

Of General Interest

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BOARDS OF PHARMACY.

The joint meeting of the Executive and Advisory Examination Committees of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy was opened at the Tampa Bay Hotel, Tampa, Fla., February 20, at 11 a. m. At the meeting of the Executive Committee President Berger occupied the chair and, in the absence of Mr. Sala on account of illness, Mr. C. E. Zinn was elected temporary secretary.

Mr. Ben Freer, of the Tampa Druggists' Association, welcomed the members of the National Association in a cordial address, to which Mr. Zinn responded. Mr. J. C. Burton, chairman of the Executive Committee, reported that the committee had secured incorporation for the association; that the Kansas State Board had affiliated with the association and detailed the activities of the committee during the past year. The secretary was instructed to mail to all members of boards of pharmacy in the U. S. a copy of the report of the Executive Committee. The Advisory Examination Committee was directed to take up the work of visiting boards of pharmacy during the examinations of such boards. The secretary was instructed to call in all reciprocal blanks and to reimburse the amounts paid for same. It was also ordered that new blanks be immediately printed and that they should be obtained of the national secretary and that a fee of \$5 must accompany order for same.

At 10 o'clock on February 21 the meeting of the Advisory Examination Committee was called to order by Chairman Christensen. An interesting discussion took place upon the variance of examination-questions of Boards of Pharmacy, and Chairman Christensen presented two examination papers to show the wide difference between these questions. One he characterized as too elemental and the other as too technical, both "entirely lacking in balance or distribution and practically use-

less in so far as to determine the fitness of the candidate." He said that much work had been done looking toward the preparation of questions and it was voted expedient to hold a meeting at St. Louis that questions might be tabulated and methods of improvement devised. On the 23d a joint conference was held, with President Berger presiding. It was the sense of this meeting that many changes must be made by a number of state boards in order to produce that uniformity which should precede reciprocity, and the Advisory Examination Committee were instructed to meet at the earliest possible date to study that question and to notify members of Boards of Pharmacy of the completion of their work and that the questions were available upon request.

A vote of thanks was extended to President Berger, the druggists of Tampa, and to the daily press for courtesies extended the delegates to the Convention.



NATIONAL FOOD TRADES CONFERENCE.

A very important conference was convened at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York City, on February 27, last, at the meeting of the National Food Trades Conference.

This Convention was called to consider subjects of general interest to those concerned in the manufacture, sale and use of food products, to encourage the greater uniformity of efficient food-control laws and to aid generally in attaining purer and better foods, honestly and properly labelled and advertised.

There were present at the meeting representatives from many national and state associations composed of those interested in food products, among them being the National Civic Federation, the National Wholesale Grocers' Association, the National Retail Grocers' Association, the National Coffee Roasters' Association, the American Spe-

cialty Manufacturers' Association, the National Confectioners' Association, the U. S. Brewers' Association, the National Association of Macaroni and Noodle Manufacturers, the Wholesale Grocers' Association of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware, the Association of Manufacturers of Products from Corn, the Cocoa and Chocolate Manufacturers' Association, the Millers' National Federation, the Oyster Growers' and Dealers' Association and also from many firms of national prominence, among whom were the Shredded Wheat Co., the Franco-American Food Co., the Pacific Coast Borax Co., the Welch Grape Juice Co., Borden Condensed Milk Co., and Merck & Co. In addition to these many persons of national prominence were in attendance.

The Convention was called to order by Mr. Louis Runkle, the President of the American Specialty Manufacturers' Association. In his opening remarks he said the purpose of the conference was to afford "a forum where our pure food laws might be considered by all interested, to the end that uniformity of these laws may be advanced and better food products be insured to the consumer." He said that the conference was originally called by the American Specialty Manufacturers' Association, for it was, and is, believed that through its medium a spirit of harmonious, cordial and sympathetic co-operation might be evolved to the great benefit of the American people. Uniformity of laws means a strengthening of all legislation, both federal and state, and more efficient administration to the end that a single and best standard would be provided for all, and that equal protection which all citizens of the country should receive and enjoy. He closed his remarks by saying, "Let us therefore confer together in common counsel, and by this conference accomplish a real work in aiding in bringing our laws and their enforcement to that highest point of efficiency throughout this entire nation, so that our national efficiency may be enhanced, both for ourselves and our posterity."

Communications expressing approval of the objects of the conference were read from John A. Wallace, New Castle, Pa., and from many others of national prominence in the movement.

The President of the Board of Health of Greater New York, Dr. S. F. Goldwater, welcomed the conference to the city. He

said that conference was particularly to be welcomed because it promised unity of effort in the direction of pure food legislation, a spirit of co-operation among manufacturers and the public and the representatives of the state law-making power and administrative power. He was encouraged to believe that the results of the conference would reduce the activities of the board of health to a minimum, if it asked the hearty and active co-operation of the manufacturers and producers to join hands in doing what the interests of the community demand.

