

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to the Association and Branches shall become the property of the Association with the understanding that they are not to be published in any other publication prior to their publication in those of the Association, except with the consent of the Council."—Part of Chapter VI, Article VI of the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 meeting 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 Baltimore Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION held its regular monthly meeting at the Emerson Hotel, Tuesday, November 22, 1932. Dr. Harry S. Harrison, vice-president of the Baltimore Branch and retail pharmacist of wide experience, was the speaker of the occasion and had for his subject: "Prevailing Present-Day Conditions in the Retail Drug Business."

Dr. Harrison attributed the numerous evils besetting the retailer to three main causes: The invasion of the drug field by the chain store, the rapid increase of the drug store to population ratio in many urban centers, and lastly, the present economic depression.

The chain store by predatory merchandising methods has just about destroyed the price structure in many lines, while the increase in the number of stores has meant keener competition and less volume for every one, according to Dr. Harrison. In addition, the present depression has caused a sufficient slump in the buying power of the public to create an alarming condition for many retailers.

Dr. Harrison urged a resurvey of the drug field, with a view to controlling or, where possible, lessening the number of stores. He emphasized the need for greater coöperation among the independent retailers. Finally, he stressed as most important the necessity of developing proper contacts with neighboring physicians and of urging them to prescribe U. S. P. and N. F. products rather than patent and proprietary medicines of uncertain composition.

Dr. Harrison's paper was discussed by Doctors Swain and Kelly, the former elaborating upon the drug store population ratio as applied to Baltimore and to Maryland, the latter giving some very interesting figures from the recent St. Louis Drug Store Survey.

WM. F. REINDOLLAR, *Secretary-Treasurer.*

CHICAGO.

The 208th meeting of the Chicago Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held at the University of Illinois College of Pharmacy, Tuesday, November 15, 1932. The meeting was opened by the president, R. E. Terry.

The speaker of the evening was Dr. Lanwermyer of the Abbott Laboratories. Dr. Lanwermyer, of the Abbott Laboratories, in conjunction with Parke, Davis & Company, worked out a process by which the oil of the halibut liver could be extracted and used for its high vitamin A and D content.

The history of the "Haliver Oil" was discussed from the beginning of research work to the finished product.

A résumé of the discovery and use of vitamins was given. The vitamins were first thought to be amines, but it now is known that they are not amines.

During the early use of cod liver oil in the European countries the benefits derived from its use were supposed to come from the small amount of iodine that it contained. This was disproved, however. Various theories were propounded as to the cause for its known therapeutic value.

In 1919 two individual active substances were separated. They were called vitamins A and D. Up until last January the chief source of both vitamins A and D was cod liver oil.

In 1929 research workers were able to radiate a sterol and produce vitamin D. The vitamin D was now given in drop doses, but not the vitamin A, so a source of vitamin A that could be given with D in drop doses was looked for. The result is halibut liver oil, known to the public as "Haliver Oil."

Vitamin D seems to work synergistically with vitamin A, hence the desire to administer the two vitamins in the same preparation.

Halibut liver oil contains from 100 to 200 times the vitamin A units of cod liver oil and from 15 to 20 times the vitamin D units.

The Abbott Laboratories and Parke, Davis & Company started to work on halibut liver oil at about the same time, so they decided to pool their research work, a commendable action by two large competitive pharmaceutical houses. They found that the oil from the halibut liver could not be extracted as easily as the oil from the cod liver. Cod liver oil is extracted simply by the use of steam, while the oil from the halibut liver must be extracted by the use of a solvent.

Trouble was experienced in procuring true samples of halibut livers, so Dr. Lanwer-meyer was delegated to spend a summer off the coast of Alaska with the fishermen to supervise the salvaging of the livers. He gave us a very interesting story of his experiences as a deep sea fisherman.

The halibut weigh from 20 to 400 pounds. They are caught on the bottom of the ocean at a depth of about 1500 feet. The liver weighs about 1% of the body weight and contains about one-half as much oil as the cod liver. The theory is that the halibut has just as much vitamin A and D stored up as the cod, but they are more concentrated.

The livers were packed in ice and shipped to Chicago and Detroit, where the extracting is done and the vitamin content is adjusted. The oil is placed on the market in 5-cc. and 50-cc. bottles and in an elastic capsule. The oil in the capsule is diluted with a vegetable oil so that a larger, more accurate 5-minim capsule can be made.

