THE DEPARTMENT OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES OF PHARMACY

C. B. JORDAN—CHAIRMAN OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, A. A. C. P., EDITOR OF THIS DEPARTMENT.

"The attitude of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy on the question of food and drug legislation was well expressed last year when Dean DuMez and the Chairman of the Executive Committee appeared before the Senate Committee considering Senate Bill 2800 and again when the Association met in annual convention and passed a resolution indicating that the Association favored proper food, drug and cosmetic legislation. Our Association has a strategic position because its membership is not financially interested in food, drugs and cosmetics, nor actually involved in the administration of laws governing the distribution of food, drugs and cosmetics and therefore we can take a totally disinterested view of these matters. As citizens we must be vitally interested in the protection of public health and that is especially true in the case of teachers of pharmacy, since we are training young men and young women to go into one of the public health professions. The following statement by President Little of the Association has the approval of the Executive Committee and it sets forth the position we believe the Association should assume." —C. B. JORDAN, *Editor.*

FOOD AND DRUG LEGISLATION.

One of the most important questions claiming the attention of pharmaceutical educators this winter is the problem of a sane, adequate, revision of the Pure Food and Drug Act.

The activity of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy in helping to promote such a revision needs no justification. We would oppose the idea that the function of colleges of pharmacy is to concern themselves solely with problems of education. That, to be sure, is their major activity, but by no means their sole responsibility. Pharmacy can hope to achieve its maximum accomplishment, only by having all of its various branches stand ready and eager to put their shoulders to the wheel and to play their full part in every possible contact.

It is in this spirit and with this hope that the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy approaches the problem of food and drug legislation.

One of the most pathetic persons with whom we come in contact is the individual who fails to have definite, concrete opinions concerning important problems which are presented to him in his own or closely related fields. We might place second on this list of pathos, the individual who displays inadequate appreciation and respect for the other fellow's opinion. There is no reason whatsoever why tolerance and definiteness of opinion should not go hand in hand.

Pharmacy has become an exceedingly broad field, with many different interests and activities represented. It is but natural that many of these interests should possess somewhat different ideas as to what constitutes a sane, effective revision of the Pure Food and Drug Act. It is also equally certain that all these various branches of pharmacy have much in common. It is on this common ground that we should marshal and unify our forces and through concerted, efficient action accomplish much in the field of food and drug legislation.

Is not the best procedure to first search out all the various viewpoints and objectives which the different branches of pharmacy have in common? Let none escape us. The greater this pool of common interests, the stronger will be our cohesion and solidarity and hence the greater our accomplishment.

Should the time come, and we sincerely hope that it may not, when certain groups must draw apart to prepare separate bills, let us part with the finest appreciation of the other fellow's viewpoint. Let us part in a spirit of friendship and cordiality, with each group definitely pledged to carry into the product of its individual efforts the very maximum of that which has been commonly agreed upon.

From this point on, those purposes and recommendations which are most meritorious and most completely in accord with public health and welfare should prevail.

If we keep this fundamental objective of public health ever before us as our goal, no really profound differences are likely to develop and a sane, progressive and generally desirable revision of the existing law should not be difficult of attainment.

At the annual meeting of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy held at Washington last May, the Association went unanimously on record as favoring Senate Bill No. 2800 or a measure of greater merit. That, I believe, represents the attitude of the Association at the present time.

As president of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, I have appointed a special committee, consisting of Dean Andrew G. DuMez, Dean Wortley F. Rudd and Dean Charles B. Jordan, Chairman, to represent the Association as our Committee on Food and Drug Legislation. I have also appointed an auxiliary committee consisting of one or more representatives in each state, to coöperate with the smaller committee as opportunity to do so presents itself. This larger committee will later receive specific directions and suggestions as to ways and means of assisting with our legislative program. In the meantime, we are organized and ready for action.

At a meeting of the National Drug Trade Conference held at Washington, D. C., on Wednesday, December 5th, Dean DuMez again set forth the position taken by the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy with respect to proposed food and drug legislation by a statement of the more important provisions which the Association maintains should be incorporated in any new legislation. These provisions are as follows:

1. A new definition of the word "drug" to bring within the purview of the law certain substances (glandular products) and certain devices not always marketed as therapeutic agents in a strict interpretation of the meaning of that term, but which, when used as directed, may produce marked alterations in the tissues of the body or the functioning of its organs, as for example, devices for increasing stature, devices for developing the bust, devices for stimulating the activity of the prostate gland, nose straighteners, electric belts, etc.

