

THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, A. PH. A.  
 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

—  
 H. P. HYNSON.  
 —

The Chairman of the "Committee on Investigation" is grateful for a large number of helpful comments on the proposition to make of the House of Delegates a central body for correlating the state pharmaceutical associations, through delegates, and thereby connect the A. Ph. A. directly with all sections of the United States and make it truly representative of the pharmacists of every section of our country; immensely increasing membership and interest in the parent body, as well. It is hoped that the various phases of pharmacy, as represented by the specialized national associations will also be correlated and more closely connected with the A. Ph. A. through the enlargement and extended scope of the Drug Trade Conference.

If some such combinations are not effected under its auspices, the usefulness of the American Pharmaceutical Association will soon pass entirely away through the specialization of effort in the several national associations, as pointedly witnesseth the reading of papers on strictly scientific pharmaceutical subjects at the last meeting of the National Association of Manufacturers of Medicinal Products; the able treatment of commercial problems by the National Wholesale Druggists Association; the elucidation of drug store practice by the National Association of Retail Druggists; the discussion of pharmacy laws by the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy and the control of the teaching of pharmacy by the American Conference of Pharmaceutical Faculties. If the American Pharmaceutical Association does not succeed in correlating and closely attaching to itself the active, energetic state associations, these will, naturally, form sectional unions of great importance.

The conditions surrounding the A. Ph. A. are now very different from those surrounding it when it was formed and when it was the only national body and when there were no state associations and only a few college associations and one local apothecaries' association. Natural and useful pharmaceutical associations, in great profusion, have been formed for every phase of pharmacy and for every geographical section of pharmacy and the one distinct mission left for the A. Ph. A. is to centralize all other important pharmaceutical organizations around itself, without detriment to any and to the greater usefulness and greater strength of all. This is the time with its opportunity, once lost, forever gone.

Dr. James H. Beal, the original promoter and organizer of the House of Delegates, kindly comments as follows:

"I think very favorably of the proposition to restrict the number and character of organizations to be given representation in the House and to declare more specifically what the functions of the House shall comprise.

At the time the resolutions creating the House of Delegates were adopted, I felt that it was a mistake to make its composition as heterogeneous but yielded on this point to avoid endangering the passage of the resolutions, believing that in time the defect would be recognized and corrected.

The great difficulty in making the change is the one which you point out, namely, the possible opposition of some of the institutions and local organizations to being excluded from

the House after having once been admitted thereto. Do you not think it would be possible to at least partially satisfy such objections by inserting in the By-Laws a section providing for the reception of FRATERNAL DELEGATES from bodies not included in the membership, giving to such fraternal delegates the privileges of the floor under more or less restricted conditions?

I believe, also, that the membership should include certain of the general officers of the A. Ph. A. as ex-officio members, and possibly several additional members elected by the Council. Some provision of this sort, it seems to me, is necessary to form a connecting link between the activities of the House and those of the Council.

I do not feel at present that I would insist strongly upon the changes suggested above, but have offered them merely for your consideration.

I trust that your Committee will be able to plan something that will result in converting the House of Delegates into an active and efficient body."

Mr. Joseph W. England, Secretary of the Council, writes:

"I have read with much interest your plea for a change in the character of membership of the House of Delegates, and your plan of procedure, in its essentials, appeals to me very strongly. It is clear, rational, and convincing.

In response to your request to make comments I would like to submit the following, not as the Secretary of the Council, but as member of the Association:

The idea of a House of Delegates originated in the fertile brain of Dr. James H. Beal, enroute with Dr. Henry M. Whelpley, from St. Louis to Denver, in August, 1912, to attend the Denver meeting of the Association.

At this meeting the plan was presented, and freely discussed, and after a number of modifications, the House of Delegates was created, being organized on August 21st, 1912.

It was generally recognized that the plan adopted was in the nature of an experiment, and that changes would have to be made in the near future, and so that these could be readily made, the House of Delegates was created by RESOLUTION of the Association, and not by amendments or additions to the existing by-laws.

Experience has shown that the creation of the House of Delegates was a long step forward, but the initial mistake was made in attempting too much. The membership was made entirely too inclusive. Representation should have been confined to State Associations and the local branches only. As you point out, the delegates of the national bodies,—pharmaceutical, chemical, medical and governmental, should be recognized at the general sessions of the Association and given the privileges of the floor, as heretofore.

