

Proceedings of the Local Branches

BALTIMORE.

The March meeting of the Baltimore Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association was held Wednesday evening, March 17, in the Hynson, Westcott & Company assembly room at Charles and Franklin Streets, with President E. W. Hodson in the Chair.

The Executive Committee reported in regard to publicity for the Harrison act, that interviews had been held, conferences had been attended, letters had been written, copies of the law had been sent out, personal talks had been made and that the daily papers had printed lengthy and frequent articles about it, so that it was considered that everyone concerned should be informed as to its workings.

It was also brought out that the internal revenue officials had ruled that doctors need only sign their surnames in full to prescriptions and that initials would do for their given names.

The regular program was "Factors from Facts," the Secretary presenting a few factors which have been of considerable value in the day's work, both as time-savers and short-cuts. Little journeys were made through four of the Drug Journals by Messrs. Neal, Meyer, Morgan and Lowry, it being the intention to present one or some of the important items from the journals each month.

Mr. Lowry read extracts from a paper which had been presented to the Association and explained, that, as the part read contained some factors, the use of which might have a tendency to postpone the exclusive use of the

the safest factors to facilitate the use of U. S. P. and N. F. or any formula in the Metric system, were the weights and measures themselves. Yet, when we buy by the ounce, pound, pint and gallon and sell in the same old-styled, cumbersome but popular, customary, ever-present and always-with-us way and have to figure out cost, profit and selling price on the same basis, the old way is very convenient. If we need exactly one gallon of a preparation and make four thousand cubic centimeters, multiplying the one thousand formula by four, we will have almost a half pint too much.

The factors presented were multiplying ones and were intended to be used when the formula called for 1000 cc. of finished product.

A gallon is equivalent to 58418 grains, or 61440 minims.

If a formula for a gallon of a preparation calculated for 1000 cc. is wanted, all that it is necessary to do, is to point off three places in either of these two figures and multiply the quantities in grammes by 58.418, the product will be in grains, which can be reduced to avoirdupois pounds, ounces and grains; and to multiply the quantities in cubic centimeters by 61.44, the product will be in minims, which can be reduced to pints, fluid ounces, drachms and minims.

If tables be kept of the number of grains or minims in each ounce from 1 to 16, as well as tables by 500's from 500 to 7000 showing the equivalents in ounces and grains and in fluid ounces, drachms and minims, the conversion becomes easy.

For pints, divide either of these factors by 8. for quarts by 4, for a multiple number of gallons, multiply by the number of gallons wanted.

As an example, the U. S. P. formula for Syrup Orange Peel was cited. To make one gallon take,—

| | | | | | |
|--|----------|---------|-------------|--------------|----------|
| Tincture Sweet Orange Peel.... | 50 cc.x | 61.44 = | 3072 mn.= | 6 oz. | 192 min. |
| Citric Acid | 5 gm.x | 58.418= | 292 gr. = | | 292 gr. |
| Magnesium Carbonate | 10 gm.x | 58.418= | 584 gr. = | 1 oz. | 147 gr. |
| Sugar | 820 gm.x | 58.418= | 47903 gr. = | 6 lb. 13 oz. | 215 gr. |
| Water, a sufficient quantity to make 1000 cc.x 61.44=61440 min.=1 gal. | | | | | |

Metric system, that the parent body in its wisdom thought it best not to publish this part of the paper.

He uses them regularly and finds them so convenient, that he felt others might also find them useful. He said that he realized that

Mr. Meyer mentioned that a quick way of approximating the price of a single item which has been priced by the gross is to multiply by .007. Example,—price \$30.00 per gross, 30 x .007=.21, or 21 cents.

A gross of an item priced at the thousand

will cost practically 1/7 of the thousand price. Labels costing \$2.80 per M will cost about 40 cents per gross. 1/7 of 2.80=40.

In reviewing the journals, the article which seemed to create most interest was one entitled "The Gold Mines of Pharmacy."

This caused quite a lengthy discussion. Mr. Hynson remarked that pharmacy *per se* is better now than in the so-called "good old days," and is on a higher plane and that the men engaged in it are of as high a class as they ever were, but that it is the environment of pharmacy that has caused so many to misjudge it.

In the so-called "good old days," it was associated with paints and putty, oils and glass, *et cetera*, and now it is associated with so many diversified interests that in many cases the drug stores of to-day are, in reality, department stores and, although the environment is different, yet the pharmacy in these stores is, as a rule, conducted on a high plane, and in some of these the pharmacy department is almost ideal.