2. Provisions for bringing cosmetics within the scope of the law.

3. Provisions which will make it obligatory for a manufacturer or distributor who puts up drugs or medicines in packages for sale to the public to state on the label the name, or names, of the substance, or substances, upon which the therapeutic or palliative claims for said drugs or medicines are made, and the quantity, or quantities contained in a single dose.

4 Provisions for the control of the manufacture, sale and distribution of poisonous, habit-forming or deleterious drugs, or medicines containing any of said classes of drugs, to whatever extent is necessary to give the public adequate protection against the harm which may result from the indiscriminate sale of drugs and medicines of this character.

5. Provisions for prohibiting the advertisement on the label, package, and/or by any other means of any drug or medicine as a treatment or cure for any of the following diseases: albuminuria, appendicitis, arteriosclerosis, septicemia, cancer, carbuncle, cataract, cholecystitis, diabetes, diphtheria, dropsy, encephalitis, epilepsy, erysipelas, gall-stones, heart diseases, high blood pressure, mastoiditis, measles, meningitis, mumps, nephritis, otitis media, paralysis, pneu-

monia, poliomyelitis, prostate gland disorders, pyelitis, scarlet fever, sexual impotence, small pox, tuberculosis, tumors, typhoid fever, uremia and venereal diseases.

6. Provisions for restricting the advertisement of any drug or medicine, regardless of the medium used for exhibiting or disseminating such advertisement, to the truthful statement of facts with respect to any or all claims made for the palliative or curative properties, and/or its value in the treatment of disease.

This stand represents the opinion of the Executive Committee of the A. A. C. P. and a very high percentage of the individual members of the Association as well.

I sincerely hope that our members will actively concern themselves with food and drug legislation during the coming session of Congress and that all controversial questions which may arise will always be settled on a basis of public health and welfare.

As long as we keep public health as our platform, the very foundation of all our activities, we cannot seriously err. If we relinquish this guiding motive, we may wander far astray.—ERNEST LITTLE, *President*, American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy.

GENERAL REGULATIONS, SERIES 4, FEDERAL ALCOHOL CONTROL ADMINISTRATION.

A proposed regulation, under consideration by the Federal Alcohol Control Administration, would have placed pharmacists in *the class of dealers in beverage alcohol;* it would have increased the cost of their supply of ethyl alcohol and required them to take out Federal and, perhaps, local licenses; thus adding further costs to the pharmacists' burdens, without giving additional protection to the government service. The points are, the proposed ruling, if it had been adopted, would have increased the cost of alcohol to the pharmacist, because he would have had to buy in gallon bottles, paying a higher price and also be subject to the licenses referred to, and be placed in the class of *dealers in beverage alcohol.*

THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION asked the privilege of being heard and impressed that practicing pharmacists should be enabled to freely secure alcohol for medicinal preparations at lowest cost, not only in their own interest but also in the interest of those in need of medicine. This appeal was influential in promoting the regulation to which reference is made and issued January 22 by the Federal Control Administration. Because these regulations are informative relative to general definitions and terms, every pharmacist should secure copies from the station of the Department nearest to them. Two paragraphs are quoted:

"In issuing these Regulations the Administration has provided that alcohol and other distilled spirits in containers of a capacity of one gallon or less shall be deemed to be for non-industrial use. The effect of this provision will be to require all wholesale druggists, industrial alcohol plants and others, who do not hold Federal Alcohol Control Administration permits, to supply the needs of drug stores, hospitals, pharmaceutical manufacturers and other industrial alcohol users in containers having a capacity of more than one gallon."

"Heretofore the Regulations of the Treasury Department, which require that beverage distilled spirits for sale at retail be placed in glass liquor bottles, have not been applicable to alcohol. The Treasury Department, however, acting in coöperation with the Administration, and desiring that all spirits for beverage use be definitely distinguishable from spirits intended for industrial purposes, is amending its Bottle Regulations so as to require that on and after April 15, 1935, all distilled spirits, including alcohol, if marketed in containers of a capacity of one gallon or less, shall be placed in glass liquor bottles manufactured under Treasury permit and having blown therein the indicia required by Treasury regulations."

The AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION always seeks to be of service to pharmacy and pharmacists.