Mr. George L. Flanders, counsel of the Department of Agriculture of New York, and President of the National Dairymen's Union, addressed the Convention and spoke of the great difficulties of attaining concordant opinions in regard to laws which should be passed and also as to their construction by courts when they were formulated into law. The same law had been declared constitutional in New York and unconstitutional in Pennsylvania, and in the States of Michigan and Minnesota the same disagreement had appeared. The Supreme Court of Minnesota had declared a law relative to the bonding of commission merchants constitutional, while the highest court of Minnesota decided the same law unconstitutional. This state of things might be attributed to the fact that the constitutions of these states were different, and from this fact would naturally result non-uniformity in legislation. Speaking of the difficulty of controlling the use of preservatives in food, he instanced the decision of the courts of New York that, "To preserve food products for the human family is a laudable purpose and any law that says you shall not preserve a food-product contravenes the fundamental principles of our constitution." He referred to the illegal delegation of powers by legislatures to boards and commissions, to make laws and condemned the practice as not only unwise, as tending to further a chaotic state and not a cosmic one, but also as one which would undoubtedly be declared unconstitutional by the courts. If you want standards, get them in the laws, he said, and then get decisions of your courts upon those laws, and if the laws are not right, change them.

The report of the Secretary giving an outline of the action leading to the conference was read and approved.

The report of the Executive Committee was

accompanied by several resolutions as follows, all of which were adopted by the Convention:

Resolved, That the National Food Trades Conference does hereby recommend the appointment of a competent Federal Commission by the President by and with the consent of Congress authorized and directed to investigate the pure food and drug laws of such foreign nations as may appear most advisable, and their administration and enforcement and to report fully the result of such investigation, which report shall include a statement of the existing laws, regulations, standards, methods and such other information as may be of interest, which report shall be published and made available for general use.

Resolved, That this National Food Trades Conference hereby earnestly urges that every effort be made to the end that such uniformity may be as fully realized as possible, in the interest of the general public welfare.

Resolved, That the National Food Trades Conference directs its duly appointed Committee on Collaboration to give this recommendation careful and thorough consideration and to confer with the National Food Control Officials and the Association of American Dairy, Food and Drug Officials and render a complete report thereon at the next meeting of this conference.

Resolved, That the National Food Trades Conference hereby records its warm approval of any changes in the administration of the Federal Food and Drugs Act of June 30, 1906, which may render the operation of that act more effective and extends to the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture and the officials co-operating with him in this work this expression of their confidence and best wishes and offers its heartiest co-operation.

Resolved, That the National Food Trades Conference earnestly recommends that the pure food laws of the several states not now so providing be amended so as to incorporate the amendment of the Federal Food and Drugs Act of June 30, 1906, requiring the statement of the net weight, measure or numerical count in the case of packaged food and providing that variations, due to natural or mechanical causes beyond reasonable control, shall be permitted and tolerances and exemptions as to small packages established by rules and regulations.

Resolved, That the National Food Trades Conference hereby recommends that an additional provision be inserted in such state law, if it is not already provided, to the effect that the rules and regulations permitting reasonable variations and establishing tolerances and exemptions as to small packages be in harmony with the similar rules and regulations established under the Federal law.

Resolved, That the Secretary of this conference be and he hereby is authorized and directed immediately to communicate this resolution to the proper officials of the sev-

eral states whose legislatures are now or will shortly be in session, and earnestly urge compliance therewith.

Resolved, That this conference hereby directs its duly appointed Committee on Collaboration to confer and co-operate with the officials of the several states and legislatures of which will be in session during 1915 and with the Association of American Dairy, Food and Drug Officials to the end that the purpose of this resolution may be most fully realized.

Resolved, That the National Food Trades Conference hereby extends to the National Civic Federation in the inception of this important work its very best wishes and suggests and directs its duly appointed Committee on Collaboration to offer its sincerest co-operation.

Resolved, That the National Food Trades Conference hereby strongly endorses an amendment of the Federal Food and Drugs Act of June 30, 1906, which will provide against such an exposure of food to contamination or insanitary conditions as would render it unwholesome and unfit for consumption and requests and directs its duly appointed Committee on Collaboration to confer with the Federal Food and Drug Control officials and with the Association of American Dairy, Food and Drug Officials, to the end that such an amendment may be accomplished at the earliest date and the laws of the several states amended in a similar manner.

Resolved, That the National Food Trades Conference does hereby earnestly endorse these efforts and directs its duly appointed Committee on Collaboration to co-operate with the above named officials to this end.

Resolved, That the National Food Trades Conference hereby offers to the Association of American Dairy, Food and Drug Officials its heartiest co-operation and requests and directs its duly appointed Committee on Collaboration to confer and co-operate with this above named association, in every way, so as to accomplish the most equitable, efficient and uniform food control laws and regulations and enforcement thereof, Federal and state.

