

THE CONFERENCE OF PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION
SECRETARIES.ABSTRACT OF THE MINUTES OF THE SESSIONS HELD IN WASHINGTON, D. C., WEDNESDAY, MAY
9TH, THURSDAY, MAY 10TH, AND FRIDAY, MAY 11TH.

The First Session of the Conference of Pharmaceutical Association Secretaries was convened May 9th, at 2:00 P.M., by President Robert C. Wilson. The following responded to roll call: W. E. Bingham, Alabama; Charles Clayton, Colorado; Albert Dougherty, Delaware; Robert Wilson, Georgia; William B. Day, Illinois; F. V. McCullough, Indiana; J. W. Slocum, Iowa; John F. McCloskey, Louisiana; Roy C. Reese, Kansas; Prescott Loveland, New Jersey; George Mathers, New York; J. B. Pilchard, Pennsylvania; James J. Gill, Rhode Island; J. M. Plaxco, South Carolina; Walter Adams, Texas; A. L. I. Winne, Virginia; J. Lester Hayman, West Virginia; Ralph W. Clark, Wisconsin.

The members were requested to stand in silence in memory of Edgar D. Oslin, of Arkansas. Due to the absence of Secretary-Treasurer Carl G. A. Harring, Roy C. Reese was elected temporary Secretary. The report of Secretary-Treasurer Carl G. A. Harring was read and accepted with thanks. It follows:

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY.

BY CARL G. A. HARRING.

Fellow Secretaries:

The pleasant task of maintaining contact between the members of our Guild has been mine for another year, and although the responses to my efforts have not, at times, been as enthusiastic as I had hoped they might be, the fact remains that we are still acting in unison and with more interest than previously. At our last conference in Madison, I was charged with the duty of preparing and mailing questionnaires upon topics of the day, every quarter—this duty I have tried to fulfil but owing to the fact that the time between meetings has been contracted by three months, only two questionnaires were sent out. The replies to these questionnaires were not as numerous as your secretary had dared to hope; while questions of vital importance were discussed, the universal interest that we had hoped to create was still missing.

If we could lay down a course of action to be followed by all secretaries, if we could induce each and every one of them to participate in this work, and impress upon our state associations that this work is going forward and must be the rallying point for those who have the good of pharmacy at heart, then we would be doing something, and starting the ball rolling in the right direction. Too many secretaries are so occupied with their own affairs that the affairs of the state association must suffer, hence, when national associations endeavor to organize some concerted movement they are handicapped by the lack of practical working contacts.

If every state association had a competent individual as its secretary and paid him a salary that would allow him to give all his time to the association and, if these secretaries as part of their duty were to keep in contact by short monthly bulletins, I feel certain that pharmacy would benefit to an amazing extent. It is my sincere hope that during the coming season the questionnaire or bulletin system will voluntarily enlarge, even at the sacrifice of some time on the part of secretaries, and that *your* secretary will be kept busy answering questions.

The exchange of Pharmaceutical Journals has been of great practical value and your secretary wishes to extend his thanks to those secretaries who are thoughtful enough to send him every number of their publication.

It is indeed unfortunate that many secretaries do not find it worth while to affiliate with our Conference. Your secretary has taken pains to send all communications to every secretary in the United States, and would have appreciated the courtesy of an acknowledgment. It is my firm belief that where a secretary is indifferent to a movement such as this conference, there you will find a state association that shows spasmodic signs of life, but accomplishes very little in the long run.

Your secretary would recommend that the questionnaire and bulletin system be continued, in the hope that more interest will be evinced and that more of a spirit of coöperation may be developed. There can be no question but that the conference plan is sound—it is up to us as individuals to make it an outstanding success.