems have just been referred to this Sub-Committee by the recent Scope Conference, all dealing with possible new admissions, and these are all now under consideration.

The Pharmacopœia is fortunate in again having Dr. C. W. Edmunds, of Ann Arbor, as chairman of the Sub-Committee on Biologic Assays. He has organized a group of fourteen auxiliary members, all of whom are experts in bioassay methods and the U. S. P. assays are being studied and checked.

Biological Products are under the care of Dr. Goerge W. McCoy who is also the Director of the former "Hygienic Laboratory," now the Laboratory of the National Institute of Health. He has submitted to his Sub-Committee the proposed texts for all biological products proposed for inclusion, including the eight new biologicals only recently admitted.

Professor Newcomb, as chairman of the Sub-Committee on Botany and Pharmacognosy, reports that most of the drug texts are practically ready for submission to the General Committee. Questionnaires on U. S. P. drugs have been sent to a number of drug dealers and their suggestions and criticisms published in full in the Bulletins and considered in the make-up of the new texts.

The Sub-Committee on Proximate assays, under the chairmanship of Professor C. B. Jordan, has undertaken a thorough review of every U. S. P. X proximate assay and an investigation of other proposed methods. Already a number of special studies connected with the work of this Sub-Committee have been reported and published and others will be presented at this meeting of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION. Each drug is in charge of a special sub-group, with which a number of auxiliary members are associated.

The three Chemical Sub-Committees, Inorganic, with Dr. John C. Krantz, Jr., as chairman; the Organic, with Dr. George D. Beal as chairman; the Reagents and Test Solutions Committee with Dr. Ernest Little, as chairman, always carry a heavy responsibility. The work in all of these Sub-Committees is being conducted with a vigor and thoroughness which is most commendable. For the discussion of problems of common interest and to help in advancing the revision, this group of chairmen has been meeting with the General Chairman, for a day's conference, at least every three months. Most of the inorganic and organic texts assigned to these Sub-Committees and many of the reagents have been advanced to the General Committee and to a large group of auxiliary workers.

The reagents and test solutions have all been carefully reviewed and the few needed reagents added.

This chemical group has requested Dr. Krantz to prepare the new chapter on hydrogen ion and its determination and his report is now before the General Committee. There has been considerable discussion of the scope which this chapter should cover. The present plan is to briefly but quite fully discuss the modern conception of hydrogen ion and its determination. This has been somewhat criticized as unnecessarily detailed. It is also assumed that the specific application of similar readings to galenical preparations will be described as the exact adjustment

of the reactions of Fluidextract of Ergot and the Tincture of Digitalis and Aconite have been shown to be important factors in their preservation.

Surgical Solution of Chlorinated Soda introduces an interesting problem. If made by the U. S. P. process it is difficult to produce the perfection and exactness of strength which other processes insure, yet the U. S. P. method is a practical one for the pharmacist in the hospital or store. Shall the process be omitted and the more exacting standards established or shall the Pharmacopœia retain a method of manufacture and introduce the lower standards? Such problems are constantly faced by the Committee.

It has been considered desirable to omit all electrolytic assays since other methods, either volumetric or gravimetric, are believed to be preferable and equally accurate. Does this meet with general favor? A test for the presence of carbon monoxide has been introduced under Oxygen. A number of studies bearing upon questions in this field are being presented this year before the various A. PH. A. Sections.

All volatile oil tests have been revised and will be submitted in the next few weeks. The chairman, Professor Charles H. LaWall, has been especially studying the conditions under which the Oil of Lemon, now produced in enormous quantities in this country by mechanical processes, should be standardized. The process modifies some of the factors found in a hand-pressed Lemon Oil, especially the citral content, and this introduces commercial questions which are difficult to harmonize.

There are three Sub-Committees which handle the problems which are more specifically pharmaceutical. Professor Wilbur L. Scoville directs the revision of extracts, fluidextracts and tinctures; Dr. H. A. Langenhan is in charge of waters, solutions, spirits, syrups and elixirs; and Leonard A. Seltzer is chairman of the Sub-Committee responsible for ointments, cerates and miscellaneous galenicals.