Resolved, That the National Food Trades Conference hereby requests and directs its duly appointed Committee on Collaboration to confer with the Federal Food and Drug Control Officials and with the Association of American Dairy, Food and Drug Officials to the end that such action may be taken which may be necessary and proper to qualify, define or limit the use of the guaranty legend as will best fulfill the purpose and operation of the Federal Food and Drugs Act of June 30, 1906.

Mr. Fred R. Drake, of Easton, Pa., former President of the National Wholesale Grocers' Association, read a paper on "National Standards and the Metric System," in which he stated the position of the National Wholesale Grocers' Association to be strongly in favor

of "the compulsory adoption of the metric system in simplification not only of interstate but of international commercial transactions. Dr. Reichmann, Superintendent of Weights and Measures of the State of New York, spoke on "Weights and Measures." Mr. Charles T. Terry spoke of the work of the Commissioners on Uniform State Laws; Miss Mary Wood spoke for the New York State Federation of Women's Clubs in a very clever and interesting address, and Mr. Porter, the President of the Shredded Wheat Co., also spoke on "Uniformity of Legislation," and Mr. T. P. Sullivan spoke of the work of the Illinois Food Commission.

The Convention then adopted a code of rules and regulations based upon that of the National Drug Trades Conference, and elected the following officers:

President—Louis Runkel, American Special Manufacturers' Association.

First Vice President—H. W. Hoops, National Confectioners' Association.

Second Vice President—Theo. F. Wite-marsh, National Wholesale Grocers' Association.

Third Vice President—W. M. McCormick, Flavoring Extract Manufacturers' Association.

Fourth Vice President—C. F. Mueller, Jr., National Association of Macaroni and Noodle Manufacturers.

Secretary-Treasurer—John A. Green, National Retail Grocers' Association.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The above officers and Mr. A. P. Husband, Millers' National Federation; William B. Harris, National Coffee Roasters' Association; Representative of Oyster Growers' and Dealers' Association of North America.

COMMITTEE ON COLLABORATION.

The above officers and Charles Wesley Dunn, American Specialty Manufacturers' Association; Helen Louise Johnson, Chairman, House Economics Department, General Federation of Women's Clubs; Mary Wood, Chairman of the Legislative Committees, respectively, of the New York State Federation of Women's Clubs and the New York City Federation of Women's Clubs.

The Convention then adjourned, subject to the call of the Chair.



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MANUFACTURERS OF ME- DICINAL PRODUCTS.

The third annual meeting of the Association was called to order at 10:30 a. m. on Tuesday, February 10, at the Waldorf-

Astoria Hotel, New York, by President Frank G. Ryan, of Detroit. After the calling of the roll, the reception of delegates from allied bodies occurred. Prof. Joseph P. Remington brought to the convention the greeting of the American Pharmaceutical Association in a very interesting and eloquent address. He said in part, that the American Pharmaceutical Association sent a warm greeting to her younger sister, and wished her "God speed," for both associations stood for the best in drugs and in medicines; both were a unit in desiring and standing firmly for "whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely and whatsoever things are of good report." He spoke of the particular work of the A. Ph. A. in bringing into common fellowship the members of the different branches of the trade and said that its "very catholicism had been one of its greatest assets." The spirit of union and co-operation shown in the work of the National Drug Trade Conference, which was born from this intimate association augurs well for the future of pharmacy. He expressed the earnest hope that the two associations should co-operate to even a much greater extent to advance and uplift pharmacy.

Mr. Frank E. Holliday spoke for the National Wholesale Druggists' Association, Mr. Harry B. Thompson for the Proprietary Association of America and Mr. George C. Hall for the American Association of Pharmaceutical Chemists. President Ryan responded to these addresses, referring particularly to the address of Prof. Remington.

Dr. A. R. L. Dohme occupied the chair during the delivery of the president's address, which comprised a great range of subjects of interest to the members. He referred particularly to the recently enacted tariff and currency bills and said that with these great questions settled we might look forward with confidence to the prosperity of all legitimate business interests. The other subjects discussed in the address were the indefiniteness with which laws were worded, both Federal and State, and the consequent difficulty of their interpretation; the attempt to repeal the "variation clause" of the Food and Drugs Act; the Harrison Bill, which he strongly approved; the Supreme Court decision in regard to the regu-

lation of prices by the manufacturers, which he criticized; the laws, Federal and State, which were not in harmony; international trade-marks; one cent postage, which he favored, and the remission of dues to the members for the coming year.

The Secretary, Charles M. Woodruff, reported a membership of thirty for the association, a net gain of one, and discussed both national and state legislation very exhaustively. The report of the Committee on Legislation commended the veto of the Governor of Maine of an "Act relative to Misleading Advertisements"; discussed uniform drug legislation, insecticide legislation, and the "variation clause," stigmatizing the effort to repeal the latter as one whose object was to destroy manufacturing pharmacy. It condemned the Sabath bill (H. R. 4653), and said it "should receive the earnest opposition of every well-wisher for pharmaceutical justice and progress," and that it was time to call a halt in all drug legislation. It advised the passage of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the National Association of Manufacturers of Medicinal Products earnestly recommend that no new laws relating to the subjects be enacted during the present year, unless it be by State Legislatures for the purpose of bringing the State law into conformity with the present Federal law."