The large group of members and visitors gave Dr. Lanwer-meyer a standing vote of thanks for his exceptionally vivid presentation of the subject.

LAWRENCE TEMPLETON, *Secretary*.

NEW YORK.

The meeting of the New York Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION to discuss the Proposed Deletions from the United States Pharmacopœia was held on Monday, November 14th, at the College of Pharmacy, Columbia University. About 100 pharmacists were present.

Owing to the length of the program, the minutes of the last meeting were taken as read.

Chairman Lehman, of the Committee on Education and Legislation, reported that the matter concerning the Hewitt Laboratories' advertising, which was discussed at the last meeting, had been turned over to the executive secretary of the New York Pharmaceutical Conference. Referring to national legislation, he said that there was some possibility of the Capper-Kelly Bill being brought up at the short session of Congress.

Dr. Mayer, for the Audit Committee, reported that he had passed on all bills submitted to him.

Chairman Miller, of the Membership Committee, presented the names of A. Margulis, C. Silkes and B. Lichtenstein for membership in the Branch; these were approved.

President Fischelis introduced Chairman E. Fullerton Cook, of the U. S. P. Revision Committee, who had been invited to address the meeting on the subject of the deletions.

Professor Cook said that he would speak as the chairman of the Revision Committee and would consider the subject as a whole rather than give the point of view of the Committee on Scope. He stated that New York had always taken part in the making of the Pharmacopœia and referred to the three-day journey of Lyman Spalding, the father of the Pharmacopœia, from New York to Washington in 1820, to attend the Pharmacopœial Convention. He invited all present to express their opinions very frankly and to submit them in writing to the Revision Committee.

Professor Cook then continued in part, as follows:

"The services of the United States Pharmacopœia are varied, but it was founded by physicians, primarily for physicians, and all other services, while of themselves important, are only incidental and only of value to the degree to which the Pharmacopœia carries out its first function.

"For the physician it should provide a list of selected and therapeutically useful and reliable medicinal agents of established strength and

purity. It should also provide official titles under which these substances may be identified and prescribed.

"If the Pharmacopœia fails to meet this objective, and if it does not receive the approval and have the confidence of the medical profession, its publication is useless.

"The U. S. P. of 1820 set as its first requirement for admission that the substance 'possess medicinal power,' the U. S. P. Convention of 1930 re-adopted the principle that any substance to be admitted to the U. S. P. XI must be 'therapeutically useful,' and by this standard must the reputation and the value of the Pharmacopœia be measured by the physician.

"There is a second specification, namely, that the 'utility of those substances admitted must be fully established and best understood' (1820) or that it be 'sufficiently used in medical practice within the United States' (1930). This is again a limiting principle but this is definitely qualified by the first requirement, namely, that its medicinal importance must be fully established.

"The import of all of this would seem to be that the Pharmacopœia of any decade stands or falls to just the degree to which it conforms to the needs of the medical profession of that period.

"Can the Pharmacopœia hope to retain its peculiar status as an authoritative list of therapeutic agents if it does not periodically eliminate those substances which have become obsolete or which can be replaced by newer therapeutic agents of greater efficiency?

"In every decade there are certain to be differences of opinion concerning the items considered worthy of admission to the Pharmacopœia, for the decision must be based upon different kinds and degrees of knowledge and experience. However, the present Sub-Committee on Scope is making an earnest effort to obtain the facts controlling admission, from the widest possible field, and their final recommendations may represent the mature judgment of those best qualified to express an authoritative opinion on the question.

"I am taking the liberty of quoting from a letter recently written by a prominent pharmacist concerning the question of the proposed deletions from the U. S. P. X. He expresses a viewpoint which is worthy of thoughtful consideration by every pharmacist interested in prescription filling. He writes:

"I realize that at times we pharmacists have taken the attitude that we are being

