

- (e) That competent nursing aids be provided.
- (f) That adequate training for midwives be provided.
- (g) For the systematic training of hospital and clinical administrators.

The biggest item of legislation that has been presented to the country in years is the recently adopted National Industrial Recovery Act. In President Roosevelt's radio talk of May 4, 1933, he stated that something had to be done to stop the 10% of an industry from disrupting the business of the other 90%. Therefore, the relief and remedies that the Capper-Kelly Bill sought to attain have been somewhat incorporated in the Industrial Recovery Act. The public has been headlined on this legislation to such an extent that it is unnecessary to detail its features herein, except to impress upon the pharmacists of this United States that they codify their rules as retailers and not in conjunction with wholesalers and manufacturers or both. Such a code has been adopted and presented to the Government for its approval.

During the past year, the actual work in the field service of the St. Louis Drug Store survey was completed. During the year, several bulletins have been published detailing various features of the work. To date, the final summation of the work has not been finished, and with the conditions in the Department of Commerce as they are, no date can be given as to when the final and complete findings will be available. But enough has been completed for the inquisitive to work with. In fact, the directors of the survey are now putting into practical use the findings of the survey by analyzing and revamping three of the Whelan stores in Washington. Inquiry reveals that after the physical changes were made and each store made a special outlet for a certain line of endeavor, the business of these stores immediately increased. This is proof that the information gathered in St. Louis is applicable elsewhere and therefore valuable if studied and used.

Finally, during the last session of the Congress of the former administration, supreme efforts were made by your president and others to get the Capper-Kelly Bill on the floor of the Senate. Dates were set, promises made and Congressmen obligated, yet, due to pressure of others, in Congress and out, the bill was always deferred for what was considered more important legislation. By the 4th of March 1933, when the Congress went out of existence, the said bill had not been presented for a vote. This Congress did absolutely nothing for the drug trade and pharmacy. The Capper-Kelly Bill and the various Nye Bills got nowhere, or rather no further than the calendar of the Senate.

*Chairman, A. V. BURDINE,
L. F. BRADLEY,
FRED CAMPBELL,
M. G. GIBBS.*

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL SYLLABUS COMMITTEE.

BY J. G. BEARD, CHAIRMAN.

Several valid reasons make impossible my personal presentation of this report. Dr. H. M. Burlage, a member of the Committee, has kindly agreed to submit it for me.

The Fourth Edition of the Pharmaceutical Syllabus was released for sale on January 3, 1933. Several disappointing delays for which I was not entirely responsible prevented earlier publication. These included procrastination, disagreements and the general confusion about what should be included in the new four-year course. Advance notices of the availability of the new edition appeared in the drug press, and also in post-card announcements from my office to all persons presumably interested in its purchase.

The revision of the Syllabus extended over a five-year period. Efforts were made by me, as the new chairman to carry through expeditiously a program of revision that represented in my judgment a wise procedure. This procedure differed materially from any theretofore employed in the following respects:

1. A system of nomenclature was set up that seemed in accord with present usage.
2. The arbitrary classification of the subject matter into the three divisions of pharmacy, chemistry and materia medica was discontinued through belief that it is now an obsolete classification.

3. The several outlines were presented alphabetically under a scheme that divided the subjects into two main classes; namely, Professional and Applied Subjects, and Basic Subjects. The first class was outlined in the form of syllabi; the second was simply listed with the stipulation that they must really be basic, not applied, and must be of standard college grade. The subjects in both classes were indicated as "Required" or "Optional," and the number of didactic and of laboratory hours was specifically set forth. The arguments and reasons for this general plan are given in the new Syllabus and need not be repeated here.

4. A new section was created entitled "State Board Examinations" that disregarded so-called "Model State Board Questions" and dealt instead with discussions, suggestions and general information covering the principles of examining candidates for license.

5. The work of revision was not limited to members of the Committee but help was drawn freely from any source that seemed to promise expert and specialized assistance. Every section of the nation was represented in this call for "outside" help. So much for departures from previous customs.

Early in the work of revision it was decided to create an executive committee. A representative from each of the sponsoring bodies, together with the chairman, composed the committee. The AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was represented by Dean R. A. Lyman; the Colleges by Dean T. J. Bradley; and the Boards by Mr. A. L. I. Winne. Later, Sub-committee chairmen were named. Prof. E. Fullerton Cook was chosen for Pharmacy subjects; Dr. Glenn L. Jenkins for Chemistry; Dr. H. M. Burlage for subjects that in many catalogs fall under the head of *Materia Medica*; and Dr. Robert P. Fischelis for Cultural and Basic Subjects. The latter group met together in Baltimore last August for the purpose of examining all outlines and to prepare a formal set of recommendations for the meeting of the entire Committee which was held just prior to the Toronto convention. During a 2-day session at Toronto at which sixteen of the twenty-one members were present, the entire manuscript was studied, the recommendations of the sub-committee were considered, certain additions, deletions and modifications were ordered and final authority was given the Chairman to proceed with several tasks that had to be completed before publication could be started.