The report of the delegates to the National Drug Trade Conference was a very complete review and analysis of the work done by that conference in the framing and the passage of the Harrison bill. It touched on bichloride of mercury legislation, price-protection, the mailing of poisons and the proposed repeal of the "variation clause."

The Executive Committee's report discussed the operation of the laws relating to the licensing of establishments manufacturing viruses, serums, toxins and analogous products and the proposed incorporation of the association. On Tuesday afternoon Prof. Remington addressed the convention on "The Present Status of the Pharmacopœia." He said in part, "The work is going on rapidly now and a large number of the pages of the work are ready to go to press." There never has been a revision in the U. S. P. which has been so thorough and which has been so open. The Food and Drugs Act has been the cause of renewed interest, and "when one's pocket-book

is affected the talk becomes loud." He spoke of the impossibility of the introduction of copyrighted names into the Pharmacopœia and asked, "Will the manufacturers be willing to permit their preparations to be admitted to the Pharmacopœia, with tests for purity and identity under another name?" He spoke of the tests for volatile oils and said that plants at different seasons of the year, or gathered under different conditions of the weather and climate, produced products which vary greatly. Any one reading the JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION will keep in touch with the new Pharmacopœia until the book is on the press. The question of including corrosive chloride of mercury tablets had been passed and some method should be devised for distinguishing them. He requested suggestions as to the form this should take. President Ryan spoke of the difficulty of wrapping these tablets and said that girls employed in such work were obliged to wear rubber gloves to prevent corrosion of the skin of the hands.

Ernest W. Bradford addressed the convention on the Kahn bill, now pending in Congress, which is intended for the protection of exhibitors from foreign countries at the San Francisco exhibition. This bill he criticized as defective and likely to make trouble for our people. He said that the Bulkley bill would eliminate the bad features of the Kahn bill.

The Executive Committee presented a memorial respecting the operation of the Federal serum laws and a resolution asking that the memorial be sent to the Secretaries of Agriculture and Treasury and to the Senate and the House of Representatives. The resolution was adopted by the convention.

Mr. Wayland Stearns called attention to the fact that Dr. Alsberg, the government chemist, had believed it possible that a board might be established to pass upon the labels and other printed matter of manufacturers, but that as yet nothing had developed along that line. In the State of Montana this was made the duty of the State Board of Health.

On Wednesday Mr. Samuel C. Henry addressed the convention as the representative of the N. A. R. D. In his address, after comparing the pharmaceutical products of a quarter century ago with those of today

much to the advantage of the latter, he sharply criticized the practice of selling supplies to dispensing physicians. This practice was not an injury alone to the druggists, but to the public and to the manufacturers also.

Resolutions were adopted urging the retention of "the variation clause" in future legislation of Federal and State Legislatures, approving the Harrison anti-narcotic bill, one-cent letter postage, the mailing of medicinal products containing poisons, and one giving approval and support to the National Drug Trade Conference. John F. Queeny, of the Monsanto Chemical Works, submitted a resolution concerning the ruling of the Referee Board in regard to the use of saccharin in food products and the resolution was adopted.

The following officers were elected:

President, Henry C. Lovis, of Seabury and Johnson, New York.

Vice-president, J. K. Lilly, of Eli Lilly & Co., Indianapolis.

Treasurer, Franklin Black, of Charles Pfizer & Co., N. Y.

Secretary, Charles M. Woodruff, Detroit, Michigan.

Executive Committee, A. R. L. Dohme, Adolph G. Rosengarten and the President, Secretary and Treasurer, *ex officio*.

The convention then adjourned *sine die*.

About seventy covers were laid at the Waldorf-Astoria on Wednesday evening for the annual banquet of the association. The after-dinner speakers were Hon. Herbert A. Metz, William F. Bennett, Judge Isaac F. Russell, and C. A. Mayo, the newly-elected President of the A. Ph. A. Ex-President Ryan acted as toastmaster.



CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN DRUGGISTS' SYNDICATE.

The eighth annual convention of the American Druggists' Syndicate was held at Madison Square Garden the week of January 19 last, and was attended by about four thousand members. Tuesday morning the convention was formally welcomed by Dr. William C. Anderson, who delivered a forceful address in which he spoke of the wonderful growth of the organization in the eight years of its life, and likened its achievement to that of the fathers of the republic

in their struggle against unjust and inequitable conditions. He made a brilliant speech which was frequently interrupted with applause.

Mr. Henry W. Merritt responded to Dr. Anderson's address. In his remarks he strongly condemned those members who treacherously violated their agreements with the company, by which disloyalty the very life of the organization was threatened.

