

COMMITTEE REPORTS

REPORT ON THE TWELFTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF PHARMACY.

BY EDGAR ERSKINE HUME.*¹

Mindful of the honor done him, though not a pharmacist, by being appointed Delegate on the part of the United States to the recent International Congress of Pharmacy, the writer feels it a duty to give the information that he gathered at this interesting and important Congress to the pharmaceutical profession of the country. His report to the Secretary of State is therefore given in its entirety, being published with the permission of that officer and of the writer's military superior, the Surgeon General of the Army.

The Twelfth International Congress of Pharmacy was held at Brussels, Belgium, from July 31, 1935, to August 5, 1935, inclusive. The sessions were all held at the University of Brussels, several miles distant from the center of the city, with the exception of certain social features.

The Congress was divided into sections, most of which met separately. Some of these sections were in turn subdivided into subsections, but only for committee work. The following were the sections, with the presidents and secretaries of each:

First Section: *Pharmacognosy and Galenic Pharmacy.* President, Prof. N. Wattiez of the University of Brussels; Secretary, Pharmacist G. LaGrange.

The following topics were considered by the section, the presentations being made as indicated:

1. "Contribution to the Chemical Study of the *Sapotacea* of the Belgian Congo. The *Omphalo-carpum Boysankombo.*" By Dr. L. Adriaens of the Chemical Research Laboratories of the Belgian Congo.
2. "*Trichisia Gillettii*, Staner." By E. Castagne, Engineer-Chemist of the Chemical Research Laboratories of the Belgian Congo.
3. "The Alkaloids of the *Liane Efiri.*" By Pharmacist Delvaux of the University of Louvain.
4. "The Essential Oil of the Wallflower and of Patchouli from the Belgian Congo." By Dr. P. Denis of the Chemical Research Laboratory of the Belgian Congo.
5. "The Oil of *Euphorbia palustris.*" By Prof. Paul Gillio of the Faculty of Pharmacy of Nancy.
6. "On the Spectrophotometric Dosage of the Alkaloids of the Ergot of Rye by the Reaction of van Urk." By Prof. F. Sternon of the University of Liège and Juliette Renzonnet.
7. "Study of the Unification of the Methods of the Preparation of the Heroic Galenic Vegetable Medicaments." By Prof. H. Golaz of Lausanne.
8. "Critical Studies of the Methods of Dosage of Alkaloids in the Official Preparation of Belladonna of the Belgian Pharmacopœia." By Prof. N. Wattiez, of the University of Brussels, and Pharmacist Gaston LaGrange.
9. "Opinion Concerning the Standards of the So-Called Chaulmoogra Oil for International Acceptance." By Prof. E. Perrot of the Faculty of Pharmacy of Paris.
10. "Contribution to the Study of the Seeds of *Strophanthus Congolais.*" By Louise Ghenne, Assistant in the Institute of Pharmacy of the University of Liège.

Second Section: *Pharmaceutical Chemistry.* President, Prof. A. Castille of the University of Louvain; Secretary, Pharmacist L. Delvaux.

The following topics were considered by the section, the presentation being made as indicated:

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Official Badge of Major Hume as Delegate of the U. S. to 12th International Congress of Pharmacy.

1. "Flowing Potentials and Absorptive Power of Barium Sulphate. The Rôle of Colloid Buffers of the Saponines." By Prof. Ruysen of the University of Ghent.
2. "Titration of Alkaloids in Alcoholic Solution." By Prof. Bagesgaard-Rasmussen of the Royal Pharmaceutical College of Copenhagen.
3. "Spectrographic Research on the Alkaloids of Cinchona and Their Derivatives." By Prof. van der Wielen of the University of Amsterdam.
4. "Nucleic Acid in the Ergot of Rye." By Prof. M. Marek Gatty Kostyal, of the University of Crakow, and J. Tesarz.
5. "The Question of the Dielectric Constant in Problems of Chemical Constitution of the Organic Compounds in Relation to Their Pharmacodynamic Action." By Kazimierz Kalinowski (Poland).
6. "Dakin's Solution of the Different Pharmacopœias: Analysis and Stability." By Colonel J. Thomann, Chief Pharmacist of the Swiss Army, Instructor at the University of Bern.
7. "Preparation and Stability of Dakin's Solution (Sodium Hypochlorite)." By Svend Aage Schou of Hellerup (Denmark).
8. "The Dosage of Hydrastine, Scopolamine, Hyoscyamine, Eserine and Apiole by the Mercurimetric Method." By Prof. Al. Ionescu-Matiu, of the University of Bucharest, and Dr. C. Popesco.
9. "Halogen Analogues of Ephedrine and Adrenaline" (Presentation in English). By W. H. Linnell, M.Sc., of London.
10. "The Stability of Strophanthin Solutions" (Presentation in English). By B. Berry, B.Sc., of London.