Immediately after the Toronto meeting bids were sought from five printers familiar with pharmaceutical terminology. When the bids were opened it was found that the Lord Baltimore Press, of Baltimore, made the lowest and most satisfactory bid and this firm was, therefore, awarded the contract for printing the new edition.

At this point I want to quote the first paragraph of the Preface to the Fourth Edition.

"The Pharmaceutical Syllabus is intended to indicate the subject matter that schools of pharmacy may profitably teach, and to set forth that portion of the subject matter which should be required and that portion which may be looked upon as optional, as well as to indicate the minimum amount of time that should be spent in presenting such material to students. The Syllabus is intended also as a guide to state board examiners in that it indicates the nature and extent of professional and applied knowledge that may have been included in the training of the graduate in pharmacy. The Syllabus is not designed to interfere with such flexibility in courses of study and freedom in methods of instruction as ought to exist in schools of pharmacy but rather its purposes are (1) to present the essentials that should be included in college curricula; (2) to outline subjects of a professional or applied character in such a way as to foster a degree of uniformity which will tend to equalize the training of pharmacists sufficiently to assure their professional capability irrespective of the geographic location of the teaching institution or its educational policy; and (3) to give in the several outlines such attention to detail as will guide boards in framing their examinations. In short, the plan and scope of the work contemplate a series of suggestions and outlines that may serve as a rational basis for instruction and that will afford scientific tests to determine the fitness of applicants seeking license as pharmacists. It is readily apparent that such an effort must invite more or less of compromise. Quite possibly this is not the syllabus that any one person—teacher or examiner—would write, but since it is the well-considered product of a group of earnest and representative pharmacists, teachers and examiners, it is doubtless better balanced and more acceptable than the work of a single mind could be."

The new edition was advertised thoroughly but in spite of this fact only 184 copies have been sold up to this time. Certain reasons may be advanced to explain this small sale. (1) The appearance of the Syllabus after the four-year course had gone into effect; (2) the lowered pur-

chasing power of those to whom the book should offer an appeal; and (3) an apparent lack of interest on the part of college and board members in a book that has no standard rating, no compulsory status, and which has no supporting group that will accept its suggestions and curricula as a part of its working formulas. The last of these reasons is to my mind the most potent one and one that calls forth the following declaration that has no spirit of animus in it:

The Pharmaceutical Syllabus should be given an official status and a limited power to control courses in pharmacy and be given also the active support of its sponsoring bodies, or else it should be discontinued as having no longer a value commensurate with the labor and expense that are involved in every revision. Almost fifty persons gave freely of time, thought and specialized energy to bring the fourth edition into being. If the product of their labor is judged to be inferior, the fault rests squarely upon the chairman who failed properly to coordinate and present the wealth of material that his co-workers submitted. But, and this is the point, even if the fourth edition had measured up to all expectations it still would have been just another book to add to the literature of pharmacy, whereas it should have been officially adopted, in no mere formal sense, as a guide to curriculum building with the understanding that its sponsoring bodies had accepted its suggestions as to what should constitute the minimum hours of required subjects to be taught, together with the principles that should underlie the framing of state board examinations. This is not to say that the Fourth Edition or any subsequent edition should bind any college or any board to follow specifically or entirely the recommendations of the Syllabus, but it is to say that unless the minimum requirements set up in any Syllabus are adhered to and its working principles adopted, such failures should be viewed with disfavor by the bodies responsible for the Syllabus. Either this should be done, or a new chairman appointed, or else no future group of revisionists should be asked to labor in a profitless and thankless undertaking.

I wish in conclusion to say that a financial report is attached hereto, and to express my deep appreciation to the members of the Syllabus Committee for their unstinted support and to those many persons unconnected with the Committee who shared in the labor of revision.

(Signed) J. G. BEARD, *Chairman.*

FINANCIAL REPORT OF J. G. BEARD, CHAIRMAN FROM AUGUST 1, 1932 TO AUGUST 1, 1933.

Receipts.

Cash Balance on Hand Beginning of Year		\$ 512
Contribution for 1932 from A. A. C. P.....	\$50	
Contribution for 1932 from N. A. B. P.....	50	
Contribution for 1932 from A. PH. A.....	50	150
Sales of 184 Copies of Fourth Edition of Syllabus.....		373

Total Receipts		\$1035

Disbursements.

