

British Empire, as designed, as it has already been severely criticized and many of the provinces are very much dissatisfied with the revision.

Owing to the peculiar features of the copyright laws of Great Britain the British Pharmacopœia becomes official before publication, it is, however, placed on exhibition for a period previous to becoming official.

The paper brought out much discussion that was participated in by all present.

S. L. HILTON, Secretary.



WEST VIRGINIA.

This, the youngest Branch of the A. Ph. A. organized at Morgantown, November 19, 1914. The following officers were elected:

President, W. A. Ream; Vice Presidents, G. O. Young, John Coleman, C. A. Neptune; Secretary, A. B. Berry; Treasurer, W. C. Price; Council Representative, Prof. Charles H. Rogers.

Prof. Rogers read an address from Secretary England entitled, "Dreaming and Doing." [Published in December issue.]

A vote of thanks was tendered Mr. England for his delightful address.

A resolution was adopted favoring the passage of a bill by the W. Va. Legislature creating the offices of state food and drug inspectors and the secretary was instructed to communicate with Governor Hatfield concerning the matter.

There was a good attendance at this, our first meeting and the prospects are bright for a vigorous, active branch.

The results thus far obtained are largely due to the push and energy of Prof. Rogers of the Department of Pharmacy of the West Virginia University.

The January meeting occurred on Wednesday evening, January 20, at Woodburn Hall, of the University of West Virginia.

After the dispatch of the regular business the members had the pleasure of listening to two very interesting and instructive addresses—one by Dr. A. Arken of the College of Medicine, W. Va. University, and the other by Prof. Chas. H. Rogers of the College of Pharmacy, W. Va.

Dr. Arken's subject was "Serums and Vaccines" and he told of their origin and modes of preparation and the successes attained by their use in the treatment of disease.

Dr. Arken is thoroughly acquainted with

this subject and is a logical and forceful speaker.

Prof. Rogers spoke entertainingly on "Organic Chemistry."

Our membership embraces members from all parts of the state and there is no question of the success of the Branch and that it will have considerable influence in aid of the advance of Pharmacy in the state.

A. B. BERRY, Secretary.

Council Business

COUNCIL LETTER No. 14.

Philadelphia, Pa., January 15, 1915.

To the Members of the Council:

The following tentative program for the sixty-third annual meeting of the Association, to be held at San Francisco during the week of August 9 to 14, 1915, is submitted by the Committee on Program, the General Secretary, Secretary of the Council and Local Secretary:—

Monday:

- 9.00 A. M. Meeting of the Council.
- 3.00 P. M. First General Session.
- Meeting of Committee on Nominations.
- Meeting of Committee on Resolutions.
- 7.30 P. M. House of Delegates.
- 9.30 P. M. President's Reception.

Tuesday:

- 9.30 A. M. Second General Session.
- 10.00 A. M. National Association of Boards of Pharmacy.
- 2.00 P. M. Scientific Section.
- Women's Section.
- Commercial Section.
- National Association of Boards of Pharmacy.
- 7.30 P. M. Meeting of the Council.
- House of Delegates.
- Ladies' Theatre Party.

Wednesday:

- 9.30 A. M. Section on Education and Legislation.
- Commercial Section.
- 12.30 P. M. Luncheon of College Alumni.
- Luncheon to A. C. P. F. by California College of Pharmacy.
- 2.00 P. M. Scientific Section.
- Section on Practical Pharmacy and Dispensing (and Pharmacopœias, Formularies, and Standards.)
- National Association of Boards of Pharmacy.
- American Conference of Pharmaceutical Faculties.

- 7.30 P. M. Meeting of Council.
National Association of Boards
of Pharmacy.
American Conference of Phar-
maceutical Faculties.
Ladies' Reception.

Thursday:

- 9.30 A. M. Section on Education and
Legislation.
Scientific Section.
Practical Pharmacy and Dis-
pensing (and Pharmacopœias,
Formularies and
Standards.)

- 2.00 P. M. Joint Session of Section on
Education and Legislation,
the A. C. P. F. and N. A. B.
P.

Historical Pharmacy.
Women's Section.

- 7.30 P. M. Meeting of the Council (Re-
organization.)

- 8.00 P. M. House of Delegates.
Ladies' Reception.
Visit to Chinatown.

Friday:

- 9.00 A. M. Meeting of the Council.

- 10.30 A. M. Final General Session.

- 1.30 P. M. Luncheon and Adjourned
Final General Session at the
Inside Inn, Exposition
Grounds.

- 3.00 P. M. Go-as-you-please Exposition
Visit.

- 6.00 P. M. Luncheon at the Inside Inn,
Exposition Grounds.

- 7.30 P. M. Exposition Visit Continued—
The Concessions and Illumi-
nations.

Saturday:

The Local Committee suggests that Satur-
day be given up to local visits and ex-
cursions, arranging the parties to suit. Some
may desire to visit Mt. Tamalpais, others the
Exposition and still others may desire to go
to the Muir Woods, the University in Berke-
ley, Golden Gate Park.