Third Section: *Chemical Analysis and Toxicology*, Joint Session.

Fourth Section: *Bromatology*. *President*, Prof. F. Schoofs of the University of Liège; *Secretary*, Dr. H. Lecoq of the University of Liège.

The following topics were considered by these sections, the presentations being made as indicated:

1. "Limits in the Use of the Conductometric Method for the Determination of Bases and Weak Acids." By Konstanty Hrynakowski, of the University of Poznan (Poland), and Feliks Modzejewski.
2. "The Application of Potentiometric Titration in Pharmaceutical Analyses." By Dr. Oldrich Tomicek, Professor at the University of Prague (Czechoslovakia).
3. "Contribution to the Iodometric Control of Medicaments." By Prof. L. Maricq of the University of Brussels.
4. "The Application of the Determination of the Electrical Conductibility in the Examination of Waters." By J. Baldewyns of Liège.
5. "Titrimetric Colorimetry." By Prof. D. van Os of the University of Groningen (Netherlands) and Dr. P. Karsten.
6. "The Toxicity of Certain Insecticides." By Prof. F. Schoofs of the University of Liège.
7. "Phytopharmacy." By V. Estienne.
8. "Removal of Impurities by Barium Carbonate." By Pharmacist A. Defalque of the Laboratory of Biochemistry of the University of Louvain.
9. "A New Stabilized Antidote for Poisoning by the Heavy and Toxic Methods." By Prof. Casimir Stryzowsky of the University of Lausanne.
10. "A Case of Grave Alimentary Saturnism." By Prof. A. Castille of the School of Pharmacy of the University of Louvain.
11. "Quantitative Analysis of the Derivatives of Barbituric Acid. A Modification of the Method of Determination in an Alkaline Medium." By Kazimierz Kalinowski (Poland).
12. "Diabetic Bread." By Dr. T. Potjewijd, Pharmacist of Leyden.
13. "Spectrographic Study of the Waters of the Region of Spa." By Prof. R. Vivario, of the University of Liège, and P. Swings, Assistant.
14. "Analytical Differentiation of Cane Sugar from Beet Sugar." By Pharmacist Herbert of Cairo (Egypt).

Fifth Section: Omitted.

Sixth Section: *Microbiology*. *President*, Prof. A. J. J. van de Velde of the University of Ghent; *Secretary*, Mlle. (Pharmacist) Marg. van Hauwaert of the University of Ghent.

The following topics were considered by the section, the presentation being made as indicated:

1. "The Legal Regulation of the Manufacture of Therapeutic Serums and Various Products of Organic Origin." By Prof. A. Astruc and Louis Astruc.

2. "Experimental Pathogenic Action of the Actinomyces." By Prof. A. Sartory of the Faculty of Pharmacy of the University of Strassburg, R. Sartory and Jacques Meyer, Assistants.

3. "Influence of Various Acid and Alcohol Bodies and of Serums on the Mutation of the Tubercle Bacillus in Culture Media." By Prof. A. Sartory of the Faculty of Pharmacy of the University of Strassburg, R. Sartory, Jacques Meyer and Mlle. Renard, Assistants.

4. "Qualitative and Quantitative Determinations of Proteolytic Ferments Contained in the Gastric Juice, by the Interferometric Method." By Prof. A. Sartory of the Faculty of Pharmacy of the University of Strassburg, R. Sartory and Jacques Meyer, Assistants.