Mr. John F. Hancock, who began his apprenticeship January 30, 1854, talked of what he believed were the "good old days," and grew quite reminiscent, naturally having a very deep feeling for the men with whom he had been associated.

Mr. Meyer and Mr. Schulze both emphasized that the head of the store should set the standard and be a good example both for the clerks and the public, and Mr. Morgan sized up the situation accurately when he arose and ended the discussion by saying: "The proprietor should be the pacemaker."

In criticising answers given by the journals to some of the queries, it was pointed out, that in many cases the answers show a lack of real knowledge and are therefore misleading; one answer carried out the common misconception that ichthyol is soluble in oil while it is a water-soluble complex ammonium salt or salts.

In an effort to find a remedy for the great changes in colors in the guaiac, honey and acacia mixture rather much used in Baltimore, it was suggested that the acacia be heated to 100° C. (212° F.), thus destroying the oxydase, and while this treatment would kill the ferment, it would not effect the emulsifying properties of the gum. The same treatment was suggested for drugs containing ferments which were useless medicinally and

which caused trouble or decomposition in the finished product.

The mentioning of guaiac in this prescription caused Mr. James Hancock to say that he rejected a large shipment of the resin which contained 37 *per cent.* of "exhausted tolu."

Attention was called to a new insecticide, Para-Dichlorobenzene, which has been given the O. K. by the United States Department of Agriculture. It is a non-inflammable and inexpensive crystalline substance which readily vaporizes, and as this vapor is heavier than air, it is placed above the articles to be treated, the vapor penetrating to the bottom. It ranges from 23 cents a pound in 5-pound lots to 15 cents a pound in barrels.

In discussing cold creams, it was pointed out that the solution of borax should be heated to boiling and the melted fats should also be hot, the hot borax solution should be added to the hot liquid fat and the mixture beaten till cold. Ointment of rose water of the Pharmacopœia made this way was much superior to one made by strictly following the directions. No change in the formula is necessary.

WM. J. LOWRY, JR., Secretary.



CHICAGO.

The March meeting of the Chicago Branch held Tuesday evening, March 16, was attended by a large number of druggists, the attractive feature being a discussion of the operation of the Harrison Anti-narcotic Law lead by the Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue at Chicago. Deputy Collector Mahany read the most recent rulings from the Treasury Department at Washington and answered many questions. He stated that more than 12,000 applications for registration had been filed at the Chicago office, that the extra work involved had nearly swamped the office force, but that they would soon have things running smoothly. A number of additional inspectors have already been appointed and a strict enforcement of the law is certain.

In the discussion two points were brought prominently forward: First, the tendency on the part of newspapers to unjustly stigmatize pharmacists as "dope sellers," and, second, the very exaggerated exploitation of "doping" by the newspapers to furnish "scare-heads." As President Craig put it, "every crime in

the calendar from chicken stealing to murder is ascribed to 'dope' using or to 'dope' fiends."

Dr. Beal presented a resolution to the effect that the Branch formally protest against a statement published in the Chicago Tribune over the name of Dr. W. A. Evans. This statement, quoted from The Pharmaceutical Journal, was ascribed to a druggist and was to the effect that for every ounce of laudanum used in compounding physician's prescriptions, he sold a gallon over the counter, mostly to dope users. Dr. Beal said that this condition was certainly untrue of American pharmacy and unjust to American pharmacists and that because a few unscrupulous or criminal druggists sold dope was not a reason why all professional pharmacists should be so condemned. No more so than that because ten thousand persons are arrested, charged with crime, every year in Chicago, every inhabitant of Chicago should be stigmatized as a criminal. The statement of one druggist in England to the effect that he sold dope should not be applied to American Pharmacy, and, furthermore, Dr. Beal strongly questioned whether this statement by any means represented a general condition of British pharmacy.

William Loesch, speaking for the Economical Drug Co., stated that his firm filling more than 400 prescriptions daily, used but two gallons of laudanum in 1914.

James H. Wells, also in the loop district of Chicago, affirmed that his store used less than one pint of laudanum annually.

W. K. Forsyth, in the business district of the South Side, stated that he used less than one gallon of laudanum yearly and that most of this was employed in one physician's prescriptions for liniments and that he sold no laudanum over the counter. C. E. Storer, a North Side druggist, uses annually less than one-half gallon of laudanum, and this mostly in veterinary prescriptions. S. K. Sass, a prominent West Side pharmacist, uses not more than 1500 cc. of laudanum annually, and this exclusively in prescriptions, and these largely liniments. Never sold any over the counter.