Traveling Expenses of Sub-Committee Chairmen to Baltimore Meeting:

E. Fullerton Cook.....	\$ 8.19	
Rob't P. Fischelis.....	15.68	
Henry M. Burlage.....	21.95	
J. G. Beard.....	26.45	
Glenn L. Jenkins.....	00.00	72.27
Mimeographing Letters and Forms.....		19.50
Telephone and Telegrams.....		6.35
Binding Minutes of All Committee Meetings.....		2.75
Stationery, Forms, Miscellaneous Printing.....		22.60
Lord Baltimore Press, Printing 1000 Copies of Syllabus and Binding 500 Copies.....		585.40
Freight on Syllabus Shipment.....		4.05
Shipping Boxes for Mailing Syllabus and Freight and Drayage.....		22.18
Printed, Gummed Labels for Mailing Shipments.....		3.17
Office Supplies for the Year.....		18.30
Secretarial Assistance over Two-Year Period.....		60.00

Cost of Copyright on Syllabus, 4th Ed.	2.25
Postage for All Purposes and Insurance Fees.....	73.00
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Total Disbursements.....	\$ 891.82
Cash Balance on Hand August 1, 1933.....	\$ 143.18
Complimentary Copies Mailed to All Members of Committee, to All Authors Who Assisted in the Work of Revision, to the Drug Press, to Copyright Office, to American Council on Education and to Several Foundations Interested in Education...	75
Copies Sold.....	184
Bound Copies on Hand.....	231
Unbound Copies Held by Lord Baltimore Press for Later Binding.....	500

ABSTRACTS OF PAPERS OF SCIENTIFIC SECTION, A. PH. A.

"What Is an Important Drug?" by L. K. Darbaker.—In connection with pharmaceutical and medical education a question arose regarding the most important drugs. Pharmacists, teachers, physicians and hospitals, all scattered through the United States were asked to list the fifty drugs they thought were most important. Replies were variable, some covering fifty groups of drugs such as mercury compounds, whereas others listed specific drugs such as mercurous chloride. The first figures in the tabulation, following each drug name represents the votes in terms of percentage from pharmacists and teachers and the second number shows the votes in terms of per cent from physicians and hospitals.

"Some Western Pennsylvania Plants Which Have Been or Are Being Used in Medicine," by L. K. Darbaker.—For many years it has been the custom of the writer to record the names of the Western Pennsylvania plants which have been used in the treatment of disease. This paper represents the summary of this information. Although almost every plant has at some time been used as a medicine, only those plants which have been extensively used are listed. The overlapping of the various flora makes Western Pennsylvania especially rich in plant life; of these many plants 259 are listed as being used medicinally. The first names indicate the botanical source (genus and species), the second is the name under which the plant is or was official or commonly known, and the third is the synonym or common name.

"Further Studies on Psyllium Seed," by Heber W. Youngken.—Plants grown by writer from commercial seed labeled "Spanish Psyllium" were compared with authentic herbarium specimens in the Gray Herbarium of Harvard University, and with descriptions. The identity of the material was traced to *Plantago Psyllium* L. Some French Psyllium seed has been found to be yielded by *Plantago arenaria* W. & K. The distinctions between the plants, flower parts and the swelling factor of the seeds are given.

"A Study of the Constituents of Siam Benzoin in Relation to Their Preservative Action on Lard," William J. Husa and Donald E. Riley.—The present results show that coniferyl benzoate is the constituent of Siam benzoin which reduced the rate of development of rancidity in lard. The other constituents of Siam benzoin, *i. e.*, benzoic acid, siarasinolic acid, cinnamyl benzoate and vanillin have no appreciable preservative effect in the concentrations present in benzoated lard.

"The Leaves of *Pentstemon cobæa*, Nutt.," by Loyd E. Harris and Ruth Ann Conner.—*Pentstemon cobæa* Nutt. is commonly known as Beard-tongue, *Cobacea* and *Balmona*. It was found in Arkansas by Nuttall in 1833 and is still widely distributed from Missouri to central Texas. It is of pharmaceutical importance due to the fact that it has been used, principally as a tea, for the prevention and cure of "the chills" in malaria. It is also said that the Chickasaw Indians used it as a cathartic. The experimental work was done on the dried leaves, which is the part of the plant used as medicine. Using a modified Dragendorff method of extraction with selective solvents, the alcohol extract was found to be 16.34 per cent and the water extract 18.89 per cent of the total weight of the leaves. White crystals having a melting point of 163° C. were obtained from the alcohol extract. They did not reduce Fehling's solution before or after hydrolysis. Sulphur, nitrogen and the halogens were not present in the molecule. Infusions and decoctions were prepared and studied.