5. "On the Necessity of Sterilizing Medical Supplies." By Prof. Bronislaw Koskowski of the University of Warsaw.

6. "Bacteriological Appraisal of Modern Tooth Pastes and Mouth Washes" (Presentation in English). By Dr. Eugene Maier of Giessen (Germany).

7. "Study of the Fertility of the Soil on Dosage with Phosphorus and Potassium, by Means of Sterigmatocystis Nigra (Method of Niklas)." By Prof. A. J. J. van de Velde of the University of Ghent.

Representation:

"A. I have been, thus far, unable to obtain from the Secretary of the Congress a list of the countries represented or the total number of delegates. This information will be reported later if ascertained. Estimated number of delegates present (or at least persons who attended the sessions): 500. Estimated number of countries represented: 30.

"B. American delegation: I was the only delegate from the United States."

Results of the Conference: Resolutions Adopted: (1) *Phytopharmacy*.—Upon the motion of Prof. V. Estienne of the University of Louvain, the following was adopted: "Regulations should be elaborated for the manufacture, conditioning, dispensation and control of toxic products used in agriculture and horticulture. This Congress desires that this resolution be transmitted to the governments represented. The Congress believes that it is the duty of every pharmacist to be actively interested in pharmacotherapeutics in collaboration with regional agriculturists."

(2) *The Necessity of Sterilizing Medical Equipment*.—Upon the motion of Prof. Bronislaw Koskowski of Warsaw, the following was adopted: "A pharmacy, as a sanitary institution, must be careful not to become a place where contagion may be spread. The installation must be aseptic. The use of glass coverings for the tables and counters, as well as the sterilization of the glassware used in the pharmacy tends to give the impression of the greatest cleanliness, and inspires general confidence. One should anticipate the orders of the sanitary authorities that pharmacies be kept aseptic."

(3) *Price Regulation of Specialties Justified by Organized Chemical and Biological Control*.—Upon the motion of Pharmacist Breugelmans of Belgium the following was adopted:

"I. The pharmaceutical profession should be organized corporatively in order to safeguard the scientific, professional and economic interests of its members.

"II. In consideration of its great advances, the pharmaceutical profession should be organized so as to allow the pharmacist to face the requirements of analytical control in conformity to the legal regulations in effect in various countries.

"III. Professional obligations in this field being assured, monopoly in the sale of materials, and normal profits should be respected.

"IV. On account of the present extent of university instruction in most countries, the pharmacist has control of chemical products only.

"V. Since pharmacists have not had the necessary training, in such countries, for the examination of biological products, opotherapeutic agents or other materials requiring clinical tests, it is necessary that they have the assistance of qualified assistants with university training in pharmacodynamics and biology.

"VI. On account of the immensity of the task, there should be created a sufficient number of laboratories for the chemico-biological testing of products in order to carry out the examinations required by law.

"VII. These independent laboratories should be established by the organized profession and under state supervision. The State, unable legally to assume responsibility for sale, is able to stimulate and encourage private establishments working in accordance with public health needs.

"VIII. Organized pharmacy should create, equip and conduct its testing service for a moderate charge, in order to compensate to a certain extent for the cost of maintenance.

"IX. The State should take over, prior to their establishment, the control of such institutions to insure uniformity and the maintenance of high standards.

"X. In emergencies, and at first, there might be allowed modifications in the university program; when the need arises, registered pharmacists should be qualified to assume the duty of testing biologicals, having pursued courses of instruction at affiliated laboratories."

(4) *Regulation of Pharmaceutical Responsibility.*—Upon the motion of M. de Koritsansky and Dr. (Pharmacist) Tauffer of the Hungarian Pharmaceutical Association, the following was adopted:

"A committee of six members shall be appointed to study minutely and procure data concerning the responsibilities of pharmacists in various countries, and prepare recommendations regarding such regulations. The report of this committee shall be considered at the forthcoming meeting of the International Pharmaceutical Federation (Fédération Internationale Pharmaceutique) and the decision reached shall thereafter be submitted to the ensuing International Congress of Pharmacy and then brought to the attention of the various national associations forming part of the International Federation. Thus such national associations will be able to take the necessary steps with their respective governments to regulate the legal responsibilities of pharmacists."

