

PROCEEDINGS OF THE LOCAL BRANCHES

"All papers presented to the Association and Branches shall become the property of the Association with the understanding that they are not to be published in any other publication prior to their publication in those of the Association, except with the consent of the Council."—Part of Chapter VI, Article VI of the By-Laws.

ARTICLE III of Chapter VII reads: "The objects and aims of local branches of this Association shall be the same as set forth in ARTICLE I of the Constitution of this body, and the acts of local branches shall in no way commit or bind this Association, and can only serve as recommendations to it. And no local branch shall enact any article of Constitution or By-Law to conflict with the Constitution or By-Laws of this Association."

ARTICLE IV of Chapter VII reads: "Each local branch having not less than 50 dues-paid members of the Association, holding not less than six meetings annually with an attendance of not less than 9 members at each meeting, and the proceedings of which shall have been submitted to the JOURNAL for publication, may elect one representative to the House of Delegates."

Reports of the meeting of the Local Branches shall be mailed to the Editor on the day following the meeting, if possible. Minutes should be typewritten with wide spaces between the lines. Care should be taken to give proper names correctly and manuscript should be signed by the reporter.

CHICAGO.

The last monthly meeting of the Chicago Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION for the school year of 1934-1935 was held May 14th at the University of Illinois College of Pharmacy. The speaker of the evening was Dr. Frank B. Kirby, of the Abbott Laboratories.

The "Kirby Group Plan" was presented by President Webster. The plan has as its aim monthly meetings that will interest the retail druggists. The meeting time would be divided into definite periods with definite topics and would last in the neighborhood of two and one-half hours.

A lively discussion followed the presentation of the plan and the group present voted to accept the offer of Dr. Kirby to send a copy of the plan to the members of the Branch so as to get the opinions of those interested in the plan as to whether such an organization should be started in Chicago.

Dr. Kirby was presented, and discussed "Diseases of the Head."

The discussion was divided into three subdivisions, namely, (1) The Eye, (2) The Nose and (3) Hay Fever.

The Eye.—Dr. Kirby stated that the pharmacist should be in a position to render the eye specialist some kind of special service. As a suggestion, the stock in the store pertaining to eye medication could be arranged in special shelving. Then the druggist could pose as catering to this special field. The necessary equipment should be obtained to properly fill this type of prescription and signs should be displayed giving the impression that you are paying particular attention to the filling of prescriptions involving the eye.

You are now in a position to make a personal call on the eye specialists. It was suggested that at least six specialists and a population of 200,000 is needed before a special department should be established.

Twenty of these departments have been established in stores through the help of Dr. Kirby.

The Nose.—Dr. Kirby made a plea for professional recognition of colds in the head. Large companies have been making intensive surveys of the loss of time by employees due to colds in the head. No one has come along with a specific for colds in the head.

It was suggested that a professional window, depicting that the physician can render aid where common remedies fail, be displayed. Part of the window space can call attention to bacterins. These are injected by the physician but indirectly create good-will with that profession. A minor part of the display can be devoted to vitamin A, making mention of the reasons why it should be taken during the seasons when colds are easily acquired.

Hay Fever.—Two million people suffer annually from hay fever in this country.

Two opportunities await those dispensing hay fever medicines. *First*, there is the pre-

ventive medicine that is appreciated by the sufferers and one may start treatment prior to August 15th, say about the middle of June.

In many cases known sufferers may go through the entire season with relief if they take injections of the correct pollen extract before the air becomes contaminated with it.

About 10% of the suffering comes from hay, mainly timothy, and sometimes blue grass. About August 15th, the chief offender, the ragweed, comes along.

A suggestion was made that a ragweed be placed in the window as very few people know what it looks like. Show how pollens are marketed, the syringes, and a chart showing the pollen content of your territory. These charts are easily obtained.

Such a window was placed in a Chicago loop drug store and attracted so much attention that it was left in for a much longer period of time than had originally been planned.

During the first part of August a curative window should be displayed. There will now be new victims and those sufferers who did not take the June treatment. The display will be of a remedial nature and should show sprays, nasal douches, ephedrine preparations, eye preparations and vitamin A products. A full grown ragweed could be shown with blue glazed glass or blue glazed paper below which will show the pollen as it falls from the plant. These windows are known to have given results according to Dr. Kirby. The meeting was closed with an open discussion and with a rising vote of thanks to Dr. Kirby for his interesting discussion.