As you indicate in your able paper, the 40 or more state associations have the same objects and the same comprehensive character of membership, as has the American Pharmaceutical Association. There is no class distinction. All pharmaceutical interests are represented in the membership. If the States can be induced to 'rally around the flag' of the A. Ph. A., it would be a long, long step forward toward a union of state and national pharmaceutical bodies, with a consequent betterment of all scientific, educational, legislative and commercial interests, as you point out. And that they can be so induced, is shown by the fact that at the Detroit (1914) meeting of the House of Delegates, 36 state associations were represented.

Little argument is needed to show that if active co-operation can be secured between the state pharmaceutical associations and the A. Ph. A., great good must result to both.

Personally, it seems to me that it would be a mistake to confine the proposed representation of the House of Delegates to the state associations only. Why not have the House of Delegates represent, not only state interests, but also local interests AS EXHIBITED IN THE LOCAL BRANCHES OF THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION; the members necessary to form a branch, however, should be reduced from 25 to 15."

Dr. Edward Kremers, of the University of Wisconsin, writes:

"I was surprised to learn how incongruous the house of representatives is. I am heartily in favor of placing the state associations in the closer touch with the A. Ph. A., but I am not convinced that a satisfactory arrangement can be effected until the membership in the state association also implies membership in the national association. However, the subject

is worthy of our careful attention and should receive all consideration possible in the near future."

Dr. F. J. Wulling, of the University of Minnesota and President of the A. C. of Ph. F., writes:

"Before receipt of yours I had regarded the House of Delegates as a factor likely merely to increase the complexity of our manner of doing business. Your suggestions and arguments, however, have much merit in them and, if it can be brought about that this House of Delegates become thoroughly representative of the state associations, I would be very glad to give my approval to a strengthening of the House. I have for a long time favored the closer affiliation of state associations with the A. Ph. A. and I would give my warmest support to any movement that would bind the state associations and the A. Ph. A. into a federation, in which the links would be substantial enough to create a unity of interest that would accomplish the big things for pharmacy as yet unaccomplished. Go ahead."

Dr. J. A. Koch, of the Pittsburgh College of Pharmacy and Chairman of the Executive Committee of the A. C. of Ph. F., writes:

"I have read with much interest your communication referring to the House of Delegates. Fundamentally your object is ideal and I only hope that it can be carried through. I fear though that the greatest difficulty will be to find something for the House of Delegates to do. Unless you can, in some way, tie them to the parent Association by assigning to them some definite work of some importance, I fear it will be difficult to create much interest in the body."

William Mittelbach, member of the Missouri Board of Pharmacy, prominent in all pharmaceutical bodies and loyal to all, communicates the following:

"Your proposal to change membership or representation in House of Delegates of the A. Ph. A. is an improvement. So far, however, I can not see the necessity of such a body at all. A strong committee appointed by the parent body can do all the work that is intended for the House of Delegates and for which it sprang into existence. We have, for years, complained of too many sections, and yet, under the slightest provocation, so to speak, launch still others and more cumbersome ones. Therefore, if we must continue this new branch of the A. Ph. A. let us simplify it by following your suggestion."

Dr. L. E. Sayre, of the University of Kansas, writes:

"As a loyal member of the Association, I am anxious that all of the sections of the Association shall be put in a position of maximum efficiency and would be glad to favor any changes which the mature judgment of your Committee deems advisable.

Now, as I look at it from my point of view, one of the many objects in giving to state associations exclusive control of the House of Delegates would be to help stem the tide of this spirit of iconoclasm.

It would seem to me that we should not ignore the right of full representation of the various branches of the A. Ph. A. now distributed over the United States. These branches should be encouraged just as the American Chemical Society encourages its various branches. I may say incidentally, that I have been trying to start a branch of the A. Ph. A. in Kansas City for a number of years and have made some progress in that direction and am in hopes that in the course of another year I may be able to secure this."

Dr. F. E. Stewart, loyal pharmacist and expert in patent and copyright laws, comments:

"You will remember that Prof. J. U. Lloyd when he was President of the A. Ph. A. advocated a re-organization of the Association for the purpose of limiting its members to retail druggists.

Now, you have gone to the other extreme and are advocating a plan, which, if carried out logically, would place the control of the Association in the hands of the proprietary medicine interests. Am I right about this? . . . I am wondering just what argument you are using in your own mind to justify you in opening the door of the A. Ph. A. to everybody."