(5) *Freedom in the Fixing of Charges by Organized Pharmaceutical Services.*—Upon the motion of M. Pattou, President of the *Nationale Pharmaceutique*, the following was adopted:

"Since the representatives of thirty National Associations of pharmacists agree upon the desirability of freedom in the matter of fixing charges, *it is resolved:*

"I. That patients treated in their homes should be authorized to procure drugs at any pharmacy that accepts the conditions of organization.

"II. That fees for the furnishing of medicines for patients treated in their homes by organized services cannot be standardized without the collaboration and agreement of the interested associations of pharmacists.

"III. That fees for persons in moderate circumstances should be reduced, taking into consideration living conditions in each country.

"IV. That associations of pharmacists, wholly interested in compliance with the established tariffs and in the careful compounding of prescriptions, should be organized to assume proper technical control of this work and in the observance of the professional oath.

"V. That there should be established an impartial board for arbitration and the prevention of differences that might arise between organized pharmaceutical services and individual pharmacists.

"VI. In consideration of the faithful collaboration of organized pharmaceutical services, all laboratories with pharmaceutical workers established by social insurance agencies and similar organizations, should be prohibited in those places where organized pharmaceutical services exist."

(6) *Medico-Pharmaceutical Combinations.*—Upon the motion of Pharmacist Breugelmans of Brussels, the following was adopted:

"Since medicine and pharmacy are professions based on different university training, the pharmacist alone is qualified to perform pharmaceutical work. Pharmacy is a profession of the greatest public utility and of the greatest possibilities, it should therefore be encouraged in regions where it does not flourish. Pharmacy should justify its existence legally, scientifically and morally, so that it cannot be replaced by a depot of medicaments dispensed by a physician or by any person outside of both professions. That combinations of medicine and pharmacy must be considered as detrimental in all places where there is a registered pharmacist. That license for the practice of medicine combined with the dispensing of drugs must be strictly regulated and in

such manner as to prevent or restrict all operations for profit by the collusion of the two professions."

(7) *Uniform Laws in All Countries Regarding the Sale of Drugs.*—Upon the motion of Pharmacists H. Portisch, O. Hoyer and F. Schweder of Vienna, the following resolutions were adopted:

"I. That a definition of the word 'medicament' be required as preliminary to every law concerning the healing art.

"II. That the word 'consumer' must be limited and defined.

"III. That the 'distributor' be no other than a pharmacist, and that no person be interposed between the producer and consumer who is not a pharmacist.

"IV. That, with the exception of a few dietetic products, the sale of medicaments be limited to pharmacists.

"V. That the production (manufacture) of drugs be reserved to pharmacists or to authorized institutions conducted by pharmacists.

"VI. That the sale of specialties and drugs by wholesale dealers be limited to authorized pharmacists.

"VII. That the production of drugs be in normal amounts as superproduction is an actual danger to the public."

(8) *The Organization of Military Pharmacists in European Countries.*—Upon the motion of Pharmacist Barthet of France, the following was adopted:

"That the British delegates to this Congress present to their government a report on the organization of military pharmacists in Europe, Great Britain being the only European country that does not have military pharmacists."

(9) *Inspection of Pharmacies in Various Countries.*—The following conclusions by Pharmacist C. J. Ravaud, of France, were received and transmitted to the International Pharmaceutical Federation for study:

"I. Inspection of pharmacies is absolutely indispensable for the preservation of public health.

"II. It should not be limited only to technical control, but also should comprise detection and prosecution of illegal practices.

"III. Such inspection should be entrusted to pharmacists chosen from among professors of the schools or faculties of pharmacy or from among recognized practitioners skilled in inspection.

"IV. That the inspectors should be appointed directly by the government; that they should be permanent and have extensive powers to enable them efficiently to perform their duties.

"V. It is desirable that government authorities be assisted by a Consultative Council representing various elements of the pharmaceutical profession of the nation."

(10) *A New System of Pharmaceutical Education.*—Upon the motion of Dr. of Medicine and of Pharmacy Alexander Moszony of the University of Budapest, the following was adopted:

"In each country where it is necessary, the International Pharmaceutical Federation should envisage a restriction in the number of pharmacists trained, in accordance with national exigencies."

