

**Editorial Notes and  
Announcements**

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All communications for insertion in the JOURNAL, or respecting advertising should be sent to the Editor.

The Association does not accept responsibility for the opinions of contributors. Offensive personalities must be avoided.

Under the rules of the Postoffice the JOURNAL can be regularly mailed only to bona-fide paid subscribers. Subscriptions and association dues should be sent to the Treasurer, H. M. Whelpley, 2342 Albion Place, St. Louis, Mo.

Requests for back numbers, and claims for missing numbers should be sent to the Editor.

Claims for missing numbers will not be allowed if sufficient notice has not been given of change of address, and in no case if received later than sixty days from the date of issue.



**REPRINTS.**

If the request is made at the time copy is submitted, authors will be furnished with not to exceed 50 reprints, without cover, of papers accepted for publication in the JOURNAL.

Larger numbers of reprints will be supplied by the Stoneman Press Co. at the following prices, provided the order is received before the type has been distributed:

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- 100 copies, 12 or 16 pages, no cover, \$5.00, with cover, \$6.50.
- 200 copies, 12 or 16 pages, no cover, \$6.50, with cover, \$8.00.

Orders for reprints may be sent either to the Editor, or to the Stoneman Press Co., Columbus, Ohio.

**PROFESSOR RAUBENHEIMER  
RETIRES FROM EDITORIAL  
WORK.**

Prof. Otto Raubenheimer has retired from the editorship of the Practical Druggist, and in future will devote himself to the practice of pharmacy and to his professorship in the College of Pharmacy of the University of New Jersey, and incidentally will continue to serve as a general bureau of information on matters pharmaceutical.

Like others of us, Prof. Raubenheimer has discovered that there is a limit to the quantity of work that can be disposed of in 24 hours.



**CHAIRMAN OF THE SCIENTIFIC  
SECTION REQUESTS PAPERS.**

Chairman E. A. Ruddiman, of the Scientific Section, desires it to be understood that he will welcome papers appropriate to his Section from any member of the Association.

In order to permit the proper arrangement of the program and the selection of papers for discussion, it is desirable that the papers be sent to the Chairman not later than thirty days prior to the meeting.

Dr. Ruddiman's address is 101 24th Ave., S., Nashville, Tenn.



**WINNER OF THE BERGER  
PRIZE.**

The Ernest Berger Prize consists of a nomination to membership in the A. Ph. A. and the first years' dues, and is awarded by Ernest Berger, of Tampa, Florida, to the candidate making the highest average in all branches before the Florida State Board of Pharmacy.

The latest winner of the prize is Mr. F. J. Collinson, of Gainesville, Fla. Mr. Collinson has our congratulations.



**"PRESCRIPTIONS 3000 YEARS  
OLD."**

The third of the special lectures at the College of Pharmacy of the University of the State of New Jersey in Jersey City was delivered February 27th by Dr. Felix Von Oefeke of New York City, who is a recognized world-wide authority on medicine and pharmacy of Old Egypt, Babyolnia and As-

syria. Dr. Oefele had received two stone tablets from Yale University containing cunifirm inscriptions which are probably some of the oldest prescriptions in the world. In his lecture, the speaker gave an outline of medicine and pharmacy in Egypt and especially in Babylonia, which was the seat of culture and science in that early period. Dr. Oefele has made the study of cuniform script as well as that of hieratics and hieroglyphs a specialty, and showed a number of records dating back to 1500 B. C.



### ST. LOUIS COLLEGE MAKES CHANGES IN LIBRARY.

The St. Louis College of Pharmacy has placed its entire library in the Central Building of the St. Louis Public Library which is located very near the college building.

The college library has space to itself in the science reference room. The books and periodicals will remain the property of the college, but will be catalogued and cared for by the library as if the property of that institution.

Arrangements will be made for the students of the college to receive special drill in the use of pharmaceutical periodicals.

The pharmacists of St. Louis will be urged, through local organizations, to take advantage of the facilities which the library will offer under the new arrangements.

An effort will be made to complete files of the various pharmaceutical periodicals and also to bind the current volumes as they are completed.



### DRUGGISTS' CIRCULAR CHANGES EDITORS.

Owing to an affection of the eyes, of constantly increasing severity, Frances B. Hays has been compelled to retire from the editorship of the Druggists' Circular, a position which he has occupied and adorned for many years.

For the present, he will reside at his old home, Oxford, N. C.

Dr. Harry Vin Arny, Professor of Chemistry at the New York College of Pharmacy, has been selected to succeed Mr. Hays as Managing Editor of The Circular.