These statements and other similar ones made by pharmacists in attendance at the meeting were all positively affirmed to be true, and so far as their experience went the same condition is true in most of the other

drug stores. Furthermore, the city code prohibits the sale, except upon prescription, of opium and its alkaloids, cocaine and other narcotics, and during the past year, despite the fact that a vigorous investigation has been carried on so that most of the eleven hundred drug stores in Chicago have been visited, the inspectors have been able to convict less than twenty druggists for violation of this law.

Dr. Beal's resolution was unanimously adopted.

E. N. GATHERCOAL,
Secretary.

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CINCINNATI.

The monthly meeting of the Cincinnati Branch took place at Lloyd Library, Tuesday evening, March 16, 1915.

The meeting proved a very interesting and enthusiastic one and was well attended by the members and their friends.

A special feature of the meeting was the presentation of a highly interesting paper by Dr. John Ranley, entitled "Relations Between Doctors and Druggists."

The way the doctor discussed the Theory and Practice of Ethics from the medical as well as the pharmaceutical view-point was instructive to the appreciative audience, and it led to a spirited discussion, in which a number of members took part.

Prof. Theo. D. Wetterstroem followed with "A few simple tests," same tests being capable of being applied by the pharmacist, and being mostly dependent upon the physical senses: Smell, sight, taste, hearing, touch, as well as the solubility, color reaction, chemical reaction, rotation and refraction of light. Of special interest may be mentioned the applied tests for fixed and volatile oils, as well as those determining mineral oils in linseed or similar oils.

The paper of Prof. Wetterstroem was appreciated by the members and, upon motion, was referred to the Committee on Progress of Pharmacy for further discussion.

The President appointed the following Nominating Committee, with instructions to report at April meeting: William Lakamp, Louis Werner, Fred W. Weissmann, Chairman.

CHAS. A. APMEYER,
Secretary.

DETROIT.

The fourth meeting was addressed on March 19, by Prof. C. W. Edmonds of the University of Michigan on the subject of "Twilight Sleep." Professor Edmonds' talk was extremely interesting and was listened to very intently by all present.

He traced the history of this treatment from the use of morphine and scopolamine by Dr. Schmeidburg as a surgical anæsthetic in 1900, to its application for obstetric purposes in 1902, and the development of the method since. Articles on the subject in popular magazines were referred to as sensational and misleading. The alleged difference between scopolamine and hyoscine he thought had no foundation in fact, and that differences in effects are more probably due to personal characteristics and the frequency and amount of the doses.

The pharmacology of the treatment was described in detail, then general conclusions drawn from a study of about 800 cases as to its value.

The method is designed to destroy the memory of pain rather than to entirely deaden the pain itself, and when properly used, this effect is reached. The mother comes through the ordeal with less exhaustion and probably less suffering than without it. It needs continuous watching by the physician, however, and sometimes induces delirium, and so is not adapted to use outside of hospitals.

The effect on the child is more questionable, since the scopolamine narcotizes the reflex centers and hinders breathing, and a few cases of the death of the child have occurred due to its use. It probably lengthens the time of labor, and increases the need of the application of forceps.

The paper was discussed by Drs. Judd, Kamperman and Bell, who agreed in general with Prof. Edmonds' conclusions. Prof. Schlotterbeck discussed the question of the identity of hyoscine and scopolamine, and declared that there is no ground for considering them anything but identical.

The next meeting of the Branch will be addressed by Prof. V. C. Vaughan on the subject of "The Poisonous Group in the Proteid Molecule." This will be a joint meeting held on April 19 in conjunction with the Wayne County Medical Society, and the Detroit Retail Druggists' Association.

WILBUR L. SCOVILLE, Secretary.

NEW YORK.

The regular meeting of the New York Branch was held in the New York College of Pharmacy Building, February 8, 1915, President Roemer in the chair.

After dispensing with the reading of the minutes of the preceding meeting, the Treasurer's report was received with thanks. Mr. McEhlenie reported that the Council had referred the election of an editor for the Journal to a special committee and asked for instructions. The following resolution, "That it is the sense of the Branch that its representative in the Council cast his vote for the candidate for Editor of the Journal recommended by the special committee having the matter under consideration," was adopted.

The chairmen of the committees on Membership, Legislation and Education, and Fraternal Relation being absent, no reports were received.

Dr. Diekman, Chairman of the Committee on Progress of Pharmacy as usual had a very interesting number of abstracts. Among others he read the following: Distinguishing between natural and artificial camphor, a criticism of the methods of identification and purity of *Cera flava* of the P. G., detection of caramel with phenol-sulphonic acid, a new method for melting point determination of fats, a method for the estimation of boric acid in ointments, the stability of phosphorous when dissolved in fixed oils, cod liver oil as a remedy for insect bites and its uses in destroying the mosquito, misbranding of codein tablets, as well as a list of recent foreign proprietaries.