In each of these groups there are difficult questions to be solved. How can Tincture of Cinchona be prevented from precipitating? What can be done to prevent deterioration of the preparations of such drugs as ergot, digitalis, aconite and many others? What shall be done about the citric acid content of Solution of Magnesium Citrate? Shall Ointment of Boric Acid be white? What is the answer to the need for permanency, absorbability when needed, and proper firmness in cold and hot climates, as characteristics of ointments? The Sub-Committees are struggling with such questions.

Tables, weights and measures in the Pharmacopœia always need careful revision. The chairman during the last revision, and again for this decade, is Professor Theodore J. Bradley. He has already reviewed every table and has been responsible for hundreds of recalculations but his final review on some questions must wait for the latest available atomic weight tables as issued internationally just prior to the publication of the U. S. P. XI.

Dr. A. G. DuMez has again undertaken the nomenclature problem and his Sub-Committee has already reviewed all but the recently admitted titles and these are now under way for presentation to his Sub-Committee members. One question especially of importance before this group is the study of synonyms. The Association of Law Enforcement Officials has asked that these be extended in the new Pharmacopœia, that official standards and control may be extended to products now using commonly understood synonyms which are not now included in the U. S. P.

The mention of the names of Sub-Committee Chairmen in this report does not imply that other members are not loyally and energetically active in the revision. Every effort is made to provide opportunities for work on the revision by every member and by a large group of auxiliary workers and most of the members respond to this appeal.

In presenting this report no attempt has been made to discuss details of activity or to explain decisions. It is planned that ultimately each Sub-Committee Chairman will be given an opportunity to briefly set forth the reasons for important changes in the articles under his supervision but the time for that has not yet come. This is rather an acknowledgment of the splendid coöperation given by the Board of Trustees and all of the Sub-Committees in the current revision of the U. S. P. and the valuable aid offered by the various associated groups, especially the Food and Drug Administration, the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION Committees, the American Drug Manufacturers' Association and the American Pharmaceutical Manufacturers' Association Committees and the vitamin experts of this country and Europe.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PHARMACOLOGY AND BIOASSAYS.

The bioassay of two samples "A" and "B" of Tincture of Digitalis by the U. S. P. X one-hour frog method was continued during the last year. At the time of manufacture a portion of Tincture "A" was diluted by the addition of 70% alcohol to produce Tincture "B" which was 70% of the potency of Tincture "A." These tinctures were bottled in (1) amber, (2) blue, (3) colorless flint one-ounce bottles, and stored at room temperature. Re-assays have been made from time to time to determine the change in potency.

The results of assays made during the last three months have not shown as good an agreement as expected, knowing the accuracy of this assay method. It is recommended that these six tinctures be assayed once more in February 1933, when they will be four years old. This information obtained by all collaborators simultaneously should suffice to close this deterioration study, so far as may be anticipated at present.

Clinical coöperation in comparing tinctures of digitalis of different strengths is under way and it is expected that results will be reported next year.

Letters have been written to about one hundred persons active in pharmacology and bioassays throughout the world, requesting autographed photographs, a bibliography of their publications pertaining to bioassays, and their own personal opinions regarding their most important work. To date replies have been received from 25 active workers and further replies are expected when the various university men return from their vacations. It is expected to use this information for the basis for compilation of a "Who's Who in Bioassays."

Individual members of this committee have taken part in a series of coöperative investigations for other associations in connection with the revision of the United States Pharmacopœia and the National Formulary.

(Signed) JAMES C. MUNCH, *Chairman* L. W. ROWE
C. A. MORRELL E. E. SWANSON.

ARMY PHARMACY IN AUSTRALIA.

In this comment an article of the *Australasian Journal of Pharmacy* and another by a correspondent of the *Pharmaceutical Journal and Pharmacist* are embodied. On Anzac Day of this year Major Cossar, senior pharmaceutical staff officer, addressed the students of the Victorian College of Pharmacy on the part played in the Great War by pharmacists of the Australian Forces. At the beginning of the War the pharmaceutical service in the Australian Forces was no better than that in the British; "men who had no pharmaceutical training were in charge of dispensaries, while fully qualified pharmacists were privates under them." Major Cossar told the students of the successful efforts made to remedy this state of affairs, and to obtain recognition by the military authorities of the position and qualifications of the pharmacist.