President Frailey, in his annual address, discussed the advantages of co-operation and said that abilities which were latent, were often stimulated into useful activity when occasion was presented for their use, and urged all to an active loyalty to the principles and policies of their co-operative organization in order that it might be developed into a combination of greater force and value.

The report of Secretary Goddard reviewed the work of the previous year and said that notwithstanding the general complaint of "dull business" it had been the "banner year" of A. D. S. history. He reviewed the accomplishments of the company, among the latter being the purchase of the real estate formerly occupied under lease, which comprised thirteen city lots in Brooklyn and the acquirement of a factory for the manufacture of absorbent cotton, sanitary napkins and goods of like nature. He advised also the purchase of the Blanchard Building, now occupied by the company under lease. He discussed the admission of other lines to the work of the company, and said it might find a profitable field in supplying grocers and stationers with their goods. While he favored such extension himself, he deferred to the opinion of the small number of the members (about 15 percent) who thought it unwise, and advised delay in deciding this matter. In an analysis of the condition of the drug trade, he said, there were forty-three thousand stores in the United States. Of these, nine thousand were owned by jobbers, ten thousand which were barely existing and one thousand controlled by the chain-store interests. Of the remaining twenty-three thousand the A. D. S. might expect to add to its stockholders not more than five or six thousand. There was need then of providing for new fields of work and suggested Canada, Central and South America as offering almost unlimited opportunities. He advised the establishment of a

Canadian laboratory. One of the most important of his recommendations was that the company should sell its supplies to physicians. He thought a business of five millions could be done by the adoption of this policy. He also suggested the manufacture of dental supplies by the company, and the acquirement by purchase of established patent medicines, instancing a certain proprietary children's cathartic, and analysing the value of such a purchase. He announced a favorable vote by the stockholders on the proposition to increase the capital of the company and recommended that it should be a \$10,000,000 issue. He suggested the adoption of the premium certificate plan by the company, similar to the coupon plan of the United Cigar Co. The general session on Thursday authorized the increase of capital stock and the issue of premium coupons. At this meeting Mr. Goddard announced that it was probable that the A. D. S. members would attend the San Francisco exhibition in one of the company's own steamships. The following gentlemen were elected as directors for three years: C. H. Goddard, G. W. Luft, W. C. Anderson, Otto G. Hottinger, Sidney C. Yeomans. Dr. Anderson presented resolutions against the illegal sale and distribution of cocaine and heroin, which were adopted. The entertainment features were many and elaborate. They comprised theatre parties, banquets, and a grand ball on Friday evening. At a meeting of the new board of directors the following officers were chosen for the coming year: President, Dr. William C. Anderson, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Vice-Presidents, E. L. Weston, Syracuse, N. Y.; G. W. Stevens, Detroit, Mich.; G. N. Cherrington and E. W. Stucky; Secretary and Manager, C. H. Goddard; Treasurer, G. W. Luft.



RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE NATIONAL DRUG TRADE CONFERENCE RESPECTING PROPOSED DRUG LEGISLA- TION.

The National Drug Trade Conference is composed of delegates from the national organizations of those engaged and interested in the manufacture, wholesaling and retailing of the hundreds of pharmaceuticals prescribed or ordered by physicians, dentists and veterinarians.

The constituent members are:

The American Pharmaceutical Association, a scientific rather than a commercial body, organized in 1851.

The National Association of Retail Druggists, now some fifteen years old, representing the commercial side of retail pharmacy.

The National Wholesale Druggists' Association, organized thirty-eight years ago for the mutual benefit of the wholesale drug trade.

The American Association of Pharmaceutical Chemists, composed of some fifty or more manufacturers, most of whom deal directly with the medical profession; and

The National Association of Manufacturers of Medicinal Products, embracing practically all of the larger pharmaceutical manufacturing houses having close relations with the drug trade.

Few people, even in professional and legislative circles, realize how many millions are invested in the manufacture of drugs in various forms that are not offered to the public and are not intended to reach the consumer except as dispensed upon the prescription of or administered by the doctor, the dentist or the veterinarian.

Legislation in the past has been entirely without regard to the lawful business of those thus represented in the National Drug Trade Conference; and much legislation now proposed ignores the effect it would have upon interests not more important to the manufacturers and dealers themselves than to the public.

For example: In the legislature of one of the states there was recently introduced an inspection bill intended to prevent the sale of "patent medicines" until they had been analyzed and found to contain medicinal ingredients that warranted whatever therapeutic claims had been made for them. As worded it required the manufacturer of any medicinal compound not recognized in the United States Pharmacopœia or National Formulary to pay an annual inspection fee of \$25.00 for each such compound offered for sale in that state.

This meant nothing to the "patent medicine" proprietor, whose tax would have been \$25.00 multiplied by the few (in most cases but one) products he offered to the public.