Mr. C. O. Bigelow as Chairman of the "Mayo Dinner" Committee reported that a surplus of \$1.55 was on hand. The committee was discharged with thanks and the surplus ordered turned over to the treasurer.

A communication from the Board of Estimate of New York City referring to the standardization of pharmaceutical conical graduates was received.

Dr. Jacob Diner of Fordham University then read a paper on "Serum Diagnosis."

The speaker briefly reviewed the progress of serum diagnosis, beginning with the work of Gruenbaum and Gruber, the results of which led up to what is now known as the Widal reaction for typhoid fever.

After discussing the theory of agglutination and the technic of the method, with some explanation as to how to obtain the serum,

and how to interpret results, the speaker led up to the second important step in serum diagnosis, viz.: the Wasserman reaction for the diagnosis of syphilis. The theory and technique were explained in detail, particularly the line of reasoning and experimentation that led up to the use of the so-called cycles or systems. After describing in detail the three essential factors necessary to produce hemolysis, viz.: 1, the blood corpuscles of the same species which were used for immunization, called *antigen*; 2, the specific immune bodies created by the immunized animal after frequent injection of that particular antigen, called *amboceptor*; 3, the substance destroyed by heating the immune serum (thermolabile) and restored by the addition of normal, non-immune serum, from animals of the same species, called *complement*; the speaker demonstrated how the reaction is carried out.

Brief mention of the work done by McDonagh and Klein in their application of the foregoing principle to the diagnosis of gonorrhoea was followed by the description of the Abderhalden reaction first used to diagnose pregnancy in its early stages, based upon the presence or absence of ferments in the blood of the patient capable of digesting albumins and thus causing them to become dialyzable. This reaction is now largely being used in the diagnosis of cancer.

The very interesting paper was discussed at length by Messrs. Weinstein, Hohman, Roemer, Wimmer, Raubenheimer and Mayo.

Many queries were answered by the author. A rising vote of thanks was then extended to the latter.

During the transaction of routine business, President Mayo of the parent association entered, accompanied by Professor Hynson of Baltimore. They were given a rousing reception and responded with some very apt and well-chosen remarks.

JEANNOT HOSTMANN,
Secretary.



NORTHWESTERN BRANCH.

The March meeting was held at the Nicollet Hotel, Minneapolis, Thursday evening, March 18, 1915. The meeting was preceded by a dinner and by a brief business session of the Minneapolis Retail Druggists' Association. As this was the annual meeting of the Branch, reports were received from the various officers, and the annual election took

place. Secretary Newcomb reported briefly upon the work of the past year and referred to the sixteen new members acquired by the Branch since the last annual meeting.

The Nominating Committee reported the following names as nominations for office during the coming year: President, A. D. Thompson, Minneapolis; Vice-President, Truman Griffen, Minneapolis; Secretary-Treasurer, E. L. Newcomb, Minneapolis; Executive Committee, F. A. U. Smith, St. Paul; F. M. Parker, St. Paul; S. W. Smetana, Hopkins; A. J. Kline, Minneapolis. The names as presented by the committee were unanimously elected.

By motion the Branch voted an assessment of \$1 upon each active member to defray the expenses of the Secretary in connection with the sending out of meeting notices, etc.

Communications were read concerning the preliminary report of the Transportation Committee and copies of the report were distributed among those present.

The Branch concurred in the resolution concerning the death of Mr. Frank W. Klenert, adopted earlier in the evening by the Minneapolis Retail Druggists' Association.

The regular program for the evening was as follows:

1. The Assay of Spiritus Aetheris Nitrosi and Acidum Hydrochloricum Dilutum, with demonstrations. By Prof. G. Bachman.
2. A continuation of the discussion on Spiritus Aetheris Nitrosi, Acidum Hydrochloricum Dilutum, etc., begun at the Scientific Section meeting of the Minnesota State Pharmaceutical Association. The best methods for the preparation and preservation of the above-named products.
3. The latest rulings on the Harrison Anti-Narcotic Law.
4. The State Anti-Narcotic Bill and its provisions.