deprived of something when a product at one time in wide use and possibly still used to a considerable extent is deleted from the U. S. P., but I am not so sure we are seeing clearly when we take that attitude. Recognition in the U. S. P. gives the product a certain amount of standing and prestige. To perpetuate this for products unworthy of it would probably be unwise, because it would ultimately damage the reputation of other drugs recognized in the Pharmacopœia and it would also be likely to unnecessarily increase the variety of products which the pharmacist has to carry, be familiar with and either produces himself or obtains through manufacturers. In view of the much greater scrutiny exercised by Federal departments over the quality of drugs available in the market to-day, it is particularly to the advantage of all of us who are interested in pharmacy to eliminate from use products which are unstable, provided of course that equally satisfactory therapeutic agents of a stable variety are available. Where the latter is not the case, we have to do the necessary research work to learn how to either stabilize or satisfactorily replace the unstable material. It, further, would appear that in view of the very broad training that a medical student has to receive under present-day conditions there is a distinct advantage in not unnecessarily multiplying the number of remedial agents. These serve definite and useful therapeutic purposes, as a physician who knows a limited number of drugs well and understands what can be accomplished by them will certainly be a very much better prescription writer and use these drugs more than a physician who has an insufficient knowledge about a great many drugs so that he does not know how to satisfactorily use any of them and because of this does not get the results and is led into methods of treatment which may not be entirely satisfactory. Thus he unfairly eliminates the use of drugs from his practice to a degree not warranted. I believe that the retail pharmacist and all others connected with pharmacy will profit from a more limited number of good drugs recognized by the U. S. P. and N. F. than if too great a variety of drugs is recognized including some products of doubtful stability and value.'

"The present plan of revision would seem to offer unusually fair and unbiased conditions for establishing this basis of judgment. The program which is being carried through for deciding this question is as follows:

"1. The 'Sub-Committee on Scope,' made up of the 18 physicians on the Committee of Revision and 5 of the pharmacists, was appointed when the General Committee was organized.

"2. Every title in the U. S. P. X was read in a personal conference of the Scope Sub-Committee, and all titles receiving unanimous approval were immediately admitted to the U. S. P. XI. Over 350 titles were included at this first meeting which followed immediately after the close of the Convention.

"3. The remaining titles were then arranged in groups of about thirty titles each and submitted to the Sub-Committee for discussion, then the full discussion on each title was sent to the Sub-Committee members and a vote called. All titles receiving at this time a two-third vote (16 votes) for either admission or deletion were considered settled.

"4. The titles not receiving a two-third vote in this second consideration were re-submitted for discussion, the detailed arguments and references to previous discussions were once more sent to the members and a vote taken. In this vote, a majority of the members of the Sub-Committee (12 or more) was accepted as a decision, either for admission or deletion.

"5. The titles not settled by this third consideration were once more re-submitted by mail for discussion and the new comments on each title issued in the Bulletins, but the vote was not taken until the Sub-Committee was called into personal conference when they were again discussed and a new vote taken. On this fourth vote, a majority (12 votes) was necessary to decide. Two such personal conferences have been held during the past year.

"6. The next step is now under way. Those titles of the U. S. P. X not receiving a majority of votes in the Sub-Committee on Scope for admission to the Eleventh Revision have been submitted to the physicians and pharmacists of the country for review. In carrying out this plan such a meeting as is held here to-night is very helpful."

(Chairman Cook gave assurance that any recommendations or criticisms sent to the office of the General Chairman will be placed before the members of the General Committee of Revision and of the Sub-Committee on Scope and that the Sub-Committee will give further consideration to every recommendation. Such comments should be specific; general statements are not helpful. He then

explained factors in determining admissions to the Pharmacopœia.)

(For want of space in this issue of the JOURNAL the following is given in a condensed form—the *first figure* represents the number of times used in 10,000 prescriptions. The Sub-Committee on Scope is made up of 18 physicians and 5 pharmacists—the numbers following the *first figure* represent the vote on deletions; the first number is favorable for retention, the second for deletion.)

Fldext. Buchu¹ 2. 4-17. Calc. Glycerophos. 7. 6-13. Cinchonid. Sulph. 14. 4-16. Ext. Colocyn. 9. 4. Elaterin 1.1. 8-12. Ferr. Carb. Sacch. 21.4. 4-16. Ferr. Phos. Sol. 2.9. 9-11. Ferr. Sulph. Exsic. 1.8. 6-14. Fldext. Scill. 1.7. 0-19. Glycer. Phenol. 11.4. 0-18. Guaiacol Carb. 28.7. 2-18. Hydrarg. Iod. Rub. 6. 4-16. Inf. Dig. 4-14. Liq. Arsen. et Hydrarg. Iod. 2-18. Liq. Ferr. et Ammon. Acet. 22. 3-15. Liq. Plumb. Subacet. 6. 5-15. Liq. Pot. Arsen. 73, deletion apparently unanimous. Liq. Pot. Cit. 4.7. 1-15. Tinct. Lobel. 11.2. 5-15. Mist. Glycyrrh. Co. 89. 0-16. Morph. Hydrochl. 6. 0-16. Ol. Tigl. 1. 2-14. Pilocarpin. Hydrochl. 21.5. 2-18. Quin. Hydrochl. 11. 6-10. Stront. Salicyl. 11. 3-17. Tinct. Cinch. 2. 5-14. Ung. Plumb. Ol. 3.7. 3-12.