"What Major Cossar and his colleagues achieved was the appointment of a senior pharmaceutical officer with the rank of captain in each military district. Then the placing of pharmacists in charge of dispensaries, and the granting of the rank of staff-sergeant to all pharmacists carrying out dispensing duties in the A. I. F. Pharmacists were placed in charge of all base depots of medical stores and of the central depot. At the front pharmacists alone were permitted to be in charge of medical stores; pharmacists in charge of the dispensaries of hospitals with over 200 beds were gazetted lieutenants, and the dispensers in charge of medical stores on hospital ships were given commissioned rank. To secure these reforms was, as Major Cossar said, "a slow, hard fight," but they were secured, and the men who were promoted so proved their worth that the position of the Australian pharmacist in the forces was consolidated. They have an officer on the staff of the Director-General of Medical Stores, a senior pharmaceutical officer in each military district, and officers on the reserve."

Dr. Haven Emerson, New York, was named president-elect of the American Public Health Association at the close of the annual session in Washington, D. C. Dr. John A. Ferrel, New York, was installed as president. Vice-presidents elected were Drs. Arthur T. McCormack, Louisville; John Sundwall, Ann Arbor, and William P. Shepard, San Francisco. Indianapolis was chosen as the next meeting place.

SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR USE OF THE PRESCRIPTION ANALYSIS.*

BY F. A. DELGADO.

It is conceded that both the manufacturer and wholesaler are concerned in any economic loss which is suffered by the pharmacist due to the excessive cost of handling slow-moving prescription items. Too many products are a major trade evil. It has been found that manufacturers' trade-named pharmaceutical specialties will probably account for from 35 to 45 per cent of the pharmacist prescription department investment, although only accounting for 20.5 per cent of the ingredients used in filling prescriptions.

The question naturally arises, is the retailer turning these items over a sufficiently number of times a year to warrant the investment? The specialty manufacturer is desirous of introducing any new product that will give him the volume which he is seeking. On the other hand, if manufacturers continue to bring out new products regardless of any uniqueness or greater efficacy than those already on the market, he is not only not improving his own position but he is creating a hardship for the pharmacist.

The conduct of the prescription phase of the survey has brought to light a condition that the specialty manufacturer will probably appreciate being brought to his attention, and that is the scarcity of convenient information and reference to the numerous existing specialties. This inconvenience is not felt so much by the professional pharmacies that have a large enough turnover in the items to be familiar with them, but it is a decided problem to the majority of the 60,000 retail pharmacists who while only filling around 10 prescriptions a day each, nevertheless feel called upon to have at their finger tips for themselves and physician patrons detailed information regarding the name, price, form or forms, active ingredients, and therapeutic action of the manufacturer's specialty.

It is true that some manufacturers announce the introduction of any new product in trade journals or their individual house organs, but with the multiplicity of tasks that confront the average pharmacist he does not always have time to scan and file this material. Furthermore, there is no uniformity in size of this literature, nor does he often receive a prescription calling for a specialty simultaneous with the receipt of its announcement in a house organ or trade journal. It might be argued that upon the receipt of a prescription calling for a specialty with which he is not familiar, he can run through his literature and see if he could not locate it. Obviously, this is not expedient. Or it might be suggested that he consult one of the trade directories such as he is furnished with along with his subscription to a trade journal. Many reasons might be stated why this is often not productive of results. One such reason and an important one from the manufacturer's viewpoint is that even if he succeeded in locating it in a trade journal, the information would only give him the price, the name of the product, and the name of the manufacturer, but would fail to give him any information regarding its form or forms, its composition, and its therapeutic effect, and not infrequently he is asked these very questions by a physician. He is placed in an unfavorable light in the eyes of the physician or perhaps the physician writes a prescription for another ingredient that the pharmacist has readily available, in which case all the time and expense that the manufacturer has gone into in detailing the physician is lost.

It has been suggested that both manufacturers and pharmacists would mutually benefit if all of the pharmaceutical specialty manufacturers would join in designing a uniform size card, approximately the size of a post card or smaller, upon which would be printed the essential details regarding any new trade-named specialty that they contemplated introducing.