Professor Bachman's demonstration of the assay of Sweet Spirit of Niter was highly appreciated by the members present and elicited many questions. The apparatus designed by Prof. Frank X. Merck was exhibited and its use demonstrated. Prof. Bachman submitted the following concerning Sweet Spirit of Niter and urged each pharmacist to give strict attention to this preparation in order that the physician may obtain the result which he has a right to expect:

1. Do not make up more than the quantity

sold within a month. Buy the concentrated Spirit Niter, preferably in hermetically sealed tubes. The contents of one of which will make a pint of Sweet Spirit of Niter.

2. Keep the Spirit in completely-filled bottles in such sizes as are usually called for by the trade and these should be stored in a cool place protected from light.

3. Air space in the bottle has much to do with the decomposition of the Spirit.

4. Do not expose the spirit to sunlight, as this is one of the chief causes for spoiling.

5. Amber-colored bottles afford good protection to the Spirit.

The paper by Prof. Bachman was discussed by Messrs. Griffen, Frost, Pres. Thompson, Dean Wulling, Schmidley, Kline, Danek and others. Mr. F. A. U. Smith explained in detail the reasons why amber-colored bottles afford a protection to the substance contained therein, which are susceptible to the actinic rays of light. Attention was called to the indiscriminate use of blue bottles for preparations which should receive the greatest protection from chemically active light rays.

Following this discussion, the matter of a joint meeting between Twin City physicians and Twin City pharmacists was brought up and after discussion, the following motion was unanimously passed: "Moved by Dean Wulling, seconded by Mr. Frost, that the Secretary be instructed to communicate with the Chairman of the Minneapolis Retail Druggists' Association and the Chairman of the St. Paul Druggists' Association, requesting each to appoint one pharmacist, who with a member of the Northwestern Branch, A. Ph. A., to be appointed by the President, are to constitute a committee of three to bring about not later than early May, a joint meeting of pharmacists and physicians of Minneapolis and later a joint meeting of pharmacists and physicians of St. Paul, the committee to have power to make necessary arrangements."

Mr. John P. Jelinek, Chairman of the Legislative Committee of the State Association, spoke on the state anti-narcotic bill and its provisions and urged the support of the Branch for the passage of the bill by the 1915 session of the Minnesota legislature. After some discussion, the bill was endorsed by the Branch.

About 50 attended the dinner and meeting.

E. L. NEWCOMB,
Secretary Northwestern Branch.

PHILADELPHIA.

The regular monthly meeting of the Philadelphia Branch was held on Tuesday evening, March 9, at the Temple College of Pharmacy.

President E. Fullerton Cook called the meeting to order at 8:30 p. m. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer reported receipts \$99.50, expenditures \$40.75, balance of \$58.75.

Mr. Thum moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted. The motion carried, and Messrs. Quintus Hoch and J. Atlee Dean were appointed as a committee to audit the books.

The program of the evening was then taken up and Prof. Joseph P. Remington gave an illustrated description of the U. S. P. IX in various stages of its revision.

Prof. Henry Kraemer discussed "The Botany and Pharmacognosy of the U. S. P. IX."

Prof. Charles H. LaWall gave a summary of the changes in "Standards and Tests for Inorganic Chemicals in U. S. P. IX."

Dr. Robert P. Fischelis presented "The Current Review of Pharmaceutical Journals."

After the program had been concluded, Prof. F. E. Stewart introduced the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the Philadelphia Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association hereby suggests to the Senate and House of Representatives of Pennsylvania that further legislation regarding the sale, possession, distribution and dispensing of habit-forming drugs be held in abeyance until a proper trial shall be given to the recently enacted Harrison Law intended for the control of the same, and that therefore further action regarding the bills now before the Senate and House relating to this subject be postponed in accordance with this resolution, and

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the several state medical, pharmaceutical and drug organizations asking their cooperation in securing the postponement of further legislation regarding habit-forming drugs until the Harrison Law has been properly tried out as aforesaid.

The resolution was seconded by Prof. Remington and passed by ballot.

The Committee on Nominations was called upon for a report, and Mr. Joseph W. England, Chairman, presented the following report:—

Your Committee on Nominations would respectfully recommend the following nominations for 1915-16:—

President—S. C. Henry.

First Vice-President—J. W. Sturmer.

Second Vice-President—W. G. Neebig.

Secretary-Treasurer—J. Ed. Brewer.

COMMITTEES.

Practical Pharmacy—Charles H. LaWall, Chairman, O. W. Osterlund and J. C. Peacock.

Membership—A. J. Staudt, Chairman, Quintus Hoch, Frank E. Morgan.

Professional Relations—William L. Cliffe, [Chairman, Francis E. Stewart, M. D., and Franklin M. Apple.

It was moved and carried that the President be instructed to cast the ballot for the officers as submitted by the Nominating Committee.