The varying views of the medical profession require purveyors to furnish thousands of combinations in fluid, solid, pill or tablet form that are not mentioned in the United

States Pharmacopœia or National Formulary. Such a law would have imposed an annual tax upon the pharmaceutical manufacturer of thousands of dollars. They could not have complied and would have been compelled to supply doctors, dentists and veterinarians in interstate commerce, which would have resulted in untold loss to the drug trade of that state.

The work of the National Drug Trade Conference has been and will continue to be constructive. This is assured by its connection with the Harrison bill, intended to prevent the practical nullification of the anti-narcotic laws of the several states by the natural operations of interstate commerce. The work was commended by Congressmen Harrison and Mann in the discussion resulting in the passage of the bill by the House June 26, 1913; and it may well be said that never was a more orderly attempt made to effect reasonable legislation efficient for the purpose of minimizing a crying evil without injuring lawful interests. The organization and work of the Conference in this connection may well be studied as something unique and highly commendable in constructive legislation.

It is therefore urged that the views respecting pending measures in Congress and some state legislatures expressed in the accompanying resolutions deserve careful consideration, and no hasty legislation amending or additive to existing drug law be enacted during the considerable period necessary for studying and harmonizing the various statutes which now lack desired uniformity; especially in features more immediately concerning interstate commerce.

Federal Food and Drugs Act Should not be Amended Prior to Publication of New Revisions of United States Pharmacopœia and National Formulary.

WHEREAS, The Conference has been organized to secure uniformity in State and Federal laws relating to the adulteration and misbranding of drugs; and,

WHEREAS, Such uniformity is now being sought by the Commission on Uniform Laws and also by the American Bar Association; and,

WHEREAS, The American Bar Association has recommended that such uniformity be secured by the various States conforming their laws to the Federal act; and,

WHEREAS, Further hasty State and Federal legislation respecting the adulteration and misbranding of drugs will add to the confusion now existing; therefore, be it

Resolved, That this National Drug Trade Conference earnestly recommend that no new

laws relating to the adulteration and misbranding of drugs be enacted by any State during the present session of its legislature, unless its purpose be to bring the law in conformity with the Federal law; and be it further

Resolved, That this Conference recommend that the Federal law should not be amended prior to the publication of the new revision of the United States Pharmacopœia and National Formulary, lest greater lack of uniformity be effected.

On Bi-Chloride of Mercury and Other Poison Legislation.

Resolved, That in recognition of the power of suggestion upon morbid and unbalanced minds, the National Drug Trade Conference does hereby urge upon the newspapers of the country that in reporting suicides and murders, details with respect to poisons, instruments, weapons or other methods used be, so far as possible, omitted.

WHEREAS, The United States Pharmacopœia and National Formulary, both standards of Federal and State food and drugs acts, are now in process of revision, and whereas, the Committee of Revision of the said volumes are considering for inclusion therein suitable regulations for forms, shapes, methods of packaging and labeling of tablets of bichloride of mercury and other dangerously toxic substances in order to plainly distinguish them from tablets which do not contain dangerously toxic substances; and,

WHEREAS, It is greatly desirable that all laws regulating the sale of poisonous tablets should be uniform and consistent with each other; therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the opinion of the National Drug Trade Conference that Federal legislation upon the subject of tablets of mercury bichloride and other poisonous substances should be deferred until after the Revision Committee of the United States Pharmacopœia and National Formulary shall have made their reports in order to lessen the liability of conflict between Federal legislation and the provisions of the said United States Pharmacopœia and National Formulary.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of the National Drug Trade Conference that the adoption of suitable regulations for the shapes, colors, methods of packaging and labeling of tablets of bichloride of mercury for inclusion in the next revision of the United States Pharmacopœia or National Formulary is a matter of vital importance to the practice of pharmacy, the practice of medicine and the public health, and that we heartily recommend to the Committee of Revision of the United States Pharmacopœia and National Formulary that they take steps to include such regulations in such next revision of the Pharmacopœia; and be it further

Resolved, That this Conference tender to said Committee of Revision any assistance

it may be capable of rendering in the construction of such regulations; and be it further

Resolved, That any Federal legislation regulating the sale of mercury bichloride tablets should be confined to regulations respecting the form and style of packages in which such tablets are shipped in interstate commerce, and should not include the shipment of the chemical substance mercury bichloride as such.

Respecting Price Protection.

Resolved, That the Conference go on record as in favor of any constitutional and sound legislation that will enable the manufacturer or dealer of any article or brand of an article in which such manufacturer or dealer has an industrial right by patent, trade-mark, trade secret, copyright, design, or otherwise, to fix, maintain and protect the selling price thereof to the consumer, and thereby maintain the quality and reputation thereof, which is the inherent value to the public as well as to the manufacturer or dealer of an article called for and purchased under a trade name, or because of the features protected by any such industrial right; provided, such legislation does not open the way to the monopolization of the sale of any other article of the same kind or class which might otherwise be open to proper competition.

On Regulation Respecting Mailing of Poisons.