Chairman Cook discussed the services the Pharmacopœia may render, its place in laws, to protect the public from injudicious use of active medicinal substances, and as a formula book. He referred to working formulas in the Pharmacopœia and cited Solution of Magnesium Citrate as an example—that all pharmacists did not take advantage of the opportunities offered by the Pharmacopœia for manufacturing.

He closed by remarks on extending the use of pharmacopœial medicinals and invited coöperation in the following words:

"Physicians and pharmacists are invited to coöperate in this effort to produce in our next Pharmacopœia a standard and guide of the greatest value to every interest concerned. Its foundation must be established in scientific truth, the best our research age has produced, and its objective must primarily be the benefit of the sick and the maintenance of health. Such a position shall be unassailable and cannot but advance the interest of every one unselfishly aiding in its promotion."

¹ Explanation: Fldext. Buchu, used twice in 10,000 prescriptions; 4 favorable for retention, 17 for deletion.

The president thanked Professor Cook for his instructive address.

President Walter A. Bastedo, of the U. S. P. XI Pharmacopœial Convention and a member of the Sub-Committee on Scope, was called upon to give his opinion, as a medical man, on the proposed deletions. He said that Chairman Cook had given the views of the medical men on the Sub-Committee on Scope very fairly indeed. He wanted to hear what the pharmacists at this meeting had to say about the deletions. Medical men felt that the Pharmacopœia should represent the authoritative opinion of medical men of to-day in the selection of medicinal agents. Dr. Bastedo said that the pharmacist dealt with three classes of preparations: (1) those recognized as best of their class by the highest medical authorities; these should be included in the U. S. P.; (2) those prescribed but not included in the U. S. P.; these should be taken care of in the N. F.; (3) those not prescribed but called for by the laity; these could be contained in the Recipe Book. He said that what was wanted was that physicians should prescribe things that required compounding in a pharmacy and he stressed the point that the U. S. P. was the book from which professors of medicine taught their students about medicinal substances, which had been selected by the U. S. P. with a great deal of care and on the highest authority; if medical men knew the U. S. P. they would write prescriptions. If the idea that the U. S. P. represented the highest thought was taken away, medical men would at once lose faith in it and teachers would fail to teach it.

President Fischelis thanked Dr. Bastedo and called upon J. Leon Lascoff, a pharmacist on the Sub-Committee on Scope, to present his paper.

Dr. Lascoff said that on the list sent out by Dr. Arny are 108 items proposed for deletion; he had voted for a majority of them for retention. The Committee has been guided in its work by two principles: Therapeutic usefulness, and pharmaceutical necessity. He named a number of items retained for these qualifications. Of the 108 items on Dr. Arny's list, in his opinion at least the following chemicals and galenicals should be retained: Calcium glycerophosphate, saccharated ferrous carbonate, guaiacol carbonate, red iodide of mercury, infusion of digitalis, solution of iron and ammonium acetate, solution of potassium arsenite, quinine hydrochloride, strontium

salicylate, syrup of senega, tincture of strophanthus, ammoniated tincture of valerian, lead oxide, ointment of lead oleate, fluidextract of rhubarb, compound glycyrrhiza mixture. He mentioned that among the preparations recommended for deletions are a number of preparations that have been in the Pharmacopœia since the beginning. In his opinion all preparations of the list should be retained. He referred to the New York survey published in the JOURNAL A. PH. A. for March, 1932.

Dr. Lascoff hoped that under the chairmanship of Professor Cook the U. S. P. XI would be the best ever published, and that a number of those scheduled for deletion will be retained.

At this point on the program, Dr. H. V. Arny, a member of the U. S. P. Revision Committee, and Dean of the Columbia University College of Pharmacy, who had originated the idea for the meeting and had circularized a questionnaire concerning the Proposed Deletions, was called to the platform to give a summary of the replies to his questionnaire.