Prof. Remington introduced the new officers, preceding his introduction, with a short eulogy of each. The meeting then adjourned.

J. ED. BREWER, Secretary.



PITTSBURGH.

The February meeting of the Branch took place too late in the month to permit of its proceedings appearing in the journal of that month.

Dr. Blumenschein referred to the action taken at a former meeting, at which time a resolution was adopted instructing the Secretary to communicate with the distributors of Creolin-Pearson calling attention to the erroneous practice of labeling that article "Non-Poisonous," and exhibited at this time a bottle of the article from which these misleading and dangerous words were omitted, which Dr. Blumenschein said shows the usefulness of our taking up such matters and acting upon them.

A communication was read from Mr. P. Henry Utech, of Meadville, Pa., offering to present an interesting paper at an early meeting upon the subject, "European Pharmacy and Pharmacists," based upon his travels with the German Apothekers Verein, in 1914. It was accepted with thanks, and Mr. Utech will present his paper at the April meeting.

Dr. Emile F. Krapf, of the Radium Co., of Pittsburgh, was introduced as the speaker of the evening, his lecture being on the subject of Radium, with illustrations covering many features of the production of that substance, and it proved to be the most valuable and intensely interesting talk the members have ever been favored with. The source, manner of securing the carnotite ore, pitchblende and autunite, method of applying radium in the treatment of disease, and the use made of

Radio-active-Earth in plant growth and crop production were described. He also exhibited specimens of radium and made numerous tests of its powers. The radium facts presented were, as epitomized:—Discovered in 1896 by Madame Curie; the half life period of radium is 2000 years radium emits three rays known respectively as alpha rays, beta rays, and gamma rays; alpha rays are positively charged helium atoms, shot out with a velocity of 12,000 miles per second, beta rays are negatively charged particles, about 100 times as penetrating as the alpha rays and are of the same type as the cathode rays; gamma rays are analogous to X-rays, but more penetrating than the X-rays produced in a hard vacuum tube. Radium is extracted from carnotite ore, pitchblende and autunite. One gram of radium element represents about 400 to 800 tons of carnotite ore; seven hundred tons of chemicals, exclusive of water, are used in extracting one gram of radium. Twelve grams of radium element is the annual output of the Standard Chemical Co., of Pittsburgh, many times the entire European output. The price per gram of radium element is \$120,000 to \$160,000. Dr. Krapf exhibited numerous samples of ores, radio-active-earths, also clocks and watches the hands and figures being treated with radium so that the time can be readily seen in the darkest room.

A general discussion of the Harrison narcotic law was opened by Mr. Andrew Campbell, which threw much light on the law's provisions and its application.

Dr. George W. Kutscher, the new President, was inducted into office and in his inauguration talk promised to eliminate all the dead timber among the membership and utilize the live ones to the limit.

The March meeting on the 12th was treated to a very excellent paper by retiring President Andrew Campbell on the subject, "Hydrogenated Oils," from which we make but a short excerpt:

"Much has been reported and written about the possible wonderful cheapening of soap-makers' materials, but this has been considerably exaggerated, at least for the immediate future. . . . As the process becomes better developed and more widely used very material reductions in price of the products may be reasonably expected. . . . The two greatest apparent fields of usefulness for such

a process seem to be the production of edible fats and the bringing into range of soap-making materials vegetable and animal oils which have hitherto been unavailable on account of the relative softness of their products or for certain other technical reasons. Hardened oils will probably find other wide uses in the arts, for example in the manufacture of lubricants, but for the present the production of edible fats and of soap-making materials is of paramount importance in the development of the process."

BENJ. E. PRITCHARD, Secretary.

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ST. LOUIS.

At the March 19th meeting of the St. Louis Branch, Dr. H. M. Whelpley presented a paper on "How the Pharmacopœia is Revised." The paper was discussed by Francis Hemm, Leo Suppan, Julius C. Hoester, William Thaler, Carl T. Buehler, Miss Lydia Batdorf and J. W. Mackelden.

JULIUS C. HOESTER, Secretary.

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WASHINGTON.

The City of Washington Branch held its regular monthly meeting at the National College of Pharmacy, Wednesday, February 24, 1915; the subject for discussion was the Harrison Law and the regulation for the enforcement of same.

Mr. P. S. Talbert, Chief of the Law Division of the Internal Revenue Bureau; Dr. B. R. Rhees, who has immediate charge of the enforcement of the law, and Dr. O. B. Adams, Chief Chemist, Internal Revenue Bureau, were present and discussed the law and the regulations from the view-point of its enforcement.