(11) *The Rôle of Pharmacists in Civilian Defense against Gas.*—Upon the motion of Prof. Wester of Holland and Pharmacist Weil of Brussels, it was resolved:

"That the XII International Congress of Pharmacy, recognizing the services rendered in all countries by pharmacists in defense against chemical warfare, expresses the following requests:

"I. To Universities: To enlarge their courses in analytical chemistry, toxicology and bromatology by more thorough study of war poisons; and that the faculties of pharmacy organize courses for supplementing the knowledge of persons who received their diplomas from said universities in the past.

"II. To National Red Cross Societies: That an important place be reserved for pharmacists in educating the population (courses of instruction for litter-bearers), in the study of means of passive defense applied to aid for victims, and in the mobilization of the Red Cross.

"III. To Governments: That national and regional organizations utilize on a large scale the skill of pharmacists, for which their studies particularly qualify them, in the general organization for the detection of gas, disinfection and inspection of gas masks, management of shelters, and the conservation of chemical and pharmaceutical products."

(12) *Methods of Elaborating Pharmacopœias*.—Upon the motion of Pharmacist Van Huffelen of the Society of Pharmacy of Antwerp, the following conclusions were recommended, but not adopted:

“I. Since for major reasons, pharmacists are included in the commissions on pharmacopœias, it is hoped that all governments will adopt measures necessary to assign to such work, practicing independent pharmacists.

“II. Since the contact between pharmacopœia commissions and the organized pharmacists must be maintained not only before but also during the elaboration of and preparation of new additions of such pharmacopœias,

“III. We recommend that various governments bring home to physicians the importance of a knowledge and use of the most recent edition of the pharmacopœia.”

(13) *An International Pharmacopœia*.—Prof. van Itallie offered the following considerations on Pharmacist Van Schoor's (Antwerp) recommendations. Prof. van Itallie's recommendations were adopted by the Congress as follows:

“The Sixth general meeting of the International Pharmaceutical Federation, held at The Hague, September 6 and 7, 1927, accepted, without discussion, the following proposition:

“I. The general meeting shall nominate a commission composed of seven members, charged with presenting a report on the possibility of publishing a restricted international pharmacopœia.

“II. This commission will forward its report within the next six months to the bureau of the Federation. The latter will present it to the Belgian Government and to the Hygiene organization of the League of Nations.

“The full report of this commission, of which Prof. van Itallie was *president* and A. Schammelhout *secretary*, was published in Bulletin No. 1, 1928, pp. 11–20. It was addressed to the above authorities. Up to the present time we have not heard whether any resolution or decision has been reached on this report.

“The Brussels Conference of 1925 on heroin derivatives asked for the appointment of two commissions by the League of Nations, one to determine methods of analysis, the other for the study of galenic medicaments. These two commissions have not yet been created. Of the persons recommended for places on these commissions, some are no longer with us and new members should be designated by duly constituted organizations. The needs that brought forth our report in 1928 still exist, and the recommendations are renewed.

“With a sufficient desire a restricted international pharmacopœia may be elaborated in time.”

(14) *Abolition of Restrictions on Narcotics*.—Dr. of Pharmacy Chieffo of Rome reported that: “Legislation is very different in various countries. As concerns a system of regulation, the pharmacist should demonstrate sufficient moral qualities to prevent his being compromised as to the improper dispensation of narcotic drugs. Limitation of production of such drugs is suggested as the only means of preventing abuses.”

The report was submitted for consideration to the International Pharmaceutical Federation.

Important Points on Which No Agreement Was Reached:

These have been mentioned in the last paragraph, being chiefly recommendations of various delegates that were not passed by the Congress.

Publications.—The Secretary General of the Congress promised that minutes would be sent each delegate who had subscribed the required fee. I did so, but so far no minutes have come to hand. The only available publication of the Congress is the program issued in advance, which is transmitted herewith.