The method for distributing this card to the pharmacist could be through several mediums, such as, for example, in an envelope under one-cent postage, or through one of the national retail druggist associations, such as the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION or The National Association of Retail Druggists, or through the medium of the wholesaler. Numerous other methods will suggest themselves. The entertainment of the suggestion should include a consideration of a suitable case or box into which the cards could be filed.

It is not believed that the expense of such an undertaking would be disproportionate to the benefit to be derived by all concerned, and it would seem to coördinate with the manufacturer's detailing programs.

---

* Section on Commercial Interests.

The pharmacist's references at present include such textbooks and books of standards as The United States Pharmacopœia, The National Formulary, a dispensatory, New and Unofficial Remedies. The execution of the plan outlined above would fill the gap and complete the sources of information he could refer to when seeking information regarding a prescription ingredient.

Constant use was made of Trade and Commodity directories during the conduct of the survey. Without their aid the difficulties of commodity classification would have been greatly increased. However, constant and frequent reference to such publications suggested that their value would be greatly enhanced if the toilet preparations were separated from the proprietary medicines, and if the proprietary medicines were arranged in two sections, one section to embrace proprietary medicines of the type largely advertised and intended for consumer demand, and the other to embrace manufacturers' pharmaceutical trade-named specialties primarily intended to be dispensed on physicians' prescriptions. This comment is merely made in passing and for any consideration that it may entitle.

With the thought in mind that some concrete benefits to the pharmacist will come out of the findings of this survey, it has been suggested that a tentative plan of a model prescription department for the usual commercial type pharmacy be drawn up, the stock to be based on the study of the ingredients occurring in the 23,963 prescriptions studied for the 13 commercial type stores. This list should be checked against the list of the U. S. P. and N. F. Revision Committee, which has been drawn from approximately 100,000 prescriptions widely scattered over the country, and list impartially all ingredients regardless of their type in order of the frequency of their occurrence. Outstanding leaders of pharmacy have expressed great interest, and, providing satisfactory arrangements can be made, have suggested the Pharmaceutical Headquarters Building—the American Institute of Pharmacy, in Washington, as an ideal spot in which to set up this hypothetical prescription department.

No attempt will be made in this report to outline in detail the benefits that would accrue to pharmacists if this plan can be successfully carried out. In brief, however, it would, among other things, show the investment required in chemicals, proprietaries, galenicals and other prescription items, as well as prescription equipment and containers. It would give consideration to space for products such as essential oils subject to deterioration on exposure to light. It would furnish the basic material around which could be planned the most efficient and convenient arrangement of the prescription stock and the space required for its placement. The stock arrangement would be based on the frequency with which the ingredients occurred in the study. Those occurring the greatest number of times would be placed most convenient to the prescription counter. The space for equipment and containers would be allocated according to the forms most used for prescriptions, as brought out by the National Drug Store Survey. Among other uses, the model prescription department would serve as an indicator for the pharmacist giving his opening order of prescription stock and equipment. The novice proprietor frequently overstocks on his opening order for his prescription department.

It is also possible that the execution of the plan would solve the problem of separating from the prescription room the following: clerical and bookkeeping activities, unpacking and checking of incoming goods, the storage of soda fountain syrups, fruits and bottle beverages, and the manufacture of salads, sandwiches and other fountain foodstuffs. It is extremely difficult for a pharmacist to win the confidence of physicians, and thus to build up a profitable doctor-pharmacist relationship, if the prescription room resembles a composite warehouse, kitchen and untidy office, rather than a laboratory where the pharmacist fills prescriptions and carries on other activities requiring professional skill and knowledge. To paraphrase a well-known publisher's slogan, the model prescription department might be styled "A five-foot ingredient shelf."

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE WILLIAM PROCTER, JR. MEMORIAL FUND.

The Committee on the William Procter, Jr. Memorial Fund can only repeat its report of last year, when it suggested that the Procter monument shall be erected in connection with the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION Headquarters Building in Washington, D. C. Inasmuch as the Committee on Plans will soon take action on this proposal, the William Procter, Jr. Memorial Committee would report progress. JAMES E. HANCOCK, *Chairman.*