F. W. Nitardy, Denver, Ex-Chairman of the Practical Pharmacy and Dispensing Section, A. Ph. A., writes:

"Received your paper in regard to the House of Delegates of the A. Ph. A. and wish to say, I am in hearty accord with your suggestion and hope you and your Committee will succeed in making this proposition a reality."

Prof. Charles H. La Wall, Philadelphia, always helpful, tersely lends his endorsement:

"Your recent communication was received and I heartily endorse the plan proposed therein."

Judge Charles M. Woodruff, Detroit, Michigan, Secretary and Treasurer of the National Drug Trade Conference, writes:

"I am in entire accord with your view that this House of Delegates should be composed only of delegates from state associations who are members of the American Pharmaceutical Association. I must frankly say, however, that I am not in sympathy with your proposition to organize a National Drug Trade Congress, for it seems to me that the present National Drug Trade Conference, which has done such good work already, fills every want; at least so far as legislation is concerned."

Prof. C. B. Jordan, of the Purdue University, lends encouragement:

"I am heartily in accord with your organizing plan of county, state and national associations similar to the American Medical Association and I sincerely hope that you will be successful in the working out of the plan. If I can be of any assistance to you I will be glad to have you call upon me."

From Secretary W. B. Day:

"I am heartily in favor of the suggestion you make that membership in the House of Delegates be limited to representatives of the State Pharmaceutical Associations who are also to be members of the A. Ph. A.

I believe that this would be a great improvement over the present heterogeneous assemblage. Delegates from the National Association might well be accorded recognition at the general sessions of the Association.

I believe that if your suggestion is adopted, it will do much toward bringing the State Associations into closer affiliation with the A. Ph. A., an object which is well worth an earnest effort to accomplish."

#### ATTEMPTS AT EXPLANATIONS.

To Dr. Beal and Mr. England: If more than one, single, class of delegates are admitted into the proposed REFORMED House of Delegates, just then will the principle of equal representation be violated and double representation, in many instances, creep in. "Fraternal Delegates" might, by resolution, be heard, but they should not be admitted to membership nor allowed to vote.

It is to be hoped that "SPECIAL" members, such as officers of the A. Ph. A., will not be provided for. The House of Delegates should not represent the A. Ph. A., but it should be a part of the A. Ph. A., in which the pharmacists, broadly described, of the various states, may be represented and EQUALLY represented. There is actually no need of but one kind of delegate for, most fortunately, every other form of local or national association, but the state associations, has orderly representation, either directly or indirectly, in the A. Ph. A. Let us try the restricted form first. Start right and we will *be* right.

To Dr. Kremers: It is not believed that we will be able to induce all individual members of the state associations to become members of the A. Ph. A. before the state associations and their members become more closely associated with the A. Ph. A. and more helpfully interested in it. The acquisition of members from the state associations will be large, but the acquisition will be gradually progressive. No very great increase in membership in the

A. Ph. A. would seem to be possible, excepting through the means of some sort of local associations, which will act as feeders to the general body.

To Dr. Wulling: Yours is exactly the conception that promises a reasonably sufficient organization of pan-pharmacy.

To Dr. Koch: There is not the slightest doubt, in the minds of those who have given the subject thorough study, but that right now, interesting and profitable programs for the next five years can be easily mapped out, such programs as will keep a properly formed house of delegates busy one full day or longer each year. Two such programs are submitted herewith.

To Mr. Mittelbach: Unfortunately, your conception of the A. Ph. A., its scope and possibilities, is such as was properly held by its most loyal members fifty years ago. The opposition to attaching the state associations to the A. Ph. A. is the opposition, if it were possible, to the union of the states into our National Government and such as would be against the acceptance of new states. The proposition to create a general reference committee or of making the House of Delegates a body of general reference, is directly against the prevailing tendency toward specialization. The same principle, followed in our general government, would refer to Congress all those particular matters which are now separately taken care of by the special departments or divisional bureaus. This general reference idea is a distinctly backward step and will rob the specialized sections, of the Association and its especially organized committees of their real and truest missions. The House of Delegates should become a *special* reference body for inter-state subjects, only.

