

NEW ENGLAND DRUG SHOW.

The New England Drug Show will be held at Mechanics Building in Boston during the week of April 2nd. At this time the annual spring conference of New England druggists will be held.

HISTORICAL EXHIBIT IN NEW BRUNSWICK HOSPITAL.

An interesting exhibit was arranged in St. Peter's Hospital, New Brunswick, N. J. The exhibit depicted the history of the institution by charts, photographs and statistical data.

A pathological and clinical laboratory was installed in 1920. In 1921 Dr. and Mrs. F. B. Kilmer founded a nurses' library of more than 2000 volumes in memory of their son, Joyce Kilmer, killed in the World War. Dr. Kilmer has been a member of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION for nearly a half century.

OLD APOTHECARY GLASSWARE.

Liebig's laboratory at Giessen, once internationally famous as a center of chemical instruction, has been converted into a museum housing exhibits illustrative and commemorative of the great scientist's many activities and interests. The pharmaceutical section is quite prominent. The museum is administered by a corporation, Gesellschaft Liebigmuseum, and its moving spirit is Prof. Robert Sommer of the medical school, who is largely responsible for the salvation of the old laboratory building for museum purposes, and to him also is due the credit for the untiring devotion entailed in collecting the interesting material on view.

The museum has a collection of glassware, reproductions typical of the Apothecary shop known to Liebig. Arrangements have been made for the reproductions by the Gesellschaft Liebigmuseum at Giesen. These bottles lend a charming and distinctive note to a pharmacy and may be obtained from the society mentioned.

LEGAL AND LEGISLATIVE.

CALIFORNIA FAIR TRADE ACT CONSTITUTIONAL.

Provision added by 1933 legislature, prohibiting "Unwholesome and Predatory Practices in the Merchandising of Goods," was upheld and defendant enjoined from selling below firm price fixed by distributor.

That section 1½ of the California Fair Trade Act, added by the 1933 Legislature (Statutes of 1933, page 793) which forbids any person from wilfully and knowingly advertising, offering for sale or selling any commodity at less than the price stipulated in any contract entered into pursuant to the provisions of Section 1 of this Act, whether the person so advertising, offering for sale or selling is or is not a party to such contract, is unfair competition and is actionable at the suit of any person aggrieved—is constitutional, has been held by Judge Timothy I. Fitzpatrick of the Superior Court of the City and County of San Francisco, Department 8, in the case of *Weeco Products Co. of California vs. Sunset Cut Rate Drug Co., et al.*, decided January 24, 1934.

NATIONAL RECOVERY ADMINISTRATION.

A committee of twelve members representing the distribution and consumers' service trade,

similar in purpose to the two industrial committees named during the recent Code Authority Conference, was announced on March 14th by National Reconstruction Administrator, Hugh S. Johnson. This committee has been at work during the week and will advise the Administrator on various problems. The committee is headed by Rivers Peterson, *chairman* of National Retail Code Authority. The committee is composed as follows: (1) Retail, consisting of four members. The retail drug industry is represented by Secretary E. F. Kelly of the A. Ph. A., who is also secretary of the National Retail Drug Code Authority. (2) Wholesale, composed of four members. The wholesale drug industry is represented by E. L. Newcomb, executive vice-president of the National Wholesale Druggists' Association. The consumers' service also has four members.

It is the intention of the committee to make a real contribution toward effecting all of the twelve points outlined in General Johnson's speech to the Code Authority Meeting.

THE AMENDED COPELAND BILL.

S. 2800:—Mr. Copeland of N. Y.: To prevent the manufacture, shipment and sale of adulterated or misbranded food, drink, drugs

and cosmetics, and to regulate traffic therein, etc., reported from committee on March 15th, the bill has been amended in a number of sections.

The labeling requirement for drugs used as a palliative for specific diseases has been changed to require that the nature of the palliative action of the drug rather than its palliative effect be shown on the label. The paragraph, providing that advertisements of drugs represented to have any effect in the treatment of a list of some forty diseases are presumed to be false, is stricken out. For the purpose of consultation in formulating general administrative policies for the enforcement of the bill there is authority for the secretary to appoint advisory committees from the food, drug, cosmetic and advertising trades and from the public.

New sections added to paragraphs dealing with injunction proceedings would provide that as a means for avoiding multiplicity of libel for condemnation proceedings the federal district courts would have authority to restrain by injunction the institution of more than one seizure action against any product, (1) if the alleged violation is of misbranding only, (2) if all current shipments bear the same labeling, (3) if the alleged misbranding does not involve danger to health or gross deception, and (4) has not been the basis of a prior judgment in favor of the United States in any criminal prosecution for libel under the bill. The date when the bill is to become effective is made twelve months from its enactment into law instead of six months. Upon approval by the President, the Secretary of Agriculture is to designate foods having common or usual names and exempt them from the labeling provisions of the bill for a reasonable time to permit formulation, promulgation and application of definitions and standards of identity therefor.—Status: Reported by S. Com. on Commerce, 3-15-34.

According to press reports Arthur D. White-side, brought into NRA by General Johnson as administrator, has vacated his Washington quarters and returned to New York to resume his place as president of Dun & Bradstreet.

BOOK NOTICES AND REVIEWS.

The Chemical Formulary distributed by the Chemical Formulary Company, Bush Terminal Building No. 5, Brooklyn, N. Y. 600 pages. Price \$6.00. The Board of Editors consists of about sixty contributors.

The Formulary contains methods for making varieties of face and skin creams, toilet preparations including lotions, shampoos, hair preparations, tooth powders and pastes, perfumes, bleaches, deodorants, etc. Other lists include anti-freezes, adhesives, beverages, blacking, cleaners, colors, crayons, driers, drycleaning soap, dyes, embalming fluid, emulsions, enamel, explosives, extracts, fillers, fire-proofings, foams, food specialties, fuel, glazes, glue, incense, insecticides, ink, lacquer, latex, leather, liniments, liquor, lubricants, moth exterminators, mildew-proofing, mouth-wash, paint, pigments, plastics, plating polish, preservatives, rat-poison, rubber goods, rust-proofing, shoe cleaners, soaps, solvents, styptics, varnish, viscose, waterproofing, wax, synthetic wax polish, weed killer, wood filler, etc.

The publishers state that many of the formulas are used commercially, others are taken from patent specifications, publications and other sources, with the end in view of supplying dependable information. The value of formulas depends largely on whether practical and satisfactory application has been made of them; how far this has been done the reviewer is not in position to say. There is lack of uniformity in the publication of formulas, in abbreviations, capitalizing, in giving quantities, etc. This may not detract from the value of the formulas but it is noticeable, thus, under "Removing Stains—Chromic Compounds, Chromates: Sod. Bisulphite or Sod. Hypo-sulphite and dilute sulphuric acid." Lead Compounds:—"Stain with Tinc. Iodine; dry and dissolve with concentrated pot. iodide solution."

Quantities are given in different weights and measures, in parts, in percentages and without designation; such variations occur on the same page. A heading reads "Stone, Artificial," the one following, "Synthetic Stone." In a formula there are the following abbreviations: "compn." for composition; "prepd." for prepared. "HCl," the strength is not given. As heretofore stated, these defects may have no bearing on the value of a formula. Some of the formulas are indefinite, but no attempt has been made to check up on ingredients and quantities and the resulting product; it is assumed the publishers have endeavored to present formulas that are reliable. However, in the opinion of the writer, the value of "The Chemical Formulary" is not enhanced by the inclusion in some formulas of certain advertised specialties, without naming the constituents.