Comments and suggestions are invited by
the Committee on Program.

The Philadelphia Branch, through a
special committee, has drafted a reply to an
article that recently appeared in Pearson's
Magazine, claiming that pharmacists charged
the public a higher price for drugs bought
on prescription than for the same drugs
bought in bulk. It is the wish of the local
branch that the reply be passed upon by the
Council before it is sent to Pearson's Maga-
zine for publication, in response to their of-
fer of space for the presentation of the
pharmacists' side of the question.

The statement is as follows:—

The undersigned members of a committee
appointed by the Philadelphia Branch, A. Ph.
A., to draft a reply to the article entitled,

"Pills and Piracy" published in Pearson's
Magazine for November, 1914, hereby pre-
sent a report in the shape of a dignified im-
partial statement of the facts justifying the
fees charged by Pharmacists for professional
services in the compounding of prescriptions.

Respectfully submitted

CHARLES H. LAWALL, Chairman,
FRANKLIN M. APPLE,
CHAS. LEEDOM.

Are Pharmacists' Fees Fair?

"Each in his place, by right, not grace,
Shall rule his heritage—
The men who simply do the work
For which they draw the wage."

The profession of pharmacy is one of
antiquity and honor. In its beginning it was
intimately associated with the practice of
medicine. Later on it was closely connected
with alchemy, out of which grew our won-
derful modern science of chemistry. Phar-
macy was evolved as a separate profession
through necessities which are clearly ap-
parent to a student of the subject. The
physicians of early times soon found that
the practice of their own profession was a
difficult enough undertaking alone. They,
therefore, assigned to the pharmacist, then
usually called the apothecary, the necessity
and duty of posting himself upon the knowl-
edge connected with the preparation of
medicines for administration, the physician
reserving for himself the right to diagnose
the disease and prescribe the remedy.

The pharmacist-chemist soon found that
the increased responsibilities placed upon
him by the physician prevented him from de-
voting much time to researches in chem-
istry. In this way has come about the evo-
lution of professional pharmacy of to-day.
There are different kinds of pharmacists to-
day, just as there are different kinds of phy-
sicians, magazine writers and legislators.
The pharmacist of to-day stands between
the physician and the public for the purpose
of serving both; both need this service, and
to serve both properly means to be specially
educated for the purpose.

A pharmaceutical education of to-day
takes little less time and money than a medi-
cal education and compares closely in these
respects with the professional education of
doctors of dental surgery and of doctors of
veterinary medicine. The time required and
the money expended for this education
makes it necessary for the pharmacist to

charge a fee for his professional services in filling prescriptions.

Nobody who appreciates the responsible character of the service thus rendered by the conscientious pharmacist ever criticises him for this. Every day he has the dispensing of life or death in the hollow of his hand; every day he takes upon himself the responsibility for the success or failure of the treatment of the case by the physician, assuming, of course, that the treatment is correct in principle. For this conscientious service he has the satisfaction of knowing that he has done his duty, for the profits of the prescription department in the majority of drug stores are a minus quantity. The pharmacist, besides being a professional man, must needs also be a business man or he could not make a living. If the sale of medicines and the compounding of prescriptions only were permitted by pharmacists, many communities would be without a pharmacy, for our progress along lines of preventive medicine has largely reduced the use of medicines by the educated physicians of to-day.

It is not denied nor is it necessary to apologize for the fact that a higher charge is often made for substances dispensed upon prescriptions than when these substances are sold over the counter in the uncompounded condition. Take as a concrete example the hypothetical case of a prescription for sodium bicarbonate or baking soda, to be divided into ten or twelve equal doses, as contrasted with an order for ten cents' worth of baking soda. The order for ten cents' worth of baking soda can be filled by anybody who happens to be back of the counter; even the errand boy or the soda water clerk has sufficient intelligence to go to the compartment where ready prepared packages (previously put up and labeled) are kept, hand it over the counter and take the money, but when a prescription for the same substance is brought in it is a totally different matter. Under all existing pharmacy laws the filling of prescriptions can only be legally done by a registered pharmacist, who is the highest salaried clerk in the store; the entire transaction is handled by him, including the filling of the prescription, the labeling and wrapping of the package. This, with the accurate subdivision into a number of doses,

takes the time of this educated, high salaried clerk. There is no more justification for censure of the pharmacist, who under these conditions makes a greater charge for the same substance than was made in the other transaction, than there is for the censure of the physician who writes such a prescription making necessary this expensive service, instead of simply telling the patient, as he might have done, to go to the drug store and get ten cents' worth of sodium bicarbonate and take a certain amount ever so often. The physician, on his part, has had to go through a long and expensive course of education to be able to tell that bicarbonate of sodium was the substance best suited to the patient's needs, and is therefore entitled to a fee for this knowledge.