To Dr. Sayre: Personal explanations have been made to you, which have no general interest. Your suggestion that the local branches have representation in the House of Delegates is answered in the Chairman's original communication. The local branches have full and unusual representation in the Council. Should they also be represented in the House of Delegates, they would be given undue power and unwarranted importance and the members of these, who are, in nearly every instance, it is believed, also members of their state association, would have double representation in the House of Delegates, which would be, obviously, unfair.

To Dr. F. E. Stewart: The true stamp of humanity is seen upon you when it is discovered that you CAN, sometimes, go wrong. Evidently you have not been nor are now well acquainted with the prevailing conditions, as they relate, especially, to the personnel of the membership of the A. Ph. A. It is much more catholic, as it should be, than you seem to know. You are advised to get acquainted with the members and discover their peculiar lines of action. The door has been WIDE OPEN, FORTUNATELY, for many years. Pharmacy is a mixture and we must accept it as such, trying, always, to improve the character of the component parts.

To Judge Woodruff, Mr. Nitardy, Prof. La Wall, Prof. Jordan and Prof. Day: You and all who have favored the committee with comments, are heartily thanked for your helpful co-operation. Your continued interest is needed and earnestly solicited. The subject should be patiently discussed at all state association meetings and careful conclusions developed.

#### SUGGESTED PROGRAM FOR THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES 1915 MEETING.

##### MORNING.

*Presidential Address*—Subject: The history of pharmaceutical organization in the United States, with reference to its development consistent with specialization in pharmacy, as well as with the growth and the betterment of the country.

*Address*—The Correlation of 48 State Associations and its Possibilities.

Report of the Committee on Credentials.

Resolutions and Subjects for Discussion, offered by the several delegates, with comments. All to be referred to a special committee for arrangement and presentation.

##### AFTERNOON.

Report of Special Committee appointed "To investigate the House of Delegates and to see if its usefulness could not be improved," with presentation of amendments to the by-laws to be discussed and acted upon at the next session.

*A Symposium*—How far can state laws, applying to pharmacy, be made to conform to similar National laws and would such an agreement make uniform state laws?

- (a) Pure Food and Drugs Laws.
- (b) Anti-Narcotic Laws.
- (c) Poison and "Bichloride" Laws.
- (d) Labeling and Weights and Measures Laws.

Report of committee appointed to arrange and present resolutions and subjects for discussion. Discussion of such as are presented.

## EVENING.

Unfinished business, communications.

*A Symposium*—Would the establishment of a system of legalized dispensing service fees, as now prevails in Germany, be helpful to the pharmacists of America? Also, would the practice of making a distinct charge for dispensing services and a distinct cost charge for merchandise tend to give the pharmacist better professional standing?

## MORNING.

*Presidential Address*—Subject: Embracing a report of the progress made in correlating the state associations and recommendations for the betterment of prevailing conditions.

*Address*—Why all members of the state associations should also become members of the American Pharmaceutical Association, reciting the benefits to follow this completed membership.

Report of the committee on credentials.

Resolutions and Subjects for Discussion offered by the several delegates, with comments. All to be referred to a special committee for arrangement and presentation.

## AFTERNOON.

Report of Committee on Uniform State and National Laws. And a discussion of the forms of laws presented by the Committee.

The existing relationship in the several states between the medical and pharmaceutical professions. Suggestions for the betterment of such conditions.

Report of committee appointed to arrange and present resolutions and subjects for discussion. Discussion of such as are presented.

## EVENING.

Unfinished business, communications.

*A Symposium*—The advantages to accrue to retail pharmacists from co-operating with other retail merchants and from taking part in retail merchants associations or bureaus, also reporting of "smart things" done by some of the state associations that might be helpful to others.

Form of resolution that may be discussed at state association meeting:

WHEREAS, The correlation of the state associations and their attachment to the A. Ph. A. would greatly enlarge the scope and increase the usefulness of the several state associations and would also increase the strength and influence of the American Pharmaceutical Association; and

WHEREAS, Such correlating and attachment would be in line with the progress of the times and consistent with all forms of effective organization; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That this Association in convention assembled does hereby endorse the proposition to make the House of Delegates a body composed exclusively of representatives of the state associations; and be it

*Further Resolved*, That the delegates of this Association are hereby instructed to lend all the assistance in their power toward the formation of a House of Delegates composed of state association representatives, only.

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY P. HYNSON, Chairman.