

each student is quizzed on each prescription he fills as soon as it is completed. This course is supplemented by a laboratory course in prescription compounding, in which types of incompatibilities which do not occur frequently in our dispensing pharmacies, are treated.

These articles will be continued in the May number of the Journal.

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PHARMACEUTICAL RESEARCH.

BY JOHN C. KRANTZ, JR., SECRETARY.

The National Conference on Pharmaceutical Research has sent out its official notices convoking the Thirteenth Annual Meeting. This meeting is to be held in conjunction with the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION at the Hotel Shoreham, Saturday, May 5th, at 2:00 P.M.

During the thirteen years of its existence the National Conference on Pharmaceutical Research has served as a clearing house for research in pharmacy and its cognate sciences in the United States. It has annually compiled a Census of Pharmaceutical Research which has been most useful in determining the increment of progress of research in pharmacy during the year. Besides, this census serves as a stimulus to research workers in the field. In addition, under the auspices of the Conference, the Symposium "Fighting Disease with Drugs" was published for the purpose of telling the story of pharmacy in a more or less popular style.

For the past two years the Conference has awarded annually a fellowship of five hundred dollars to graduate students in universities pursuing courses for the doctorate degree, whose research was of a pharmaceutical nature.

During the coming year the Conference will endeavor to compile the reports of the various committees, written in a simple, narrative form, in a volume indicated as The Annual Survey of Pharmaceutical Research. It is our hope that this new publication will adequately tell the story of the advance in pharmacy each year and like the Census of Research serve as a stimulus to workers in the field.

The Conference anticipates a successful meeting in Washington, and takes this opportunity to invite those interested in the various ramifications of pharmaceutical research to attend its sessions and to participate in its deliberations.

RESEARCHES AT THE MELLON INSTITUTE.

Among the results of the investigations it has been determined that no systemic pharmacological effects can be ascribed directly to absorbed aluminum; it does not appear to be cumulative in the tissues. No harmful effects were shown from soluble aluminum occurring naturally in foods or from utensils.

Recent investigations which are being carried on with the coöperation of Mellon Institute have indicated probable valuable application of sodium metaphosphate in the field of veterinary medicine. One of its uses is for preparing solutions for washing and rinsing dogs and other furred animals.

WASHINGTON BOTANIC GARDENS.

Development of the old site of the Botanic Gardens into Union Square and the proposed transfer of the new Botanic Gardens from jurisdiction of the Joint Committee on the Library of Congress to the Department of Agriculture recall the origin and development of this old institution, which has been in existence for more than a century.

The establishment of a botanic garden was the subject of correspondence between Washington and District of Columbia officials. It was in 1820, after years of discussion, that the Columbian Institute for Promotion of Arts and Sciences obtained passage of a bill in Congress, which became a law on May 8th.