

EDITORIAL NOTES

Because of removal from Baltimore to Washington, of Association Reports, which required many pages, publication of a number of papers and items in this Section had to be deferred. We hope to have the work properly adjusted for the next issue of the JOURNAL.

THE BRITISH PHARMACOPŒIA.

The Pharmacopœia Committee (British) of the General Medical Council reports that the Pharmacopœia Commission took office on October 1, 1933, and since then have held two meetings. They have arranged the allocation of the work of revision among the members of the Commission, and have drawn up a provisional scheme for the formation of Sub-Committees to conduct investigation and inquiry on special subjects germane to Pharmacopœia revision. They have under consideration a proposal for the preparation of an Addendum to the British Pharmacopœia, 1932, which shall include any changes in the standards of the British Pharmacopœia, 1932, which may, after due consideration, be thought necessary, together with monographs on such new drugs as may be considered suitable for official description.

The Commission now has its own research laboratory. The total number sold of copies of the recent revision of the British Pharmacopœia is 33,095; *i. e.*, according to the last report we have seen, which number is, doubtless, much larger by this time.

MEMORIAL TO HENRY GEORGE GREENISH.

The Council of the British Pharmaceutical Society of the School of Pharmacy Students' Association have formed a committee to decide upon and raise a fund for a memorial to the late Henry George Greenish, which will be in addition to the formal memorial to be set up by the Council.

Professor Greenish was a member of the Society's School of Pharmacy for about 50 years and active in all British pharmaceutical affairs. He was an honorary member of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION (see Obituary, page 925, volume XXII). Subscriptions may be sent to the Joint Honorary Treasurer, 17 Bloomsbury Square; remittances are to be made payable to the Greenish Memorial Appeal Committee.

PLAQUE OF DR. LONG PRESENTED TO MURPHY MEMORIAL.

The Fellows of the American College of Surgeons living in Georgia presented a bronze plaque bearing the likeness of the late Dr. Crawford Williamson Long, discoverer of ether anesthesia, to the John B. Murphy Memorial Building, Chicago, Ill. The plaque, which reposes in a niche in that building, was appropriately unveiled before the Clinical Congress of the American College of Surgeons.

VANCOUVER DRUGGISTS UTILIZE DRUG STORE SURVEY REPORT.

At a recent meeting of retail druggists of Vancouver, B. C., it was announced that the executive committee had mailed to all members a bulletin entitled, "Druggists Show Wide Variance in Pricing Prescriptions." The bulk of the text of this bulletin was based on a report evolved from the national drug store survey entitled "The Professional Pharmacy." The Canadian association closed the bulletin by stating that druggists would profit by following the suggestions dealing with prescription prices. Reprints of "The Professional Pharmacy" (price 25 cents) are being prepared, and may be obtained from the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, 2215 Constitution Ave., Washington, D. C.

TREATMENT OF NARCOTIC DRUG ADDICTS AT FEDERAL NARCOTIC FARMS.

A new experiment in the treatment of drug addicts will be made possible when the Federal narcotic farms at Lexington, Ky., and Fort Worth, Tex., now under construction, are completed and the 1800 drug addicts in Federal prisons are transferred to them.

Under the supervision of the Public Health Service, it is planned to develop these institutions as research centers for the treatment of addicts. An advantage which they will have over private institutions of a similar nature, it is pointed out by officials of the Service, is that any program decided upon can be enforced upon those receiving treatment.

The Service finds that the causes of narcotic drug addiction are of three types. Approximately 70 per cent of the present-day addicts took up the use of narcotics because of contacts with other addicts; chronic and painful illness was responsible for about 25 per cent; and the remaining 5 per cent are due to other causes—curiosity, fatigue and the like.

Mental attitude and a predisposition toward use of drugs are responsible for about three-fourths of present-day addiction, according to the Service.

The Service concludes that various experiences indicate that a narcotic addict, with a normal mental background, will not long continue as an addict, for narcotism is unnecessary for the comfort of one who enjoys good mental health.

AGAR EMULSION OF HEAVY LIQUID PETROLATUM.

Heavy Liquid Petrolatum	500.0 cc.
Agar	5.5 Gm.
Sucrose	120.0 Gm.
Acacia, in fine powder	30.0 Gm.
Tragacanth, in fine powder	4.0 Gm.
Tincture of Vanilla	8.0 cc.
Tincture of Lemon	2.0 cc.
Oil of Cassia	0.5 cc.
Water, a sufficient quantity to make 1000 cc	

Dissolve the agar and sucrose in 300 cc. of boiling water, and strain the liquid through gauze into a suitable vessel. Set aside until it is cool but not jellied. Incorporate the powdered gums in a capacious mortar with the heavy liquid petrolatum. Then gradually add the agar solution, thoroughly mixing the liquids with the aid of an egg beater. Finally add the tinctures and oil of cassia and sufficient water to make the product measure 1000 cc.—“A. Ph. A. Recipe Book,” page 197.

TWO NEW JERSEY LAWS.

Robert P. Fischelis comments on two New Jersey laws in the following:

The New Jersey hypnotic drug law represents the first attempt on the part of any state to limit the dispensing of drugs and preparations containing barbital, chloral hydrate, paraldehyde, sulphonal, trional, tetronal, carbromal and chlorbutanol to prescriptions of physicians, dentists or veterinarians. One of the effects of this law is to automatically curtail the sale of these products in stores which do not have a prescription department operated or managed by a Registered Pharmacist.

