

## Editorial Notes and Announcements

E. G. EBERLE, Editor.....Columbus, Ohio

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

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## PAPERS FOR THE ISSUES OF JUNE, JULY, AUGUST, AND SEPTEMBER.

As the papers that were read at the Detroit meeting of the American Pharmaceutical Association have nearly all been printed, the editor requests that contributions for the succeeding numbers of the Journal be submitted. It is not desired to interfere with the work of the Sections and doubtless papers read at the Branch meetings will contribute largely to our present needs.



### POISONS AND HABIT-FORMING DRUGS.

A digest of laws and regulations relating to the possession, use, sale and manufacture of poisons and habit-forming drugs enacted during 1913 and 1914, now in force in the United States. By Martin I. Wilbert, Technical Assistant, Hygienic Laboratory, United States Public Health Service. Reprint No. 240 from the Public Health Reports, Washington, Government Printing Office, 1915.

This pamphlet of 100 pages is designed as a second supplement to Public Health Bulletin No. 56, a Digest of Laws and Regulations Relating to Poisons and Habit-Forming Drugs, published by the Public Health Service in 1912. This second supplement presents a compilation of the laws and regulations enacted in thirty-two of the political divisions of the United States during 1913 and 1914 that are not included in either of the earlier publications. The extracts from and the references to these several laws and regulations have been arranged under the following headings: "Sale and Use of Poisons," "Sale and Use of Cocaine and Narcotics," "Drugs to be Announced on Label," "Poisons in Articles of Commerce," "Occupational Intoxications," "Methyl Alcohol," "Sale and Use of Intoxicating Liquors," "Practice of Pharmacy," and "Standards for Drugs."

The introductory portion, including 16 pages, reviews some of the current activities and presents a number of tables giving interesting data regarding the use and abuse of poisons and habit-forming drugs.

In discussing the sale and use of intoxicating liquors the suggestion is made that retail druggists might take advantage of the precedent established under the provisions of the Federal anti-narcotic law and secure legislation providing for a special license for the sale of alcohol for medicinal and mechanical

purposes. By extending the principle of registration and record embodied in the Federal anti-narcotic law to cover alcohol and alcohol containing medicines, it would be possible to differentiate between dealers in alcohol and alcoholic liquids for medicinal purposes and dealers who sell alcoholic liquids for beverage purposes. Such a provision could be made to furnish the necessary information to make prohibition and local option laws more effective, would practically preclude the sale of alcohol for beverage purposes under the guise of medicine and thus afford to officials in prohibition or local option territory an opportunity to enforce restrictive legislation in a way hitherto impossible. A distinct form of license with provisions to restrict the sale of alcohol to strictly legitimate channels would also serve to remove from pharmacists the suspicion of selling alcoholic liquids for beverage purposes and thus tend to re-establish the respect due to all honest members of our profession. To pharmacists who are interested in the promulgation of restrictive legislation this compilation of laws and regulations will be particularly interesting and useful. To the extent of the edition, the reprint may be had on application to the Surgeon General of the United States Public Health Service, and additional copies may be procured from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., at ten cents a copy.



*Elementary Practical Chemistry*, by J. E. Myers and J. B. Firth. The book is designed for medical students preparing for their first examination in practical chemistry. The authors say that the syllabuses of most of the medical examining bodies of the British Isles have been carefully considered, with a view of including herein all information necessary to meet their requirements.

The book is divided into four parts, as follows: (1) General Methods of Chemical Manipulation; (2) Inorganic Qualitative Analysis; (3) Inorganic Quantitative Analysis, including examples in both gravimetric and volumetric work; (4) Practical Organic Chemistry.

The authors have been very successful in condensing the various branches of chemistry in such a small volume, including at the same time most essential laboratory exer-

cises. A purpose seems to have been to explain simple apparatus, and the chemicals have been selected with thought for cost and in smallest amounts. The explanations and directions are plainly stated. The little book conforms to the claims of the authors. J. B. Lippincott Company are the American publishers, representing Charles Griffin & Co. of London.



*Honorary President Geo. H. Schafer* directs our attention to the following statement in the Chicago Tribune by Dr. W. A. Evans: "The Pharmaceutical Journal quotes a druggist as saying that for every ounce of laudanum dispensed on prescriptions, he sells at least a gallon to self-dopers. He says that this is the rule among drug stores." The reference is indefinite, the last clause is not only false but manifestly unjust. Charges of this kind should not go unchallenged. Dr. Evans and the Tribune should have considered the statement in connection with the efforts put forth by pharmacists to regulate the dispensing of narcotics.



General Secretary William B. Day attended the banquet of the Pharmacy Department of Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind., May 6th. Aside from an enjoyable occasion, the Secretary found that a number of applications for membership in the American Pharmaceutical Association awaited him.



L. C. Gill, formerly of Texas, now representing William R. Warner & Co. in Panama, has sent in his application for membership in the American Pharmaceutical Association.



Bolivar Jurado, Professor of Chemistry and Physics in the National Institute of Panama, has been appointed Municipal Chemist for the City and District of Panama. Professor Jurado joined the Association four years ago; he has the possibility in mind that a Branch may be formed on the Isthmus.



Every day I am more sure of the mistake made by good people universally in trying to pull fallen people up instead of keeping the yet safe ones from tumbling after them; and in always spending their pains on the worst instead of the best material.—Ruskin.