Dr. Arny said: "Before I give my results, I should like to say, concerning the list of proposed deletions, that it has already produced some surprise on the part of pharmacists, not only because of its length but also because of the fact that many old-time pharmaceuticals are sentenced to 'walk the plank.' What I say now is intended as a neutral presentation of facts and I shall not therefore single out any of the list of deletions for personal comments.

"Perhaps it is true, as our medical friends of the Sub-Committee on Scope claim, that the deleted preparations represent now repudiated phases of therapeutics. Perhaps the oft-repeated statement, 'These will go into the N. F. anyway,' is a sound and logical way to view the situation. Perhaps the experience of the practical retail pharmacist is that the preparations proposed for deletion are becoming obsolete. To these statements, I will, at this time, say neither 'yea' nor 'nay' although I have very strong personal views as to some items on the list of proposed deletions. At this time, as a member of the U. S. P. Revision Committee from the New York district I consider that I am possessor of a grave responsibility toward my constituents, the retail pharmacists of Greater New York."

The results of the questionnaire were now given by Dr. Arny in tabulated form, based on 92 returns on the list of 108 proposed deletions.

(The list represented is before the N. F. Committee for consideration.)

Dr. Army concluded by reading the comments that were sent in with the replies to the questionnaire; these came from some of the largest prescription pharmacies in New York City, neighboring cities of New Jersey and from outlying points on Long Island, and upstate New York. Twenty of the comments showed strong disapproval of a number of the proposed deletions and three favored all the deletions in general terms.

The next speaker, Dr. Eugene F. DuBois, a member of the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry of the American Medical Association, spoke on the deletions from the physician's point of view. He said that he had only seen four of the items on the list used in teaching the internes of the New York Hospitals, among these being Fowler's Solution, Brown Mixture and Jalap; he referred to the use of powdered Digitalis in place of preparations of the drug. He mentioned the fact that he was a member of a committee which had recently revised the New York Hospitals' Formulary and that, having gone through formulary revision in miniature, he had the deepest sympathy for the Committee on Scope.

Before opening the meeting for general discussion, President Fischelis read the following extract from a letter from Chairman Gathercoal, of the Committee of Revision of the N. F. "We have already laid this list of 108 deleted U. S. P. items before the N. F. Committee, asking them for an expression of opinion as to which should be admitted to the N. F. Answers so far received would indicate that quite a good many are not favored, even for the N. F. I should like to lay the results of the Army questionnaire before the N. F. Committee."

Dr. William C. Anderson, a member of the State Board of Pharmacy and dean of the Brooklyn College of Pharmacy, said that, in regard to the deletions, it had been suggested that they should be transferred to the N. F. but he did not consider this satisfactory. He mentioned the fact that medicinal items, in increasing numbers, were sold on news-stands and said that present tendencies might take away the right under the law to confine the sale of certain items to the drug store. He felt that the physicians on the Sub-Committee on Scope were encouraging self-medication by their policy of deleting so many items from the Pharmacopœia at each revision. He said

that the Pharmacopœia was instituted for the protection of the public and that deletions were taking away the standards for the drugs; he would like to ask the question, "Can any harm be done by leaving the items proposed for deletion in the next Pharmacopœia?" In closing he said that he felt that a most serious time had been reached and that the revisers of the Pharmacopœia should listen to the voice of the pharmacists of the country.

Mr. Seley spoke against the deletion of several of the items on the list and mentioned the large prescription demand for Infusion of Buchu in his pharmacy.

Secretary Kassner said that it was claimed by the medical men on the Sub-Committee that "the deleted preparations represented repudiated phases of therapeutics" and that "the Pharmacopœia should only contain the reliable pharmaceutical agents of our time;" in connection with this it was interesting to note that, of the proposed U. S. P. deletions, there were 46 identical or equivalent items included in the New British Pharmacopœia which had just become official for the British Empire; also that of 25 proposed admissions to the U. S. P. 11 were contained in the B. P. 1932. He suggested that the new U. S. P. should contain, like the new B. P., a standardized Powdered Digitalis (No. 20 powder) which could be made into capsules by the retail pharmacist; also an antiseptic solution which should be the equal of, or superior to, any proprietary article of its kind.

Mr. Kopald said that this was an age of mass production and the deletions from the Pharmacopœia seemed to have been carried out on this scale and that he could not see how pharmacists could make an effective stand on the deletions when they were outvoted on the Committee on Scope in the ratio of 18 physicians to 5 pharmacists. He spoke strongly against the deletion of a number of items.