Part Taken by the American Delegation.—The writer, the only American delegate, not being a pharmacist in any sense of the word, was able to take no very active part in the sessions. For interest he inquired of the representatives of a number of other countries to ascertain if physicians were among their number. As far as he could learn, he was the only physician of the Congress, except certain men who held degrees in both medicine and pharmacy or one of its branches.

The writer, who is Librarian of the Army Medical Library, was able to discuss the matter of scientific publications and their cost. That the Army Medical Library, the largest medical

library in the world, indexes articles from journals of pharmacy in its *Index Catalogue*, the world's standard of bibliography in the medical sciences, was a matter of pride to the pharmacists of other nations. A number of delegates promised to send material as a gift to the Army Medical Library, and some of this has been received.

Action Taken by the Conference with Regard to Future Meetings.—There is no question as to the continuance of the International Congresses of Pharmacy, which have a fixed place particularly in European countries. Article IX of the Rules of the Congress require the final session to select and announce the date and place of the next Congress. The President, however, announced that though more than a dozen countries had extended invitations for the next meeting, it was deemed advisable to give the matter further thought. It was therefore voted that the place and date of the next Congress would be left to the Committee of the International Pharmaceutical Federation (*Fédération Internationale Pharmaceutique*).

General Comment: Importance of the Conference.—The Congress was a worth-while gathering of some of the world's best scientists in the field of pharmacy in the European sense of the term, that is, the broad topics of chemistry (inorganic, organic and physiologic), pharmacology, bacteriology, serology, biology, etc. There was nothing in the conference that pertained to pharmacy as the mere compounding of drugs. The problems of the production of medicinal plants, the mining or other acquisition of inorganic compounds, the manufacture of biologicals, the testing of these various products, were considered. The representatives of most of the European countries were professors at the several universities or research institutions. But little attention was paid to the purely commercial side. The general subject of costs of manufacture was discussed in passing, but only in relation to its bearing on pure science. In other words the meeting was unlike what in this country would be expected at a meeting of certain pharmaceutical associations.

The meeting is believed to have been an important one. From conversations with delegates from other countries, I gained the impression that the International Congresses of Pharmacy are held to be among the most important of gatherings of scientific men. Again and again the opinion was expressed that the United States might add much to the meetings by sending professors from the leading universities, men who could present America's views in these fields. In this country, as far as I have been able to learn, there are no scientific bodies comparable to this International Congress. Here to bring together men of these varied interests it would be necessary to have a joint meeting of pharmacologists, chemists and bacteriologists.

One striking difference in the functions of the pharmacist in Europe and in this country is seen in the status of the pharmacists in the Continental armies and that of the United States. In the United States Army the term pharmacist implies merely a trained enlisted man capable of compounding prescriptions. In Europe it means a highly educated professional man. The European Armies nearly all have Corps of Pharmacists distinct from the Medical or Administrative Services. In our Army much of the work that the pharmacist officers do in Europe is performed by medical officers. This includes the routine diagnostic laboratory procedures, general sanitation, and to a limited extent the production of biologicals.

The American delegate quitted the Congress with the feeling that it is to the advantage of the United States to be represented at future International Congresses of Pharmacy. They are old and well-established meetings and much valuable information is to be had by those attending, particularly by personal contacts. Some of our distinguished authorities in pharmacology and pharmacy would be able, on the other hand, to add much to the meetings.

Since the meetings are conducted in French, it seems highly desirable that persons attending the Congress be familiar with that language. Those without a knowledge of French might enjoy the social functions but would get little out of the scientific sessions, and also be unable to discuss matters of common interest with delegates from other lands.

Miscellaneous.—There were a large number of social events in connection with the Congress. The King and Queen of the Belgians attended the opening session. (The closing paragraph of the report is largely concerned with conditions and entertainments and therefore omitted.—*Editor.*)

INTERNATIONAL PHARMACEUTICAL FEDERATION.

The officers of the International Federation are: *President*, Dr. J. J. Hofman, The Hague, Holland; *General Secretary*, Dr. Potjewijd, Leyden, Holland; *Secretary*, Oscar Van Schoor, Antwerp, Belgium.

