

chloride and tartrate included, the alkaloid and sulphate omitted; strychnine alkaloid and hydrochloride included, the nitrate and sulphate omitted; quinine alkaloid is omitted; pilocarpine nitrate only is official; "Potassa Caustica," potassium hydroxide, is included, sodium hydroxide omitted.

"Sodium Acid Phosphate" is a valuable inclusion.

"Spiritus Rectificatus," alcohol, is 90 percent by volume—the U. S. P. alcohol being 94.9 percent.

There are four diluted alcohols official, namely, 70, 60, 45, and 20 percent, respectively.

"Tinctura Iodi Fortis" is 10 percent, "Tinctura Iodi Mitis" is 2.5 percent. "Unguentum Hydrargyri" contains 30 percent mercury, conforming in strength to the International Agreement. "Unguentum Hydrargyri Ammoniaci" is 5 percent, a more commonly used strength. There are 43 ointments in the B. P., the U. S. P. containing only 24. "Benzoinated Suet" replaces benzoinated lard for ointments made in India.

There is a tendency of having opium in disguise in a number of preparations, examples of which are: "Compound Pill of Soap," "Compound Powder of Ipecacuanha"—"Dover's Powder," "Compound Powder of Kino," "Compound Lead Suppositories," and "Compound Tincture of Camphor"—Paregoric.

A number of "coined" names are among the official titles, such as "Barbitone" for diethylbarbituric acid—Veronal, "Benzamine Lactate" for beta-eucaine lactate, "Diamorphine Hydrochloride" for di-acetyl morphine hydrochloride. "Hexamine" for hexamethylenetetramine, "Phenacetinum" for para-acet-phenetidid, "Salol" for phenyl salicylate, "Sulphonal" for diethylsulphone-dimethyl-methane, "Methylsulphonal" for diethyl-sulphone-methyl-ethyl-methane.

Some of these names are new, others familiar; taken as a whole, perhaps better than former attempts.

There is a stated limit of error for Alkaloidal Assays, within which preparations must be brought in their final adjustment.

These are some of the things noted in a more or less careful inspection of the book, with a very limited working knowledge of the formulas.

A PLAN FOR A MORE SERVICEABLE A. PH. A. JOURNAL.*

R. P. FISCHER, B. S., PHAR. D.

It has been apparent to many members of the American Pharmaceutical Association for some time that the "Journal" of the Association is not giving as satisfactory service as might have been expected, judging by the contentions of those who advocated discontinuing the issuance of a volume of annual proceedings and substituting therefor a monthly journal. In the editorial outlining the policy of the "Journal" published in the first issue of the latter it was stated that it had been brought "into existence to serve the necessities of the Association," and that, "except for its ability to render this service in more complete manner

* Read before New York Branch, A. Ph. A., March 8, 1915.

and form than can be rendered by other existing agencies, the 'Journal' has no excuse for being."

The purpose of this paper is not to adversely criticize the past or present management of the "Journal," but rather to outline a plan by which it can be made to serve the members of the Association with greater satisfaction.

One must realize that the problem of presenting the entire proceedings of the Association and its local branches, together with the great volume of literature brought before the meetings of these bodies, in twelve monthly installments, is no easy task. But the present limitations of the "Journal" make it an inferior representative of the scope and activities of the American Pharmaceutical Association.

Modern journalism of any type demands that news be presented to the reading public as concisely and expeditiously and yet as fully as possible. Members of the American Pharmaceutical Association who present papers at its meetings or at meetings of its local branches are not permitted, according to the by-laws, to publish these papers elsewhere until they have appeared in the Association's Journal. Such a requirement would be just, if the papers were published within two, three or even six months of the date of presentation, but when a member presents a paper at one meeting of the Association and fails to see it printed in the "Journal" until a full year has elapsed, "it will possess value for only one division of the Association, namely the Section on Historical Pharmacy," and it is questionable whether a member will think it worth his while to contribute future papers of any importance to the Association. Only a very small percentage of the members are in a position to attend the annual meetings and besides, there is never sufficient time to read all of the papers presented, so it is really through the publication that members expect to bring their views before the pharmaceutical public.

It should be the function of the "Journal" to serve the members of the American Pharmaceutical Association in such a way as to at least compare favorably with the publicity obtainable through the balance of the pharmaceutical press.

The proceedings of a convention should be chronicled, as far as possible, in one issue of the "Journal" in order to be of interest to the non-convention-goer.

Few people care a great deal for serial stories spread over a half dozen or more issues of a magazine, and members of the American Pharmaceutical Association are not exceptional in this respect. How many, then, are interested enough to read the entire proceedings of a meeting of the Association when the report of the first session may appear in September and reports of succeeding sessions are not published for two, three or four months following.

Under the present plan the contents of the "Journal" include editorials, proceedings of the general sessions of the Association, council business, legal problems, news items of general interest and the papers presented to the meetings of the sections and branches of the organization, together with their discussion.