Dr. Mayer pointed out that the assay for Fowler's Solution and Donovan's Solution should also contain the estimation of total arsenic present.

Prof. H. Raubenheimer said that he had studied the Gathercoal and St. Louis Drug Surveys and had found deductions made from them misleading; he would like to know whether there was always a drug to take the place of one deleted from the Pharmacopœia. He urged pharmacists to detail physicians on U. S. P. and N. F. items.

Pharmacist H. Bischoff, of the Hudson

County Hospital of New Jersey, said that a few years ago he brought to the attention of the hospital authorities the fact that they could save money by prescribing U. S. P. preparations rather than proprietary items; he, in cooperation with the medical staff, had produced a highly endorsed formulary of U. S. P. and N. F. preparations. He stressed the point that a doctor was taught how to prescribe when he was an interne and if pharmacists were interested in increasing the writing of prescriptions, they should concentrate their U. S. P. and N. F. propaganda upon the hospital internes.

Mr. Heimerzheim spoke of the work of the Kings County Pharmaceutical Society on U. S. P. and N. F. propaganda during the last 25 years; he found that a large number of Brooklyn physicians welcomed the help and information that was given; he further said that he had had many letters from physicians saying that the medical societies should be active in promoting the use of U. S. P. and N. F. remedies. He hoped that at least the first 38 items, as tabulated in the Army questionnaire, would not be deleted. (The first 38 items of the questionnaire, together with the number representing those of the 92 reporters in favor of retention, follow: Mist. Glycyrrh. Comp., 85; Liq. Potas. Arsenitis, 84; Liq. Ferr. et Am. Acet., 82; Infusum Digitalis, 81; Linimentum Calcis, 69; Guaiacolis Carbonas, 68; Pil. Hydr. Chlor. Mit., Co., 65; Syrupus Scillæ Co., 60; Fluidext. Senegæ, 57; Syrupus Senegæ, 57; Fluidext. Rhei, 54; Tinct. Valerian. Amm., 54; Tinct. Lobeliæ, 53; Fluidext. Hydrastis, 52; Pilocarpine Hydrochlor., 51; Quininæ Hydrochlor., 51; Liq. Plumbi Subacet., 48; Fluidext. Belladonnæ, 47; Tinct. Strophanthi, 47; Syrupus Rhei, 47; Buchu, 46; Ferri Carbonas Sacch., 46; Fluidext. Hyoscyami, 44; Quininæ Hydrobromid., 44; Fluidext. Scillæ, 43; Tinct. Cinchonæ, 43; Liq. Potass. Citratis, 41; Calcii Glycero-phosph., 40; Liq. Arsen. et Hydr. Iod., 39; Fluidext. Buchu, 38; Ferri Sulphas Exsicc., 37; Tinct. Rhei, 37; Hydrastis, 35; Hydrar. Iodid. Rubrum, 34; Fluidext. Colchici (Sem), 31; Ferri Phosph. Solub., 30; Fluidext. Cinchonæ, 30; Strontii Salicylas, 30.)

Dr. O. Raubenheimer spoke against the deletion of Rhubarb preparations in particular and said that Carron Oil was used by the gallon in the treatment of sunburn. He felt that the surveys of Ebert—1885, Hallberg—1895, Hallberg-Snow—1909, Charters—1927 and Gather-

coal—1931, which were being used by the Revision Committees were faulty since they pertained to prescription use only and not to counter sale, and that no statistical data were being used regarding the retail sale of such items as Compound Cathartic Pills and Brown Mixture, for which there was a large demand at the counter. He urged that standards for drugs or their preparations that were once official in the Pharmacopœia should persist after they were deleted, and these should be enforced by the U. S. Food and Drug Administration; this was the only way in which the general public could be protected and assured of products of quality.

Professor Cook replied to many of the questions that had been raised during the general discussion and mentioned the names of a number of trade-marked items which the Revision Committee was considering for the Pharmacopœia. In conclusion he read a statement from the U. S. P. of 1820 in which the policy of the Pharmacopœia was outlined.

Professor Canis moved that a rising vote of thanks be given to Professor Cook, Dr. Bastedo, Dr. DuBois, Dean Army, Dr. Lascoff and others who took part in the meeting; this was seconded and carried.

HERBERT C. KASSNER, *Secretary.*

PHILADELPHIA.