A communication has been addressed to the ordinary members of the International Pharmaceutical Federation in which it is stated that a letter had been transmitted to the authorities of the Countries represented in the 12th International Congress of Pharmacy, containing the conclusions on certain questions which were discussed by the Professional Section and it is suggested that if the problems presented are of interest to the Countries represented that the governmental authorities be asked to study the conclusions arrived at.

The communication received is signed by President J. J. Hofman and General Secretary T. Potjewijd under date of November 28, 1935. It is addressed to the Minister of Hygiene and Public Health. Another letter follows to the ordinary members of the International Pharmaceutical Federation and to co-members.

Charles H. LaWall was appointed delegate to the meeting of the International Pharmaceutical Federation and to the 12th International Congress of Pharmacy held in Brussels July 30 to August 5, 1935. Conditions over which the appointed delegate had no control made it impossible for Professor LaWall to attend.

Major Edgar Erskine Hume, Medical Corps, United States Army, was the only delegate of the United States present, but not officially designated a representative of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION. He has submitted a report on the 12th International Congress of Pharmacy to the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION for publication in the JOURNAL. It precedes.

COMMUNICATION TO THE MINISTER OF HYGIENE AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

"The 12th International Congress of Pharmacy which has held a convention at Brussels from July 30 to August 5, 1935, has entrusted the International Pharmaceutical Federation, with headquarters in The Hague, with the mission of transmitting the decisions of the Congress to the Governments of the 29 Nations which participated in the Congress and are represented in the International Pharmaceutical Federation.

"It is in pursuance of this mission and to comply with obligations formally placed upon us that we have the honor, Mr. Minister, to transmit to you expressions of opinion on three questions which are under the direct supervision of your Department.

"These three questions are of great interest for all the Countries spoken of above.

"For this reason we have decided to group all three in order to bring the expression of our views to the knowledge of the Governments having members in the International Pharmaceutical Federation.

"In consequence, Mr. Minister, we have the honor to call your attention very particularly to these views. They were discussed at length and conscientiously before their adoption, which was by the unanimous vote of the members of the Congress present at the sessions of Wednesday, July 31st and Friday, August 2nd.

"We are asking our members and affiliates of your Country to see that you also receive the reports upon which the resolutions adopted by our meetings were based. These reports, which are concise and drawn up in accordance with the regulations of the Congress, give only a general idea of a doctrine familiar to us as professional persons, but are sufficient to justify the views expressed by the Congress, of which the following is a textual statement:

"*First Question*.—Adoption of uniform laws in all countries tending toward a rigorous regulation of commerce in medicaments.

"1. That the definition of the word medicament is necessary as a preliminary of any law concerning itself with the healing art.

"2. That the word consumer should also be equally well defined and limited.

"3. That the distributor cannot be any other person than a pharmacist; no other person than a pharmacist shall be permitted to interpose himself between the producer and the consumer.

"4. That the sale of medicaments, with the exception of certain dietetic products, shall be reserved to pharmacists.

"5. That the production (manufacture) of medicaments should be reserved to pharmacists or to institutions enjoying previous authorization and directed by pharmacists.

"6. That the sale of medicaments and specialties by wholesalers should be limited to sale solely to authorized distributors, namely, pharmacists.

"7. That the production of medicaments should be held to normal requirements, as over-production constitutes a real public danger.

"*Second Question:* Duplication of Professions.—Believing that medicine and pharmacy are two separate professions, requiring different university preparation;

"That the pharmacist alone is qualified to exercise the profession of pharmacy;

"That pharmacy is a profession of public utility and that its diffusion in regions now deprived of it is necessary in as large a degree as possible;

"That pharmacy justifies its existence legally, scientifically and morally, and cannot be replaced by a depot of medicaments attended by a physician or by some person belonging to neither of the two professions;

"That the union of the practice of medicine with a pharmaceutical depot should be considered as an abuse in any locality where there is a regularly established pharmacist;

"That the license to practice medicine, joined with that to deliver medicaments, should be strictly regulated everywhere in order to prevent or prohibit any operations for profit which may be realized by the union of the two professions into one:

"Accordingly: The desire is expressed that the limitation and separation of the two professions should be provided for by law, in accordance with the professional groupings and with a view to the interests of the public health.