After going into the history of what led up to the enactment of the law by Congress, Mr. Talbert gave figures showing that the annual importation of opium, its salts and derivatives for the past 10 years had been about eight times more than what is required for legitimate medicinal purposes and that of cocaine and its salts more than double all conservative estimates as to legitimate requirements. The Harrison law was discussed as to the manner of its enforcement by the Internal Revenue Bureau and he said he felt sure that highly desirable results would follow and develop the way for improvements in the future. He further expressed himself

as highly gratified with the hearty coöperation of the trade generally.

Dr. Hubbard, chief of the division, that drafted the regulations, was unable to be present and his place was filled by Dr. Rhees, who made an explanation of the regulations as they affected every branch of the trade as well as the physician, dentist and veterinarian, external preparations were classed as those which were applied to the skin only and that did not come in contact with the mucous membranes whatever. The provisions with reference to registration, order blanks and inventories were so carefully gone into that there should be no question of doubt as to their provisions and what is required.

Dr. Adams spoke with reference to synthetic substitutes and explained that same could be considered from both a chemical and therapeutic standpoint, but what would be done with this question remained to be considered and determined later when regulations would be promulgated.

The members present participated in the discussion that followed and many points of value to physician and pharmacist were brought out. Joel Blanc made a strong argument in favor of a thorough trial of the law in every particular before any endeavor be made looking to amending same as has been already suggested. Dr. Kebler spoke along the same lines, and further said that the Bureau of Chemistry was in possession of much information that would be of much value to the medical fraternity if the facts were known, particularly in regard to the indiscriminate sale of habit-forming drugs in unexpected places in all of the large cities.

Dr. Henry P. Hynson took a most active part in the meeting and made a plea in closing the meeting that the indiscriminate sale and use of habit-forming drugs had long had a tendency to bring disrepute to both medicine and pharmacy and that both professions now had the opportunity, by making only slight sacrifices, to purge their ranks of such charges and elevate their respective professions. His remarks along the lines of compiling accurate records were most timely, and he made many suggestions of value as to the handling the stock of narcotics. He further stated that the law could not help but prove a blessing to physicians and pharmacists as well as a boon to humanity in curtailing the indiscriminate sale and use of habit-forming drugs.

S. L. HILTON, Secretary.

The March meeting of the City of Washington Branch was held March 24, 1915, at the National College of Pharmacy. The subject for discussion was the "Effect of the Harrison Law on the Pharmacy Act of the District of Columbia," by Mr. Alex. Muncaster, Professor of Pharmaceutical Jurisprudence, National College of Pharmacy.

His opening remarks, while usually correct, do not seem to fit in this particular case.

"Man whose privileges are curtailed by any law usually know more about the law than otherwise."

From the numerous questions that have been asked and the many inquiries made of the Internal Revenue Bureau and those connected with the drafting of the law, it would seem that this is not correct, for the reason that those affected have deferred considering this law until the same went into effect.

After taking up both Acts and discussing the main features of each as pertaining to the use and sale of narcotics, he clearly demonstrated by citing numerous court decisions relating to other laws, which would establish precedents sufficient, that both Acts could and would work in connection with each other without friction and that nothing contained in the Pharmacy Act of the District of Columbia had been repealed by the Harrison law.

Prof. Muncaster, further explained many sections of the Harrison Act and the regulations from a legal standpoint, that did much to clear the minds of those present. He said that numerous clauses of the law were apparently not as clear as was at first supposed, and that they would in the future require interpretation by the courts. As for instance, what are "synthetic substitutes?" Does this phrase apply to Cocaine, its salts or alpha or beta eucaine or any of their salts or simply to alpha and beta eucaine and their salts?

The requirement that the physician, dentist and veterinary surgeon keeping records shall state the name and address of the patient seems not to meet the situation of the veterinarian, should this not have provided that the kind of animal should be stated instead of the name and address? Then if this latter only is done, would it fulfill the requirements of the law?

The question as to whether a pharmacist should fill a prescription that was legitimate

in every way and complied with the provisions of the law and regulations, for one ounce of morphine or a large amount of any narcotic drug coming within the provisions of the Act was discussed from every view-point, the opinion expressed was, that the law contained nothing whatever to prevent the pharmacist from so doing if all of the requirements had been complied with, it would, however, no doubt cause the Internal Revenue Bureau to make inquiries and scrutinize the said physician, who would be compelled to show that the same was in the legitimate practice of his profession and not for the use by *habitues*, if in this he failed he then would be amenable to the Act and would be liable to fine and imprisonment.