The prescription law definitely establishes a routine for compounding, recording, filing and dispensing prescriptions. It will be noted that the regulations prescribe the equipment and apparatus required or the establishment of a prescription department, and it is authorized under the law to establish tolerances for prescription work. This is the first time that a Board of Pharmacy has been authorized to make regulations for the establishment of tolerances to allow for deviations from the amounts of ingredients prescribed, due to manipulative procedures and deterioration. Dr. Fischelis states that this prescription law and the regulations will go a great distance toward safeguarding the compounding of prescriptions and restricting it to properly qualified pharmacists.

NRA PREPARES TO ORGANIZE INDUSTRY FOR ADMINISTERING OF APPROVED CODES.

The Washington correspondent of the *Oil, Paint and Drug Reporter* states that plans for transforming the National Recovery Administration and the trade associations operating under it from code-drafting organizations into code-administering organizations have been virtually completed and will be announced in tentative form within a few days.

Following this a general congress of all code authorities, 150 or more, will be called in Washington, probably about February 15th. This group will discuss with Administrator Hugh S. Johnson and his staff the many problems involved in operating under an approved code. Formal promulgation of rules governing code authorities will not be made until after this gathering.

Meanwhile, the NRA is giving properly organized code authorities the temporary power to handle trade practice violations and complaints. Permanent plans, however, call for retaining enforcement powers in the hands of the government.

LOS ANGELES FLOOD.

The California flood caused large property loss and damage, especially in the Montrose-Glendale section of the Los Angeles suburbs. Comparatively small loss was sustained by the druggists, but to their credit good service was rendered by the pharmacists in serving others with first aid and medicines.

NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION.

The 53rd annual convention of the Nebraska Pharmaceutical Association will be held at Omaha, May 7th-9th, with headquarters at the Paxton Hotel. The date of the convention is one month earlier than that of previous years.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY MINNESOTA PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

Minnesota will celebrate for nearly a week, commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of its organization. Tuesday, February 13th—addresses will be made by Mayor Bainbridge; President-Elect of Montevideo, Theodore A. Arneson; O. P. Cleaver, who had a large part in arranging the lighting effects at A Century of Progress. Opening of the Drug Show by President J. P. Jelinek. Banquet.

Wednesday—Scientific and Practical Section, Northwestern Branch, A. Ph. A., under direction of Dean Wulling. President's reception and ball.

Thursday—District Meetings, banquet.

Friday—Conclave of Veteran Druggists, social gatherings and various district meetings.—Hugo O. Peterson is chairman of the Committee on Arrangements.

PERSONAL AND NEWS ITEMS.

Dr. George Barger—well and favorably known for "high excellence in the prosecution or promotion of original research in the Chemistry and Natural History of Drugs"—has been awarded the Hanbury Medal. Dr. Barger is author of "Ergot and Ergotism," he is a member of the faculty of Edinburgh University.

The University of Paris has conferred the Doctor's degree on **Prof. L. Van Itallie**, University of Leyden. He is an honorary member of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION. Dr. Van Itallie is president of the technical commission of the League of Nations for the standardization of the analysis of opium; he is professor of toxicology and pharmaceutical chemistry, University of Leyden.

Dr. John Jacob Abel, in his presidential address before the American Association for the Advancement of Science, included the following striking statements:

"We ourselves are walking drug shops. An experienced chemist or pharmacist would have no difficulty in preparing arrow poisons from

some of our own organs that would have delighted the heart of primitive man. I incline to the belief that no living cell exists whose contents or metabolites are not toxic to some other living cell."

Prof. Heber W. Youngken, of the faculty of the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy, presented two papers during the convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Science held in Boston. The first of these was entitled "An Investigation of the Viburnums and Their Medical Aspects" which was given before the Section on Medical Sciences, at the Boston Medical Library on Friday, December 29th. The second, delivered before the General Section of the Botanical Society of America, at Mallinckrodt Hall, Harvard University, on December 30th, was entitled "A Comparative Study of the Seeds and Spikes of Certain Caulescent Species of *Plantago*." Both papers were illustrated with the lantern.

Prof. Marston T. Bogert, head of the department of organic chemistry at Columbia University, has been appointed a member of the Board of Directors of the Florida Research Institute, whose headquarters are at Eustis, Florida.

Colonel Samuel Price Wetherill, Jr., president of the Philadelphia Art Alliance and member of the executive committee and former president of the Tri-State Regional Planning Federation, was elected chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science at a meeting of the trustees January 9th. He succeeds Joseph W. England, who had been chairman from 1924 until his death December 2nd. He is the great great nephew of Samuel Price Wetherill who was the presiding officer at the meetings of the Philadelphia College when it was organized in Carpenter's Hall, Philadelphia, in 1821.

Dr. R. L. Swain was speaker at the meeting of the Maryland Academy of Medicine and Surgery on January 15th. The address was under the auspices of the U. S. P. and N. F. Publicity Committee—the subject of Dr. Swain was "The U. S. P. and N. F.—Their Relationship to the Costs of Medical Care."

Ambrose Hunsberger has resigned as member of the N. A. R. D. executive committee.

Governor Albert C. Ritchie, of Maryland, in an address, said:

"A great many people, of whom I happen to be one, still believe that the business stability of this nation depends upon the self-reliance