"*Third Question.*—Control of specialties and regulation of sale price.

"1. Pharmacy should be corporatively organized in order to safeguard the professional, scientific and economic interests of its members.

"2. In view of the excessive development of pharmaceutical specialties, the organized profession of pharmacy should take collective action to have the pharmacist permitted to assume the obligation of analytical control of specialties, according to the legal requirements in force in each country.

"3. Having assured the observation of professional obligations in this respect, the organized corporation should provide that the monopoly of sale of the specialty and a normal profit in such sale be respected.

"4. In the present state of the knowledge which can be acquired at universities in most countries, the pharmacist can only be assured of chemical control of specialties.

"5. From the fact that the pharmacist has not received the desired preparation in these countries to enable him to effect, competently, control of biologic, opotherapeutic or other compositions necessitating a clinical test, recourse should be permitted upon occasion to qualified assistants, to be chosen from university graduates who have specialized as pharmacodynamists or biologists, and who have their diplomas as such.

"6. In view of the enormity of the task, there should be created a sufficient number of chemico-biological laboratories, which will be specialized in view of the multiplication of collaborations made necessary by the division of labor.

"7. These autonomous laboratories will function by the initiative of the organized profession and under the supervision of the Government. The Government, unable in law to assume any responsibility for the seller, is qualified to stimulate and encourage private initiatives acting in conformity with the requirements of the public health.

"8. The organized profession of pharmacy will undertake to create, equip and rent its control services, levying a light tax on the interested parties to compensate itself in some measure for its pecuniary outlay.

"9. The Government will require control of all specialties, prior to their registration, by the services of the corporation, in order to assure the conformity of such specialties to their formulas and to legal requirements in regard to their preparation, conservation, etc.

"10. In the meanwhile it is urgently necessary to strive for modifications in university courses in pharmacy, wherever it may be necessary, in order that graduates may receive a pharmaceutical diploma enabling them to exercise biological control, after instruction and a practical laboratory course in competent institutions.

"We express the hope, Mr. Minister, that you will give our communication your attention and that you will recognize the public interest in the above propositions, all of which are in absolute conformity with the interests of the public health.

"Requesting you to receive, Mr. Minister, the assurance of our great consideration,
 "For the International Pharmaceutical Federation,

The *Secretary*,
 T. POTJEWIJD.

The *President*,
 J. J. HOFMAN."

Letter to the Ordinary Members of the International Pharmaceutical Federation:

Leyde, November 28, 1935.

Gentlemen and Honored Co-members:

We are enclosing a letter which we have sent to the Authorities of the Countries represented in the 12th International Congress of Pharmacy.

As you will see from this letter, it contains the conclusions on certain questions which were discussed by the Professional Section.

If you consider these problems to be of interest to your Country, we suggest that you urge your governmental authorities to study the conclusions arrived at here.

Please accept, Gentlemen and Honored Co-members, the assurance of our most sincere esteem.

The *Secretary General*, The *President*,
 (Signed) T. POTJEWIJD. (Signed) J. J. HOFMAN.



Courtesy of Northwestern Druggist.

This group picture was taken on the occasion of the visit of Dr. Robert Eder to the College of Pharmacy, University of Minnesota. Lower row, seated: Left to right—Dean Frederick J. Wulling, Dr. Robert Eder, director of the Institute of Pharmacy, Zurich, Switzerland; Dr. Isaac Kolthoff, professor and chief of the Division of Analytical Chemistry, U. of M. Standing, left to right: Professor Charles H. Rogers, Pharmaceutical Chemistry and Food and Drug Analysis; Professor Earl B. Fischer, Pharmacognosy and Materia Medica; Professor Gustav Bachman, Pharmacy and Dispensing.

S. 3084 PHARMACY.

The bill referred to under title was introduced by Senator Copeland and discussed at Portland by the A. Ph. A., A. A. C. P. and N. A. B. P. It is considered a basis for a model pharmacy law and it is suggested that legislative committees obtain copies for consideration. R. L. Swain discussed the measure and speaks of it as, "a sane and deliberate approach to better legislation controlling the sale and distribution of drugs and medicines and builds greater safeguards around the practice of pharmacy."