

was discussed, and it was decided to leave that for the incoming officers to work out. The meetings should be timed so that the sessions would not conflict with any other sessions to prevent the professional women attending. Also the room for holding the meetings should be definitely decided upon.

The Nominating Committee reported as follows:

Honorary President: Mrs. F. C. Godbold, New Orleans.

President: Mrs. G. D. Timmons, Valparaiso, Ind.

First vice-president: Mrs. W. Bruce Phillip, Fruitvale, Calif.

Second vice-president: Mrs. E. A. Ruddiman, Nashville, Tenn.

Third vice-president: Miss Jean Gordon, Chicago, Ill.

Secretary: Miss Anna G. Bagley, Columbus, Ohio.

Treasurer: Mrs. W. B. Day, Chicago, Ill.

Historian: Miss Bertha Ott, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Member Executive Committee: Miss Clarissa M. Roehr, San Francisco.

The Secretary was instructed to cast the ballot for the nominees.

The President: Is there any further business to come before this Section at this time? If not, we will stand adjourned.

Miss Cooper: I would like to move that we again express our appreciation of what our President has done by a standing vote. (The members rose in response to the vote.)

The President: May I wish you all a pleasant time at the Exposition, a pleasant year, and express the hope that I may see you again at the next convention. I thank you for your assistance at this convention. Adjourned.

THE PHARMACIST AND PUBLIC HEALTH.*

BY MRS. G. D. TIMMONS.

The training of the pharmacist eminently fits him to be a potent health factor in the community. This special training gives him definite knowledge concerning the compounding of drugs and skill in their identification. If the doctor sent *all* of his prescriptions to the pharmacist and the pharmacist, in turn, insisted upon a prescription from the doctor, each would be doing the work for which he was trained and, at the same time, conserving public health.

Outside of his professional line of drug merchandise, the pharmacist gives *special* thought to securing such other stock as has to do with the health and comfort of his community. Toilet articles, everything that cleans and purifies, as paints, oils, varnishes, wall-paper, etc., and particularly germicides and insecticides, do much to promote the public health. Side-lines should not lower the dignity of the pharmacist. Unscrupulous is a word that should *never* be used with reference to the pharmacist and seldom is, for he usually prefers to carry any side-line that is at all suitable in a drug store, rather than doubtful patent medicines, etc. A drug, good for every ailment, is not often seen advertised, except by "quacks." The pharmacist advertises his side-lines mainly, leaving his drugs to be sold only as the

* Read before Women's Section, A. Ph. A., San Francisco meeting.

doctor prescribes. The elimination of spirits and narcotics from the pharmacist's sales, except as prescribed, scores for public health as well as for ethics.

Pharmacists are demanding a standard price. A "cut price" usually means a less pure article. Pure drugs are now easily obtainable, and the "up-to-date" pharmacist uses the best, and if they are drugs which deteriorate, he buys in small quantities to insure freshness. The suggestion often given to the housewife to buy her spices at the pharmacy speaks well for the purity of drug-store products.

The pharmacist strives for elegancy in pharmacy, and *this*, with the background of cleanliness and order, not omitting his own person, stands for right living in the community. His store thus becomes an object lesson in sanitation. The same rules could be observed in our markets and groceries with splendid results.

It is deplorable that, while the pharmacist's motto is to serve others well and aid in health, his long hours and close confinement have often made him a prey to ill health. We are gratified to know that legislation is beginning to take care of this wrong.

People are getting away from the old idea that they must have drugs for everything; rest, dieting, adjustment and prevention are oftener considered. A periodic health examination has now been suggested. The progressive pharmacist may keep abreast of the times and maintain his high profession as a public health benefactor by being a good analyst or a bacteriologist. A little laboratory, fitted up for some special work, is a valuable addition to any store, and every pharmacist may feel well repaid for being a good chemist in the added ability for service. Vaccines, serums, anti-toxins, etc., are well worth understanding thoroughly. The pharmacist will always be in demand to render first aid in emergency cases, and here his professional training is of vital importance to the public health.

The world will always need pharmacists, but their activities will be changed as science advances. The attendance at educational meetings and the interest taken show that the pharmacist realizes the advantages of keeping in touch with scientific advancement.

Women have long looked to the health of the home; they are now going outside of it to get at the causes of disease, thereby safeguarding the home. Hence we are keen to appreciate the pharmacist's exalted place in this great movement for public health. We trust that every pharmacist realizes, as we have assumed that many do, the great privilege that he has, by virtue of his profession, to conserve the health of the community.

VALPARAISO, IND.