The November meeting of the Philadelphia Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held on Tuesday evening, November 15, 1932, at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, Philadelphia.

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 P.M. and the reading of the minutes of the October meeting was waived, due to previous publication. It was with pleasure that the announcement was made at this time of the appointment of Dr. H. E. Kendig, Dean of the School of Pharmacy of Temple University, to the local branch Committee on Professional Relations.

President Stoneback introduced Dr. Henry Arnstein, well-known consulting chemist, industrial engineer and international authority on the production of industrial alcohol, as guest speaker. Dr. Arnstein's lecture was entitled "Alcohol" but as he aptly put it, might have been called "Prosperity," "Farm Relief" or "Unemployment Relief" with equal justice.

During the lecture Dr. Arnstein brought out a series of startling statements, among which were the following: He stated that

the economic situation could be solved by consideration of the alcohol question, in the diversion of surplus crops from the table to the production of commercial alcohol. He cited various industries and products requiring alcohol, with especial emphasis on the use of alcohol as a motor fuel; stating that alcohol was the safest, cheapest and most efficient motor fuel that could be produced.

He mentioned numerous countries where the use of alcohol as a motor fuel was required by law, and presented information as to how these countries were relieving their economic situations with the production of commercial alcohol.

"Alcohol," he said, "can be produced and sold at an extremely low cost because of the value of its by-products, such as carbon dioxide gas and dry ice." He further stated that the world's surplus crops could be used through fermentation to manufacture such valuable commodities as Ether, Bakers' Yeast, Glycerin, Acetone, Butyl Alcohol and Citric Acid.

After the lecture two reels of motion pictures were shown, depicting the production of industrial alcohol, and Dr. Arnstein made enlightening comments from time to time regarding the processes used.

The meeting was then thrown open for discussion, and Dr. Arnstein was questioned by Doctors LaWall, Wood and Munch.

E. H. MACLAUGHLIN, *Secretary*.

PITTSBURGH.

A meeting of the Pittsburgh Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held November 15, 1932, at the Pittsburgh College of Pharmacy.

The meeting was called to order by President John H. Wurdack; sixty-five members and guests were present.

The speaker of the evening was Dr. George D. Beal, Assistant Director of the Mellon Institute for Industrial Research. He considered the "Industrial Fellowship System at the Mellon Institute." Dr. Beal indicated how the Mellon Institute had its beginning and paid respect to the late Dr. Robert Kennedy Duncan, who was the man with the high ideals that brought this close contact between pure and applied science. Dr. Beal considered "the work that is being done at the Mellon Institute at the present time," and told how the Industrial Fellow proceeds with his investigation. He concluded his very interest-

ing talk with a consideration of "what they expect to do in the future at the Mellon Institute."

A fine new building is nearing completion in Pittsburgh in which the activity of the Mellon Institute will proceed. A lasting impression was made by the speaker when he demonstrated the growth of this institution from one fellowship to a present-day matter of fifty-five to sixty-five fellowships.

Advances in Pharmacy are dependent upon the findings and discoveries of such expert research workers as Dr. George D. Beal, and his "fellows in Pharmacy" await with interest his further contributions.

F. S. MCGINNIS, *Secretary*.

Under the faculty advisorship of Miss Alice Esther Garvin, lecturer in English, Phi Sigma Chi, a new sorority, has recently been organized at the Connecticut College of Pharmacy. The members have among their aims active coöperation with their fellow-students, favorable publicity for pharmacy as a profession, and the advancement of pharmaceutical research outside the college. The constitution and by-laws of the new sorority are based, in the main, upon the ideals of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION as set forth in its constitution.

U. S. P. AND N. F. PHARMACY WEEK MESSAGE GOES TO SOUTH DAKOTA PHYSICIANS.

A set of sixteen cards bearing information about forty-eight useful U. S. P. and N. F. preparations, together with a letter urging closer coöperation between physicians and pharmacists, was sent to every physician in South Dakota during Pharmacy Week. This mailing was made possible by the efforts of the South Dakota Pharmaceutical Association and the Northwest Pharmaceutical Bureau.

Pharmacists were urged by members of the Interprofessional Relationships Committee to add their personal support to these efforts by calling upon physicians personally, telling them of the services their stores may render.

Secretary J. G. McBride, of Nebraska Pharmaceutical Association, has been elected to the State Legislature.

Dr. John C. Krantz, Jr., has been elected president of the Biological Society of the University of Maryland.