While we regret the enforced retirement of Mr. Hays, it is a pleasure to know that his work has fallen into the capable hands of

Dr. Arny, who has a host of admirers throughout the country, and especially in Ohio, where he was formerly one of the most efficient workers in the pharmaceutical field.



### THE QUALITY OF PRESCRIPTIONS.

Dr. Bernard Fantus, of the College of Medicine, University of Illinois, Chicago, lately undertook an investigation of this subject in the form of a questionnaire. Various pharmacists co-operated by the examination of one hundred consecutive prescriptions each, the total number examined being 10,000.

The results, in percentages, reported by Dr. Fantus are as follows:

To the question, Has the quality of prescription writing improved or deteriorated within the last ten years? 55 percent reported an improvement, and 20 percent a deterioration.

Thirty-six percent of the prescriptions were written in English, 18 percent were in poor Latin, and 4 percent were barely legible or almost illegible.

Forty-six percent of the prescriptions called for less than three ingredients each and 11 percent for more than five ingredients each; 24 percent were for proprietary remedies, and 11 percent for other specified preparations; 2 percent contained incompatibilities, and 1 percent overdoses and errors.

An extremely small percent of the prescriptions were written in the metric system.



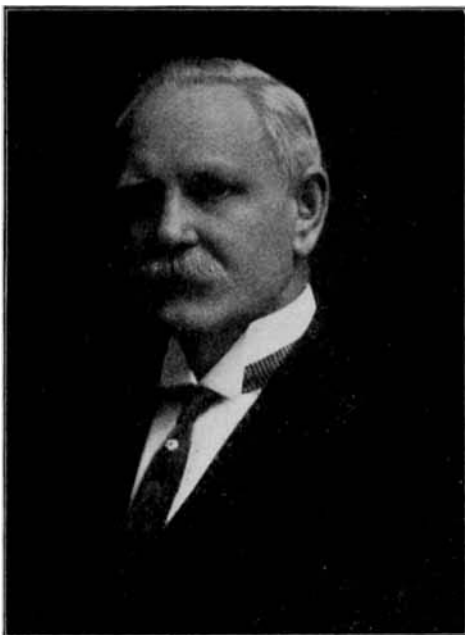
### DR. WM. C. ALPERS UNITES WITH CLEVELAND SCHOOL OF PHARMACY.

Dr. William C. Alpers, Chairman of the Historical Section, and well known to the drug trade throughout the United States, has accepted the position of Dean and Professor of Pharmacy of the Cleveland School of Pharmacy, Department of Western Reserve University.

Dr. Alpers is exceedingly well fitted for the position, and all members of the Association will wish him abundant success.

He was born at Hanover, Germany, attended the High School in Hanover, then the School of Technology and later the University of Gottingen, studying Natural Sciences and Mathematics. Came to America and en-

gaged in teaching for nearly 10 years in the St. Matthews' Academy, New York. Attended the New York College of Pharmacy and later took a post-graduate course in chemistry at the University of New York. Was granted the degree of doctor of Science in Chemistry. In 1881 he opened a Pharmacy in Bayonne, N. J., where he staid till 1898. Joined the N. J. State Pharmaceutical So-



DR. WM. C. ALPERS.

ciety and was President in 1896, also a member of the State Board of Pharmacy from 1893-98. Became member of the American Pharmaceutical Association in 1890, was Chairman of the Scientific Section in 1896, and Chairman of the Section on Pharmacy and Dispensing in 1905; is now Chairman of the Historical Section, was first Vice President in 1903. After leaving Bayonne, N. J., Dr. Alpers was for a number of years Manager of the Merck Pharmacy, N. Y., and afterwards conducted the Alpers Pharmacy on Broadway and 31st street. He withdrew from active business in 1905. In 1900 he was elected on the Executive Committee of the Revision of the Pharmacopœia and is Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Syrups and Elixirs. Was trustee of the New York College of Pharmacy for three terms till his removal to Cleveland. Contributed for many years to

pharmaceutical and chemical literature, and is now editor of the *Apotheker-Zeitung*, N. Y. Published many pamphlets and two books, "The Medicinal Plants of Staten Island," and "The Pharmacist at Work," Lippincott, 1896. Was appointed Professor of Pharmacy and Dean of the Cleveland School of Pharmacy in 1914.

Dr. Alpers was married to Miss Bertha Guden, who died in 1902, leaving six children, of whom, William H. and Otto, are pharmacists. He married again in May, 1913.

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### REQUEST FROM THE HISTORICAL SECTION.