This larger charge upon articles supplied upon prescriptions is not an invariable rule or practice. The public has come to expect and the practice of pharmacists for several generations has been to price prescriptions upon a flat rate according to the size of the container or the dosage represented. With the advent of many expensive remedies has come many instances where no profit is made or even a slight loss sustained in order to maintain this uniformity of procedure. Also, if existing conditions showed that pharmacists were amassing large fortunes or that they were even better off, upon the average, than members of other professional callings requiring equal educational attainments, there would be grounds for criticism, but when it is realized that all the laws upon the statute books affecting pharmacy, requiring, as they do, preliminary education, and in several states graduation from a pharmacy college of approved standing before examination for registration, it seems like carping criticism to find fault with the pharmacist on account of prescription prices, and to allege dishonorable motives is to do a grave injustice to a profession which has as honorable record as any and in whose history can be found many names of those who have been the world's pioneer discoverers of valuable products and of those who have benefited the human race without hope of fee or reward.

"They that have wrought the end unthought
Be neither saint nor sage,
But men who merely did the work
For which they drew the wage."

Motion No. 26 (Reply to Article in Pearson's Magazine). Do you approve of the above reply of the Philadelphia Branch and the sending of the same to Pearson's Magazine?

Motion No. 27 (Application for Membership). You are requested to vote on the following applications for membership:—

No. 59. John Fadalius De Yonckheere, 455 Van Dyke Ave., Detroit, Mich., rec. by Ernest R. Jones and J. H. Webster.

No. 60. James Clyde McGee, Jackson, Miss., rec. by H. M. Faser and W. B. Day.

No. 61. Frank J. McNiff, Anthon, Iowa, rec. by R. A. Kuever and Wilber J. Teeters.

No. 62. Louis Dreibelbis, 37 W. Park St., Butte, Montana, rec. by W. B. Day and J. W. England.

No. 63. James Clarence Palmer, 4760 21st Ave., North East, Seattle, Wash., rec. by C. W. Johnson and Forest J. Goodrich.

No. 64. Thomas Call Armstrong, 80 River St., Cambridge, Mass., rec. by Elie H. LaPierre and William C. Acheson.

No. 65. Paul Marcus Pfeiffer Merner, 6809 York Road, Philadelphia, Pa., rec. by Charles H. LaWall and E. Fullerton Cook.

No. 66. Dr. Arno Viehoever, Bureau of Chemistry, Dept. of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., rec. by W. S. Hubbard and L. F. Kebler.

No. 67. Lydia Franke Batdorf, 4125 West Belle St., St. Louis, Mo., rec. by J. W. Mackelden and H. M. Whelpley.

No. 68. Walter M. Chase, National Apartments, 931 Jefferson St., East, Detroit, Mich., rec. by H. M. Whelpley and J. W. Mackelden.

No. 69. Lusius Lamar Wilson, Tucumcari, New Mexico, rec. by W. B. Day and J. W. England.

No. 70. Charles J. Chapple, 2815 3rd Ave., N., Billings, Montana, rec. by William L. Bromme and Charles E. Mollet.

No. 71. A. C. Caldwell, 112th and Stephenson Ave., Chicago, Ill., rec. by William B. Day and E. N. Gathercoal.

No. 72. Julius H. Riemenschneider, 2916 Broadway, Chicago, Ill., rec. by W. B. Day and E. N. Gathercoal.

No. 73. Earl Frederick Lamb, 1605 East 47th St., Seattle, Wash., rec. by C. W. Johnson and Frances Edith Hindman.

No. 74. DeMott Clark Beach, 50 Ogden St., Hammond, Indiana, rec. by Albert II. Dewey and W. F. Gidley.

No. 75. Max Menzel, Pipestone, Minn., rec. by E. L. Newcomb and F. J. Wulling.

J. W. ENGLAND,
Secretary of the Council.

The Pharmacist and the Law

THE MULFORD PROTEST AGAINST INCREASE IN FREIGHT RATES.

The Western Traffic Association having withdrawn classification on drugs and chemicals in less than car-load shipments, the result of which action is an increase of 85% in freight-rates on such goods, the H. K. Mulford Company of Philadelphia has filed the following petition with the Interstate Commerce Commission:—

THE INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION.

H. K. Mulford Company against Pennsylvania Railroad Company, Pennsylvania Company, Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company, Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company, Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company, and Northern Pacific Railway Company.

PETITION.

The petition of the above-named petitioner respectfully represents:

I.

That your petitioner is a corporation duly incorporated under the laws of the State of Pennsylvania, and its business is that of a manufacturing chemist, which it carries on in the city of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania.

II.

That the respondents are common carriers engaged in the transportation of passengers and property by continuous carriage or shipment, wholly by railroad, between points in different states of the United States, and particularly they are engaged in the carriage of drugs and chemicals from the city of Philadelphia, in the State of Pennsylvania, to points on the Pacific Coast, and are subject to the provisions of the Act to Regulate Commerce, approved February 4, 1887, and acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto.

III.

That under tariffs filed with your body on October 1, 1914, and which went into effect on November 15, 1914, the respondents, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, the Pennsylvania Company and the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company, have