The editor is confronted with the rather difficult problem of giving each of these topics sufficient space to properly present it and at the same time make the "Journal" the official record of the proceedings of the Association. Is it any wonder then that some one's paper must be deferred for a year before it can be published and that the proceedings of the annual meeting must be spread over

several issues? There is no fault to be found with the editing, but why should an Association like the American Pharmaceutical Association have such poor publicity facilities? The American Medical Association has found it necessary to make its publication a "weekly" and even then there seems to be no space to spare.

While the American Pharmaceutical Association is big enough, in every sense of the word, to support a weekly journal, it would perhaps seem like too great a leap to take at once, to urge a weekly publication at present.

Conditions are such, however, that one need not hesitate to strongly advocate a semi-monthly publication of the "Journal." If we had two issues each month, the material available could be presented in a manner somewhat as follows: Assuming that the dates of publication would be the first and fifteenth of each month, the issue appearing on the first of each month could contain the editorials, selected articles, local branch, and general news, legal items and reports of council business.

The issue appearing on the fifteenth of each month could then be devoted exclusively to the proceedings of meetings, to the publication of the papers presented at the meetings of the Association and its local branches with discussions, contributed articles, and such special features of scientific or general pharmaceutical interest which the editor and the publication committee may deem worth publishing in this number.

If the annual meeting of the Association were held in August, and this plan be followed, the issue of September 15th could contain a full record of the proceedings of the entire meeting, without the papers and their discussion, of course. The segregation of the minutes and proceedings of the annual meeting in one issue for reference would be welcomed by many, even though they attended the meeting.

The issue of October 15th could contain the papers and proceedings of the scientific section; that of November 15th, the papers and proceedings of the commercial section; that of December 15th, the papers and proceedings of the dispensing section; that of January 15th, the papers and proceedings of the historical section; that of February 15th the papers and proceedings of the educational and legislative sections, and so within six months one would have a complete collection of the papers presented at the annual meeting as well as the proceedings of the meeting. Perhaps it would take seven months, if the number of papers is unusually large, or again it might take only four or five months if the number of papers read is below the average. All of this, would, of course, be subject to conditions.

The papers presented to local branches and contributed articles, as well as pre-convention matters would keep this "15th of the month number" well supplied with material until the time of the next meeting when the same program could be repeated.

I realize that this is merely an outline and does not present all of the possibilities of a semi-monthly American Pharmaceutical Association Journal in detail, but I believe that if such a plan were followed it would be a distinct advantage to the Association, both from a revenue-yielding point of view, through increased advertising, and from the point of view of service to the members.

The semi-monthly issues could, of course, be gotten up in the same style as the monthly journal is appearing at present.

The plan outlined above has the advantage of enabling those who keep their copies of the "Journal" for reference, to have all of the papers presented to the Association and its branches consecutively arranged and classified under the various sections, by annually binding the issues appearing on the fifteenth of each month, in their numerical order.

If the news matters, editorials, etc., are to be kept, and it is certainly desirable for pharmaceutical workers that they should be, the issues appearing on the first of the month could also be bound in a separate volume.

Thus in the second instance one would have a volume recording a year's American Pharmaceutical Association news and in the first instance one would have a volume resembling the old "proceedings" of the Association, whose loss continues to be felt by pharmaceutical workers.

COMPARISON OF AMERICAN AND EUROPEAN SPRINGS.*

Research of the Department of Balneology of the College of Jersey City.

DR. FELIX VON OEFELE.

During the European war it is impossible or at least inconvenient to send patients to European mineral spring resorts. Therefore our Balneological Department herewith furnishes the following alphabetical list of well known European springs which can be replaced by American springs. The comparison is based on physical, chemical and physiological properties. This list is only preliminary, and it will be continuously supplemented and corrected in our files, if a reason becomes evident. More complete analyses of American springs are soon expected and for these different reasons a Department of Balneology has been instituted at the College of Jersey City.

Aachen—San Luis, California.
 Abbach—Santa Rosa, White Sulphur Springs, California.
 Abbazia—Atlantic City, N. J.
 Adlheidsquelle—Americus Mineral Well, Michigan.
 Aix les Bains—Arrow Head Hot Springs.
 Amelie les Bains—Clifton Springs, N. Y.
 Antogast—Schooley Mountain Springs, New Jersey.
 Apenta—Pluto, French Lick, Indiana.
 Appollinaris—Arrington Mineral Springs, Kansas.
 Assmannshausen—Lebanon Springs, New York.
 Baden-Baden—Jemez Hot Springs, New Mexico.
 Baden (Switzerland)—San Diego de los Banos, Cuba.
 Baden (Austria)—San Diego de los Banos, Cuba.
 Badenweiler—Las Vegas Hot Springs, New Mexico.
 Bath (England)—Allegheny Spring, Pa.
 Boklet—White Sulphur Springs, Sullivan County, New York.
 Brueckenau—Adirondack Mineral Springs, New York.

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* It was deemed that the information given would be of special interest at this time.