LAWRENCE TEMPLETON, *Secretary*.

NEW YORK.

The May 1935 meeting of the New York Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held on May 13th, in the College of Pharmacy of Columbia University, New York. About thirty members and their guests attended. Dr. Charles W. Ballard presided, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Treasurer Currens reported a balance on hand.

Chairman Lehman of the Committee on Education and Legislation then reported as follows:

"Fair Trade Stabilization has lost a valuable friend and ally in the accidental death of Clyde Kelly, former congressman from Pennsylvania.

"The Copeland Food and Drug Bill S. 5. It will be several weeks before this measure may come up. Rumor has it that a compromise has been effected and that the bill will come up in an amended form.

"American Retail Federation: Recent press release announces the formation of this super-trade organization, which is supposed to represent over one million retailers in the United States; the Executive Committee of the organization consists of:

"Louis Kirstein, Department store operator in Boston; George M. Gales, of Liggett & Co.; C. W. Kress, Five and Ten Cent Stores; F. Lazarus, Jr., department store operator in Columbus, Ohio; A. H. Morrill, of the Kroger Grocery & Bakery Chain; Samuel Robinson, of American Stores; Lessing Rosenwald, of Sears, Roebuck & Co.; E. C. Sams, of J. C. Penney Co.; H. J. Tilly of the Retailers National Council.

"General Johnson on April 18th, asked 'How much voice is the little fellow going to have in such an organization?'

"An investigation of this Retail Federation has been authorized by unanimous vote of the House of Representatives and is being conducted under the chairmanship of Congressman Cochran of Missouri and six other members, including Congressman Cole of New York. Pharmacists and others are asked to write to the chairman of the Committee stressing the need of statutory protection by small business men against monopolistic tendencies in distribution.

"The New York State Prophylactic Bill (Stewart Bill) was signed by Governor Lehman, on May 9th, and is now a law.

"The Fair Trade Bill was passed by the Senate some time ago, and during the last days of the Legislative session by an enormous majority in the Assembly, but so far has not been signed by the Governor.

"An organization favoring Price Stabilization of Trade Marked merchandise is the 'Allied Retailers Association' consisting of:

"The New York State Pharmaceutical Association, The New York State Retail Food Merchants, The New York State Retail Meat Dealers, The New York State Retail Jewelers, The New

York State Retail Liquor Package Dealers, The Paint Dealers Protective Association, the Retail Dealers of America, representing 174,000 retail outlets in the State of New York.

"A meeting of this organization will be held at the Hotel Pennsylvania in the interest of the adoption of the Feld-Crawford Fair Trade Bill, on the date of Wednesday evening, May 15th. Every local organization affiliated with the N. Y. Pharmaceutical Association is entitled to one official delegate to this meeting.

"From Bruce Philips Bulletin we see that the 'Medical Society of Greater New York (?)' is seriously discussing the question of a standardized home and office visit charge by the physician to the needy in that section. Suggested fees to be \$1.00 for office and \$2.00 for house visits.

"It is suggested that physicians at the same time should consider economies in the matter of prescription writing, and call for U. S. P. and N. F. Remedies, instead of expensive proprietaries.

"The New Booklet of the U. S. P. and N. F. Propaganda Committee of the New York State Pharmaceutical Association, under the chairmanship of our member J. Leon Lascoff, is now ready for distribution. The book contains information for the physician about official preparations, their strength, dosage and therapeutic value: also a large number of suggested prescriptions. 50+ pages; price 25¢ per copy.

"Alcohol regulations permitting the sale at wholesale of alcohol in containers of two or more gallons have gone into effect. Those pharmacists in N. Y. State who have a \$1.00 license can only purchase in containers as designated.

"Seizures and dismantling of stores violating the federal alcohol laws have been moderated so as to provide a hearing for the accused before indulging in the drastic action heretofore exercised by the officials."

In view of the fact that since the meeting the NRA has been declared unconstitutional all references to NRA and code provisions have been omitted from Mr. Lehman's report.

A letter from Samuel Hilton, Remington Medalist for 1935, was read. This letter brought on a discussion concerning the actual presentation of the medal. In this discussion Dr. Schaefer, Mr. Currens and Dr. Newcomb took part. It was finally moved and approved that the secretary and the Executive Committee would be empowered to arrange for the presentation either in Washington or in New York City, according to Dr. Hilton's wishes. In the event that the presentation would take place in New York City the program would be patterned after the procedure followed at the time of the Remington Medal presentation to Dr. E. F. Kelly.

