

EDITORIAL NOTES

LOCAL BRANCHES, A. PH. A.

It is hoped to include a revised roster of the A. PH. A. Branches in the succeeding issue of the JOURNAL and the officers are requested to refer to pages XVIII and XIX of the July JOURNAL and mail revisions, if necessary, to the JOURNAL, 2215 Constitution Ave., Washington, D. C.—Thank you.

REMINGTON MEDAL AWARD AND DINNER.

The Remington Medal will be formally awarded to Samuel L. Hilton at a dinner which will take place at the Mayflower Hotel, Washington, D. C., on the evening of October 19th, at 7:00 P.M. The function is under the auspices of the District of Columbia Pharmaceutical Association, of the District Veteran Druggists Association, the District Board of Pharmacy, the members of the faculty of the School of Pharmacy, George Washington University, and the New York Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

Dr. A. C. Taylor, 1733 Upshur St., N. W., Washington, D. C., is directing the arrangements and tickets can be reserved for the occasion. (The price is \$3.00 per person.) A large attendance is expected.

TRI-STATE MEETING.

The states of Idaho, Oregon and Washington held a most successful Tri-State pharmaceutical convention and added immensely to the success of the meeting of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION. The duties of the officers did not prevent them from taking part in the meetings, but a number failed to register, hence, it is greatly regretted that their names are not recorded. The list of registrants is printed in the August JOURNAL, pages 679 and 680. It will please the ASSOCIATION to have their names for record and thanks are extended for the consideration.

The name of F. C. Felter, *Pacific Drug Review*, was not in the list of record; he was among those in attendance and active in the work of the convention.

THE EBERT PRIZE AWARDS.

At the Portland meeting of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, Marvin J. Andrews was awarded the Ebert Prize,

for his work on "Determination of the Reasonable Permissible Margin of Error in Dispensing." The first Ebert award was made in 1874 to Charles L. Mitchell; the Index of the 1874 volume of the PROCEEDINGS does not refer to the Ebert Prize for 1874 nor does the Collective Index, 1851-1902. Under "Funds of the ASSOCIATION," YEAR BOOK, volume for 1933, it is stated: "The Ebert Prize was awarded for the Year 1874, to Charles L. Mitchell." As there was difficulty in finding the report on this, *the first award*, search was made with the result that on page 782, of the 1875 volume of the PROCEEDINGS is a comprehensive report and the words of the award are:

"After full deliberation upon all the above points, and considering the labor involved in the experiments of the subject-matters of the three papers, the committee awards the Ebert Prize of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, for the year 1874, to Mr. Charles L. Mitchell, for his essay "On the Active Principles of the Official *Veratrum*."

The paper is published in the volume of the PROCEEDINGS for 1874, pages 397-426. Mr. Mitchell graduated from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy in 1872 and in medicine from the Jefferson Medical College, in 1880. He retired from the retail drug business in 1882 and engaged in the manufacture of pharmaceuticals. He was one of the founders of Medico-Chirurgical College and professor of Chemistry for two years. He died in 1910, but his name does not appear under "Obituary" in the Index; these notes, therefore, may have reference value.

The Collective Index for 1851 to 1902 does not list the "Ebert Prize" under that head and search must be made for the awards under other headings: F. B. Power, PROCEEDINGS for 1878, page 875; J. U. Lloyd, Volume 31, page 439. The first listing under "Ebert Prize" is in Volume 55, reference to page 313. Other references may usually be found under—"Committee," "Report," or the name of the recipient in connection with the paper presented.

USE OF LACTIC ACID FOR NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.

The manufacturers of non-alcoholic beverages in Japan will use lactic acid in place of citric acid and tartaric acid, both of which

Japan has imported for many years and the demand has been on a steady increase in recent years. This decision has resulted from the recent experiments carried on by Dr. Yasuzo Hattori of the Imperial Hygienic Laboratory at Tokyo at the request of the Japan Non-alcoholic Beverages Association. His conclusion is that lactic acid has a greater power of sterilization and its taste is milder than that of the other two acids.

HUNGARIAN DRUGS.

Because of his country's position as the world's largest supplier of botanical drugs, Dr. Peter von Betegh, Hungary, pointed out that officials of the Hungarian government after the war laid down a policy calculated to raise the quality of botanical products. It established agricultural stations under the direction of scientists of high rank; the Hungarian Board of Agriculture maintains a department which is authorized to control the condition and quality of the goods which are in the hands of the collectors as well as those held by the traders. Proper cultivation, collection and preparation of botanical drugs so that they will meet with U. S. P. requirements rests in the hands of a staff of chemists whose services are at the disposal of all branches of the trade. Exports of botanical drugs from Hungary last year totaled 2,300,000 kilos, comprising more than 100 different items.—Abstracted from *Oil, Paint and Drug Reporter*, September 9th.

COTTON STRIPPER TESTED IN HARVESTING PYRETHRUM.

A cotton stripper altered to harvest pyrethrum will do the work successfully if the flower stalks are reasonably upright, the U. S. Department of Agriculture announced. The Bureaus of Agricultural Engineering and Plant Industry have just finished making tests with such a machine and with a grain binder at points in Maryland and Pennsylvania.

COMMITTEE TO COÖRDINATE HEALTH ACTIVITIES OF GOVERNMENT.

The interdepartmental committee to coördinate health and related welfare activities of the federal government is composed of: Josephine Roche, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, Chairman; Oscar Chapman, Assistant Secretary of the Interior; M. L. Wilson, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, and A. J.

Altmeyer, Second Assistant Secretary of Labor. The president has instructed this committee to include within the scope of its work not only health activities, but closely related welfare activities as well. This Committee is to be composed of physicians and other technically trained persons within the government service to study and make recommendations concerning specific aspects of the government health activities. It is hoped to bring about a complete coördination of the government's activities in the health field.

PERSONNEL CHANGES IN SWEDISH PHARMACEUTICAL CIRCLES.

It is announced in *Farm. Revy* (Aug. 24, 1935) that King Gustav V has appointed the former head of the apothecary shop "Garnison" in Stockholm, Apothecary C. F. G. Söderberg, to be chief of the Apothecaries' Bureau of the Royal Medicinalstyrelse (the official Swedish medical control). The former bureau chief, Apothecary Ernst Matern, had requested retirement. Mr. Söderberg is a former teacher at the Swedish Royal Pharmaceutical Institute and has been long connected with the State Pharmaceutical Laboratory.

The King has also appointed Apothecary Harold Nilsson as head of the State Pharmaceutical Laboratory. Mr. Nilsson has been a teacher at the Royal Pharmaceutical Institute. Since 1930 he has been an assistant at the State Pharmaceutical Laboratory.

It may be noted that the Swedish pharmaceutical weekly, *Farmaceutisk Revy*, has changed editors, Apothecary A. Welander retiring and Apothecary John Quist taking his place as new editor. Mr. Quist's first issue is the number for the 17th of August (Vol. 34, No. 33).

At a meeting of the Nordiska Specialitetskommission in Stockholm in June it was decided to make up an "extra-pharmacopœia" (in common for the four Scandinavian countries) corresponding to the *Ergänzungsbuch* of the German pharmacopœia and citing test methods for non-official preparations. Among the commissioners are Prof. Baggesgaard Rasmussen, E. H. Madsen and K. A. Jackerott representing Denmark, Apothecary A. Nylander representing Finland, K. L. Schei and F. de Lemos representing Norway and Dr. A. Rising, S. Erikson and H. Nilsson representing Sweden.—*Courtesy Dr. Clifford Leonard and Dr. A. G. DuMez.*