The opinion as expressed by the Deputy Commissioner of Internal Revenue relative to the procedure to be followed in the selling or disposition of a business licensed under the Harrison law was also presented, it is as follows:—

"A retail dealer desiring to dispose of his entire business, should notify the Collector of Internal Revenue of this fact and the purchaser of such business should make a sworn inventory of the narcotic drugs coming into his possession and keep this on file in his place of business.

Previous to the transfer of such drugs, the purchaser should make application to the Collector for registration and the order forms he will require. The purchaser cannot make use of the order forms in the possession of the person from whom he purchases the business.

The purchaser should, upon receipt of his registry number and official order forms, make use of one of the order forms, in securing the transfer of the narcotic drugs and file the duplicate order form with his inventory.

When such transfers are contemplated, application should be made to the Collector of Internal Revenue for permission to make use of the larger size order forms, provided by the government upon which to itemize the narcotic drugs to be transferred."

Not the slightest objection was raised as to this ruling, every one present believing some such method should be followed.

Considerable discussion of minor importance relative to the Harrison law and many questions were asked that were thoroughly explained and did much to assist in carrying

out the provisions of the law, after which the meeting adjourned.

The subject for discussion at the April meeting will be, "The quality of some drugs and pharmaceutical preparations examined in the Bureau of Chemistry," by Dr. L. F. Kebler. This should be a most interesting meeting and it is expected that conditions of a startling nature will be shown as to the quality of drugs on the market.

H. E. KALUSOWSKI, President.

S. L. HILTON, Secretary.

College and Society

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS SCHOOL OF PHARMACY.

The annual Commencement of the University of Illinois School of Pharmacy (Chicago College of Pharmacy) will be held at the new Central Music Hall, 64 E. Van Buren Street, Chicago, on Wednesday afternoon, April 28th. Professor Joseph Price Remington, Dean of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, will deliver the address to the graduating class. President Edmund J. James will confer the degrees. The indications are that the graduating class of 1915 will be the largest in the history of the school.

In the evening of the same day the Alumni Association will give a banquet in honor of the graduating class. A feature of this banquet will be the reunion of the classes of 1890, who will celebrate their twenty-fifth anniversary.

The annual meeting and election of officers of the Alumni Association will be held at the School on Tuesday evening, March 25th, when the arrangements for the annual banquet will be made.

The members of the senior class have had the pleasure of listening to a course of six lectures upon pharmaceutical law given by Mr. Walter A. Murray. Mr. Murray is a graduate of the school, Class of 1906, and also a graduate of law school. He was able, therefore, to present the subject from the pharmacist's viewpoint and the students were very much pleased with the results of his effort. This is the first time that such a course has been given at the School, but it is planned to continue it as a regular part of the curriculum.

THE JERSEY CITY COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.

The series of social lectures at the Jersey City College of Pharmacy were continued on Friday, March 19th, when Dr. John Roemer, of White Plains, N. Y., delivered a splendid address on "Scientific Pharmacy" to the students of the College.

The lecturer gave a historic review of the growth of the manufacturing chemical and pharmaceutical industry, and the evolution of the dispensing doctor and the corresponding retrogress in retail pharmacy. He deplored the existing conditions in pharmacy and he severely criticised the constant growth of the "Patent Medicine" evil.

Dr. Roemer furthermore spoke on the many new laws which affect pharmacy and which not only act as safe-guards to the public health, but which furthermore place a great many restrictions and frequently unnecessary restrictions upon legitimate pharmacy. In spite of all these drawbacks the lecturer expressed the opinion that pharmacy will shortly undergo a great evolution and that scientific pharmacy is bound to come sooner or later. He advised the students of the College of Jersey City to make use of their pharmaceutical knowledge which they obtain during their course, in their future life as pharmacists. The utilization of this knowledge will gradually open up a field which at the present time has been unexplored, namely, that of Scientific Pharmacy.

The lecture was well attended by the students and the members of the Faculty of the College, and also by a number of visitors of the pharmaceutical and medical profession in Jersey City and vicinity.



THE COLLEGE OF PHARMACY, STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA.

On February 19th, Dean Wilber J. Teeters read a paper before the Baconian Club on the subject of Narcotics and Dope. He discussed the source, composition, official and other preparations of habit-forming drugs, and explained the attempts at the legal control of the sale of these drugs. In the latter the Harrison Act was discussed. Dean Teeters had specimens of many of the so-called patent medicines which contain habit-forming drugs to illustrate his paper. After the usual colloquium the paper was discussed at length by