To Members of the American Pharmaceutical Association:

Your officers of the Section on Historical Pharmacy issue this appeal to you for contributions to that Section of papers dealing with the history of American pharmacy—personal, general or of some special feature of historic value. It is especially desired that papers on the early history of pharmacy in Michigan and the Lake states be contributed by those members who have an intimate knowledge of the growth and development of pharmacy and pharmaceutical manufacturing in these states so that the history of the past may be adequately preserved. Detroit is the home of some of the largest manufacturing pharmaceutical firms and should be rich in history of the development of pharmacy and of the origin, study and perfection of many staple pharmaceutical products. Chicago is nearby enough to furnish interesting pharmaceutical history, so are many other cities of the states bordering on the Great Lakes. There are surely many old members who can contribute valuable historical data from their memories and enough younger members who have access to records and papers to make the Detroit meeting one of the richest in historical contributions to the archives of the Association.

It is the intention of the Historical Section to make a special effort to gather historical matter relating to that section of the country where our annual meetings are held. If those members who have helped to make pharmaceutical history would write up their recollections and experiences as contributions to the work of the Association, in a very few years the American Pharmaceutical Association would have in its archives invaluable

data for the future writer of the history of American pharmacy. Papers need not be lengthy nor confined to any one topic, just so that they aid in setting forth the history of some phase of pharmaceutical life and activity.

Your co-operation is earnestly asked in this plan for gathering historical material and its success depends entirely upon a generous response by members to this appeal. However, papers of historic value are cordially invited from members in every section of the country to round out the work of the Section on Historic Pharmacy as a complete presentation of historic data bearing on pharmacy and pharmacists in America. The time to begin writing your paper is *now*. Contributions may be sent either to the Chairman of the Section or to the Secretary, as may be most convenient, the only further favor asked being that they be sent as early as possible so that a programme can be made up for the Section's meetings.

Hoping for a generous response to the Association's request and assuring its thanks in advance to contributors,

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM C. ALPERS, Chairman.

F. T. GORDON, Chairman.

### Proceedings of the Local Branches

"All papers presented to the Association and its branches shall become the property of the Association, with the understanding that they are not to be published in any other publication than those of the Association, except by consent of the Committee on Publication."—By-Laws, Chapter X, Art. III.

Reports of the meetings of the Local Branches should be mailed to the editor on the day following the meeting, if possible. Minutes should be *plainly* written, or type-written, with wide spaces between the lines. Care should be taken to give proper names correctly, and manuscript should be signed by the reporter.



#### SAINT LOUIS BRANCH.

(February Meeting.)

The Saint Louis Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association held a regular meeting in the Saint Louis College of Phar-

macy, 2110 Locust street, Tuesday evening, February 10, 1914, with President Wilkerson presiding. After the minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved and preliminary matters disposed of, the program was taken up.

Mr. Arthur C. Schulte read a paper entitled "Windows and Window Dressing," which was printed in full in the March issue of THE JOURNAL. Mr. Schulte's paper was discussed by J. A. Wilkerson, Dr. H. M. Whelpley, O. J. Cloughly, A. W. Pauley, C. T. Buehler, Professor Francis Hemm, Theodore Schwerdtmann, J. W. Mackelden, J. C. Bailey and Julius C. Hoester.

The subject for the next meeting will be a discussion of shorter names and synonyms for some U. S. P. and N. F. preparations.

JULIUS C. HOESTER, Secretary.



#### NEW YORK BRANCH.

(February Meeting.)

A regular meeting of the New York Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association was held on the evening of February 12, 1914. President H. V. Army presided.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The treasurer's report was also read and approved.

The Membership Committee submitted the names of two applicants for membership in the parent association.

As Professor W. C. Anderson, chairman of the Committee on Legislation, was absent, Mr. Roemer reported for the committee, calling attention to the provisions of the Town-Blylan anti-narcotic bill, which he indicated if enacted would restrict the sale of all narcotics. He also referred to the Blauvelt Senate Bill No. 5, which confines the sale of bichloride of mercury to prescriptions. The bill also indicates that prescriptions are not to be repeated and no copies of prescriptions are to be given. The drug must be in cubes and colored green.

Dr. Geo. C. Diekman, chairman of the Committee on the Progress of Pharmacy, called attention to the adulteration of oleic acid with paraffin and fish oils. He also gave a method for the detection of oil of sesame in olive oil, an assay method of morphine in tablets and called attention to a false nuxvomica, which contained no strychnine, as well as a false buchu. He also reported on a