President Ballard appointed Samuel C. Henry and Mr. Fred C. A. Schaefer to act as Branch delegates at Delegates' meetings of the New York Pharmaceutical Council. Professor Otto Canis, of Fordham University, and Mr. Jacob Seley were appointed to act as alternates. In connection with this Dr. Schaefer suggested that the report of the Council Delegates be made a regular part of the Branch meeting program from now on.

Dr. Ballard then introduced the speaker for the evening, Dr. Robert P. Fischelis, president of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, whose address was entitled "The A. Ph. A.— Shall It Remain a Symbol or Shall It Become a Living Thing?"

Dr. Fischelis began his address by pointing out that for nearly eighty-three years the pharmacists of the United States have looked up to the A. Ph. A. as the personification of everything they would like pharmacy to represent in the highest and most professional sense. In spite of this the membership represents less than three per cent of the pharmacists of the United States. He emphasized the fact that the ASSOCIATION remains something distant and hazy in the minds of most pharmacists from a strictly practical sense.

In more recent years developments in pharmacy have forced pharmacists to consider relations and to question all things and have focused attention upon the men and things responsible for the conditions which surround every phase of our profession and industry. In attacking these various problems they have evolved new units in American pharmacy to grapple with the various problems. In the meantime the A. Ph. A. instead of making use of its power to assist in the evolution of American pharmacy has calmly sat by and permitted new organizations to come into being. In this sense it has completely failed to assume the responsibilities which it justly should have and has even encouraged and fostered the growth of new organizations to handle specific problems. It is the argument of Dr. Fischelis that this is a great pity, for it has permitted a decentralization of power in American pharmacy with various groups pulling in different directions.

He pointed out particularly that the original organization as set-up of the A. Ph. A. was

such that no changes would be necessary in order to assume the various responsibilities, both professional and economic, which confront the industry. It is his opinion that in their conservatism the leaders of the ASSOCIATION have leaned over backwards.

In calling attention to some of the problems which the ASSOCIATION should rightfully have handled, Dr. Fischelis cited that in many instances the good name and prestige of the A. PH. A. had been used by numerous organizations as a means of furthering their program and gaining wider recognition. He stated that every single one of these organizations which has endeavored to capitalize on the prestige of the A. PH. A. always has capitalized on objectives, to which the A. PH. A. could have and should have directed its attention, if it had been a living thing and not merely a symbol.

In criticizing the ASSOCIATION for failure to assume its rightful place in American pharmacy, Dr. Fischelis stated that both inertia and the force of reactionary elements within the ASSOCIATION were responsible for the inactivity.

Before proposing a remedy the speaker carefully explained the present set-up of the ASSOCIATION and pointed out how provision was actually already there for assuming leadership in both the professional and economic fields of the industry. He went on to explain how a closer tie-up could be arranged between the State Association, the A. PH. A., the N. A. R. D. and the local A. PH. A. Branches which would make it possible for a single membership fee to provide adequate revenue for these various units. With such a set-up organizations like the Drug Institute would be wholly superfluous and it was Dr. Fischelis' opinion that if the large sum of money collected on behalf of that organization had been poured into such a set-up it would have been more productive of results since no salaries up to twenty-five thousand dollars a year would need to be paid.

In closing, Dr. Fischelis called attention to the power and unity represented in the medical field by the American Medical Association and the influence which this organization wields over advertising in the pharmaceutical field as well as physicians.

In the discussion which followed, A. W. Pauley of the Drug Center of St. Louis stated that he believed that the Drug Institute filled a place which other organizations could not. He claimed that individual associations had their own responsibilities and that the present set-up might better continue. He was particularly interested in calling attention to the Retail Federation which he claimed could easily destroy the independent retail druggist and called upon every retail unit to fight this new movement.

C. V. Michaels, of the Drug Institute, very briefly called attention to some of the work being done by the Institute and pointed out that this body had contributed something in awakening other organizations to their respective responsibilities.

Secretary Newcomb, of the New York Wholesale Druggists Association, believed that a furthering of the activities of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION would weaken the professional standing of that organization. He pointed out that in reality, two kinds of drug stores were making their appearance, one a strictly professional and ethical prescription pharmacy and the other a miniature department store. He believed that the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION would best fill its place in American pharmacy by retaining its active interest in the professional and scientific side and not by entering into the business field.