Resolved, That this Conference recommend to the postmaster general the adoption of the following regulation respecting the mailing of poisons in lieu of the one now ruling: "Poisonous substances intended for internal or medicinal administration when packed in a metal container bearing the address of the sender, together with a label bearing the word 'Poison,' may be admitted to the mails under first-class postage rates."

Resolved, That the Committee on Revision of the United States Pharmacopœia be requested to consider the desirability of inserting in the forthcoming revision of the United States Pharmacopœia a section defining the word "Poison."

Action of the National Drug Trade Conference on the Elimination of the "Variation Provision" of the Food and Drugs Act of June 30, 1906.

NOTE.—The Food and Drugs Act of June 30, 1906, incorporates the following provision which, for convenience, is hereafter referred to as the "variation provision":

"Provided, That no drug defined in the United States Pharmacopœia or National Formulary shall be deemed to be adulterated under this provision if the standard of strength, quality or purity be plainly stated upon the bottle, box or other container thereof, although the standard may differ from that determined by the test laid down in the United States Pharmacopœia or National Formulary."

Dr. A. R. L. Dohme moved the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Conference that it is opposed to all legislation tending to eliminate the 'variation clause' from the food and drugs act."

Motion seconded.

Mr. Charles M. Woodruff stated that his association, the National Association of Manufacturers of Medicinal Products, was most vitally interested in this question and most earnestly opposed to any elimination of the "variation clause"; but that in all fairness such summary action as Dr. Dohme's resolution, if adopted, would effect should not be taken. He believed there were many who were honestly in favor of the absolute elimination of the "variation clause" to remedy some evils that had, perhaps, sprung up under it; but these advocates could be made to see the greater evils that would follow the elimination of the "variation clause"; and he further believed in constructive work, and that if the Conference got together with the representatives of such advocates some way of meeting the situation might be discovered, and a plan agreed upon that would save much legislative contention and long and expensive litigation to preserve industrial rights that would follow any law absolutely eliminating the "variation clause." He therefore moved the whole matter be referred to the Executive Committee for the purpose of effecting such conference.

Mr. James F. Finneran supported the argument of Mr. Woodruff in some interesting remarks, and seconded the motion, which was put to vote and unanimously carried.

Dr. M. I. Wilbert suggested that the Executive Committee of the Conference get in touch with the National Association of Food and Drug Commissioners.

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BRIEF IN BEHALF OF THE HUGHES-BACON BILLS.

Submitted to the House Committee on Military Affairs:

1. This bill provides for a slight increase in the salaries of the Army Hospital Corps, and it is believed it will be of great benefit to this service.

2. The pharmacists of the United States are behind this bill. It was introduced in the House and in the Senate by the friends of the pharmacists. It is indorsed

and asked for by all the big organizations of pharmacists, such as the American Pharmaceutical Association, the National Association of Retail Druggists, the National Association of Drug Clerks, and by every State Pharmaceutical Association throughout the Union. The pharmacists of the United States are prominent in every community, and are working hard in behalf of this legislation, and not one of them have received or are receiving or are to receive a single cent for his efforts in this matter. The men of the Army Hospital Corps are themselves in such a position that they can not do anything. They hold no commissions, and rules are so arbitrary in the army that unless a man holds a commission, no matter how near to the hearts of the people is the improvement of his service, he is not authorized to do anything but hold his tongue.

The pharmacists are all located in centers of population, large or small as the case may be, and their places of business are always nuclei around which centers the active interests of each community. They are professional men. They see the Hospital Corps entered by ignorant, incompetent men at \$16 per month, and after many, many long years of service under commissioned medical officers who have never studied pharmacy, they are slowly advanced, the whole pharmaceutical service of the United States army being handled in this way; and there not being a man in it of a higher grade than sergeant first class.

3. In civil life, in every State in the Union, every man who practices pharmacy is required to work under a licensed pharmacist three or more years, or to be a graduate of a college of pharmacy, before he is even permitted to be examined for license, which he can only secure after having successfully passed a thorough examination before a board of five or more licensed pharmacists provided by the law of the State. The spirit of every State pharmacy law is being violated by present conditions in the United States Army Hospital Corps.

4. The total increase asked for is only \$168,876, or less than the cost of the cigar stumps thrown into the gutters each day by the American people, and this increase is asked that the lives and the health of our people who may serve in a military capacity away from homes and friends may be better protected.

5. The Army Hospital Corps, in time of

war, are in the midst of the battles and near the skirmish lines, binding up the spouting arteries and saving lives where the slightest delay means death, and bringing the wounded on stretchers to the field hospitals; they work shoulder to shoulder with the medical officers, who bear commissions and to whom all the glory goes for commendable work. In battle their casualties may run high; in 1905 the Surgeon General's report shows that in the percentages of killed and wounded their ratio was twice as great as that of the regular fighting line. Strenuous are their duties in time of battle. Such work comes occasionally, as war is desperate and irregular, but their work is also a steady, daily fight in time of peace, fighting not only ordinary diseases, but the most deadly contagious ones. They are ever on their firing line, fighting pestilence and disease not only during the day, but in the night time. The sick do not differentiate between daylight and darkness, unless it is that the vital forces seem lowest at the small hours before dawn, when more than usual watchfulness is needed.