President David I. Cohen, of the New Jersey State Pharmaceutical Association, claimed that more active workers were needed in the field and that the industry required consolidating of its various forces.

Dean H. V. Arny pointed out that the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was an extremely conservative pharmacy organization and had in more recent times broadened its interests. He also stated that the House of Delegates had failed to fully function. Referring to Dr. Fischelis' statements concerning the solidarity shown in other professional fields it was Dr. Arny's opinion that this was not exactly true, and that the solidarity was not as great by any means as it appeared to be on the surface.

At the close of the discussion, a rising vote of thanks was accorded the speaker and all those who took part in the discussion.

RUDOLF O. HAUCK, *Secretary.*

PHILADELPHIA.

The May meeting of the Philadelphia Branch, AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held May 21, 1935, at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, President E. H. MacLaughlin in the chair.

The speaker of the evening, Dr. Robert P. Fischelis, president of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, spoke on "The AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION and the Future of American Pharmacy." Dr. Fischelis's speech was one of the most interesting heard during the past year. He emphasized the pitfalls of American pharmacy and the need of whole-hearted coöperation on the part of pharmacists throughout the United States, if they hoped to survive the great wave of influence which is tending to degrade pharmacy and to eliminate the individual pharmacist.

He stressed the importance of the organization of pharmacists into one powerful cohesive group, pointing out that the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, with its present set-up, was able to cope with any major Pharmaceutical problem. He emphasized the need of a new type A. PH. A. JOURNAL—one that would hold interest and be helpful for the pharmacist as well as the scientist.

A rising vote of thanks was given Dr. Fischelis in appreciation of his most valuable talk.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE E. BYERS, *Secretary.*

(Concluded on page 521.)

A PHARMACEUTICAL STUDY OF p_H .

BY FREDERICK F. JOHNSON.

(Concluded from page 412, *May Journal, A. Ph. A.*)

 p_H AND STABILITY OF GALENICAL PREPARATIONS.

Digitalis Preparations.—The question of p_H and digitalis stability has been a matter of controversy for many years and is far from settled at the present time. Hintzelmann and Joachimoglu (89) stated that the tincture was most stable in an acid medium. Emig (238) reported that tinctures prepared from menstrums of p_H 4.5–5.2 showed the least loss in potency although the initial potency was less than for normal tinctures. Rowe and Scoville (248) stated that adjustment of the tinctures to p_H 4.0 with hydrochloric acid increased the stability and later stated (289) that tinctures of p_H 3.0 were more stable than those of p_H 6.0 or 7.0.

In contrast to these results, Haag and Hatcher (127) reported that HCl decomposed constituents of digitalis, Wokes (187) reported that acidifying did not increase stability, Haag and Jarrett (206) reported that no definite relation existed between the activity of the tinctures and p_H , and Foster and Van Dyke (264) stated that the most stable tinctures were those of highest p_H .

Hintzelmann and Joachimoglu (83), (42) reported that alkalinizing the tinctures with NaHCO_3 greatly increased deterioration, while Wokes (187) reported that the addition of Na_2CO_3 caused very little deterioration. Joachimoglu and Bose (65) reported that the addition of tartaric acid increased the stability. Rowe and Scoville (248) reported that the addition of hypophosphorous acid as a reducing agent was detrimental. It seems to be definite that the addition of anhydrous sodium acetate or anhydrous sodium sulphate as antihydrolytic agents does result in increased stability (248), (289), (301).

Several investigators have reported that stability is increased by destroying the ferments of the crude drug or preparations by heat (95), (248), (289). Rowe and Scoville (289) reported that tinctures prepared from a 77% alcoholic menstruum were more stable than those prepared from an 87% menstruum, but Stasiak (329) claimed that absolute alcohol tinctures were more stable than 70% alcohol tinctures. Macht and his co-workers (88), (98), (99) stated that ultraviolet light and polarized light hastened destruction of the tinctures, but Bond and Gray (108) claimed that no destruction was produced by exposure to either light.

There is plenty of evidence that the crude drug, tincture and infusion tend to become more acid during storage (92), (162), (214). Krantz (163), (274) has determined the buffer capacity of the tincture as 0.009 between p_H 5.75–2.50, and as 0.012 between p_H 5.75–9.50, 5.75 being the p_H of a U. S. P. tincture. He further stated (243) that the acids of the leaf are probably combined