6. The Army Hospital Corps, in addition to its work on the battle-field, its assistance in surgical work, its giving anesthetics, its taking care of the sick, its dispensing of dangerous drugs and poisons, its handling of delicate static, galvanic and X-ray electrical apparatus, it also has charge of the tremendously important work of the sanitary conditions of the camps, which, if not handled properly can, at any time, cause an outbreak of disease which will cost the country many valuable lives.

7. In our American wars we have always lost many, many more men by sickness and disease than by the missiles of the enemy. There was no exception to this dreadful condition of affairs in our recent Spanish-American war. The pharmacists of the United States were pleading with Congress for better pharmaceutical service in the army for several years before this war began, but conditions were not improved. The handling of medical supplies in that war was a disgrace to our American civilization. In the recent Russo-Japanese war, the Japanese lost far less men by sickness and disease than they did from missiles of the enemy. The pharmacists in their hospital corps bear commissions as second lieutenants, and were sent ahead and selected the camping places and analyzed all the drinking water supplies that proper sanitary conditions should be secured

as far as possible. Congress guards the right to commissions in the United States army so closely that there are no commissioned pharmacists in the Army Hospital Corps, and the salaries of the Hospital Corps are so meager that there is no inducement to pharmacists to enter the service, and pharmacists do not enter it. They do enter the United States Navy and Public Health Service, as these departments offer much better inducements.

8. The men who enter the Hospital Corps service have to start at \$16 per month. After the second enlistment they are paid \$19 per month. Then there is a \$1 increase after each enlistment, and after many years in the service they may finally reach their highest grade of Sergeant First Class, with a salary of \$50 per month and an increase of \$4 after the second enlistment. This bill also asks for an increase of \$3 per month for privates first class; for Sergeants, an increase of \$6 per month; for Sergeants first class, \$15 per month, and for the new grade of Sergeants Major, \$75 per month. No increase in number is asked for any of the grades. The only additional men asked for are thirty in the new grade of Sergeants Major.

9. The new grade of Sergeants Major will make the service more attractive than at present, and with a salary of \$75 for only thirty of the highest salaried men in the service, it does not begin to compare with the service in nearly all other civilized countries, as they give commissions to their pharmacists. In France, pharmacists rank as high as General of Brigade; in Germany they rank as high as Colonel, and even in Japan they are Second Lieutenants.

The National Guard in every State are under the same regulations as the United States army, but before the passage of the Dick bill such was not the case, and in every State steps were being taken to make the pharmacists of the National Guard Hospital Corps Second Lieutenants. This legislation was passed in one or two States and was all arranged and provided for to pass in a number of States at the next meetings of their legislatures, when the passage of the Dick bill made it necessary for the pharmacists of the United States to take up the matter with Congress.

11. Competent drug clerks all over the country draw salaries on the average of about \$100 per month; many get much more. Com-

petent drug clerks who are as good executive men as Sergeants first class are expected to be, and Sergeants Major would be required to be, readily obtain from \$150 to \$200 in civil life. There is not an institution teaching pharmacy in the United States which ever recommends the Army Hospital Corps to a single student as a pharmaceutical career.

12. The Army Hospital Corps, with such small salaries, is not as attractive to men as the other branches of the army service, and hence the corps has much difficulty in securing and retaining competent men. Dentists in the army, who take care of the teeth, get salaries of \$150. The duties of pharmacists are matters of life and death, and in civil life their financial compensation is fully as great as that of the dentists. The army band musicians of the lowest, or third class, begin at \$30 per month instead of \$16 as in the Hospital Corps; and as grades and service increase, goes up to \$99, against the highest grade in the Hospital Corps, which finally reaches \$74. Even the men who look after the sick mules are better paid than those who look after the sick soldiers.

13. In behalf of better pharmaceutical service in the army, we appeal to you. In behalf of our great American citizenship, we ask for such improvement in salaries that not only pharmaceutical wrecks may be attracted to the service, but that men of some pharmaceutical competency can afford to enter it.

In behalf of the lives of American citizens we appeal to you.

As a matter of economical administration of the Government of the United States we know that you can but fully realize that improvement in the Army Hospital Corps means a saving of health and of lives, and that such saving of health and life means more continued happiness among our people and the saving of heavy pensions.

This is a non-political matter. Democrats and Republicans have united in the past in putting the pharmaceutical service in the United States Navy and in the United States Public Health Service in better shape, and have given commissions to the naval pharmacists. What we ask for the profession of pharmacy in the United States Army is very modest indeed.

The present condition of pharmacy in the United States Army is a national disgrace.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE F. PAYNE