

OBITUARY.

WILLIAM CHARLES ALPERS.

By the passing away after a lingering illness of William C. Alpers, ex-President of the American Pharmaceutical Association, on February 20, 1917, at Cleveland, Ohio, not alone the pharmaceutical but the related professions have suffered a great loss. It was a sad ending of a brilliant and very promising career.

Dr. William C. Alpers was born at Hanover, Germany, on July 7, 1851. He attended the gymnasium and the Technical High School of his native city, where he completed his preparatory studies and afterward entered the University of Göttingen, specializing in natural sciences and mathematics. His studies were interrupted by the Franco-Prussian War in 1870, in which he took part and was decorated with the Iron Cross. After the war he came to the United States, and for nearly ten years was active as a teacher at the St. Matthews Academy of New York. He was a student at the New York College of Pharmacy and also took a course in chemistry at the New York University and was awarded the degree of Doctor of Science.

In 1881 Dr. Alpers opened a pharmacy in Bayonne, New Jersey, where he remained until the year 1898. Becoming a member of the New Jersey Pharmaceutical Association, he was elected its president in 1896. In 1890 he joined the American Pharmaceutical Association and was elected chairman of the Scientific Section in 1896, First Vice-President of the Association in 1903, chairman of Section on Practical Pharmacy and Dispensing in 1906 and chairman of the Historical Section in 1913. In 1914 he was elected president of the American Pharmaceutical Association and occupied the chair at its 64th Annual Convention held at Atlantic City, September 5-9, 1916.

Moving from Bayonne to New York City,

Dr. Alpers conducted the Merck Pharmacy and later on the Alpers Pharmacy at Broadway and Thirty-first Streets, until 1905, when he retired from business. He was a member of the Committee of Revision of the United States Pharmacopoeia and chairman of the sub-committee on Syrups and Elixirs. He also served three terms as a trustee of the New York College of Pharmacy until he received a call as professor of pharmacy from the Western Reserve University School of Pharmacy, of Cleveland, Ohio, of which he was Dean. This position he occupied until shortly before his death.

When the American pharmacists made a tour of Europe in July, 1914, he acted as chairman of the Tourists' Committee and was a ready spokesman whenever the occasion required an eloquent speaker, which all participants of the memorable trip will acknowledge and remember.

Dr. Alpers was also a very brilliant writer and the author of many valuable contributions to pharmaceutical literature; among his books are two published by the J. B. Lippincott Co.; "The Medicinal Plants of Staten Island" and "The Pharmacist at Work." For many years he was on the

editorial staff of the *Deutsch Amerikanische Apotheker Zeitung*.

Dr. Alpers was twice married. Besides his widow he leaves two sons, both graduates in pharmacy of the New York College of Pharmacy, William H. Alpers, of Los Angeles, California, and Otto Alpers, of Brooklyn, and four daughters by his first marriage.

The obsequies took place at the chapel of the New York Bay Cemetery, Jersey City, N. J. Rev. Paul Lemke, of Passaic, delivered a very impressive review of the deceased's remarkable career.

The funeral was largely attended by rel-



WILLIAM CHARLES ALPERS
Sixty-Third President American Pharmaceutical Association

atives and friends. There were many floral tributes, among them a beautiful wreath of lilies and violets from the Western Reserve University School of Pharmacy, Class 1917; another from the German Apothecaries Society of New York, and a large number of individual floral offerings. Among the pallbearers were President Robert S. Lehman, Emil Roller and George Bruns, of the German Apothecaries Society. The American Pharmaceutical Association was represented by President-Elect Charles Holzhauser, ex-Presidents H. H. Rusby, Caswell A. Mayo and E. G. Eberle; the Columbia University College of Pharmacy by Dean Henry H. Rusby, and the New Jersey State Board of Pharmacy by F. A. Bongartz. Among others present were Charles W. Holzhauser and E. A. Sayre.

"Death is the liberator of him whom freedom cannot release, the physician of him whom medicine cannot cure, and the comforter of him whom time cannot console."—*Colton*.

HUGO KANTROWITZ.

(Other sketches of the deceased may be found in Vol. III, p. 1722, and Vol. IV, pp. 1014, 1086, of the JOURNAL A. PH. A.)

IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM C. ALPERS,
EX-PRESIDENT A. PH. A.

H. H. RUSBY.

America had few, if any, more earnest advocates of all that was best in pharmacy, or more enthusiastic workers for its promotion than Dr. Alpers. I can not recall ever having met him in private conversation that he did not at once or very shortly introduce this subject. He was an earnest student of both the theoretical and practical divisions of the subject, and an intelligent coördinator of the two. He was not only far-sighted in appreciating the greater practical capacity of the man who was well grounded in fundamental theory, but possessed a keen appreciation of the advantages to the profession of having a really educated membership. He improved himself as he sought to improve others. His beginning in American pharmacy was of a low order as to preparation and personal equipment, but he started at once on a career of self-improvement, in which he never rested or wearied until he had qualified himself for the highest honor in the possession of the profession in America to bestow.

In his professional work he practiced what he preached, the strictest adherence to prin-

ciples of honesty and professional honor. It is not likely that any living person can point to a slip of his in the discharge of either obligation. Now that he is gone, everyone who was familiar with these precepts and this example will gratefully treasure the memory.

It was in his educational work that Dr. Alpers exhibited his best and most characteristic self. He was foremost among American teachers in his exhibition of fidelity, earnestness and industry, as seen in his work at the Cleveland School of Pharmacy. We recognize in his work rare qualities of a teacher, and are happy in the belief that to others who know of it, it proved, and will continue to prove, a strong inspiration to do the best in their own fields of service. Such assistance they can well receive even while noting some features in the work of their deceased associate, as is true of that of all, that might be improved upon.

Thus, as has been said of so many noble workers in our profession who have fallen out of the ranks in recent years, the good that Dr. Alpers has done shall live after him.

J. U. LLOYD.

Your card is the first advice I have received concerning the death of Dr. Alpers. This event I very much lament, because of the good work he aimed to accomplish in pharmacy, his aggressive processes in what he believed to be best for pharmacy, and his scientific ability united therewith.

For several decades I have known Dr. Alpers, have enjoyed visits with him in pharmaceutical meetings, and journeyed with him on excursions connected with these meetings, and on these occasions I always found occasion to admire his enthusiasm in the direction of botanical, pharmaceutical and chemical problems that were continually appearing during such opportunities for personal contact. The passing of Dr. Alpers impresses me anew with the continually recurring similar events, that indicate to me that personal companionships I have enjoyed in pharmaceutical meetings, are with me fast becoming reminiscences of the past. However, the faces and personalities of these long-time friends are no less real to me now, than in the days when they were present in our society.

JOSEPH L. LEMBERGER.

The death of our late friend, Dr. Alpers, was a great shock to me, as I had not learned of his serious illness.

Dr. Alpers was a man of more than ordinary ability and his advancement to positions of responsibility is an evidence of his merit. He had a personality peculiar to his native endowment and always possessed the courage of his convictions and, whether right or wrong, had the ability to defend his views.

I regret most sincerely that death claimed him at this time. His wife and family certainly have the sympathy of those associated with him in the American Pharmaceutical Association, and with one heart and soul, we say, "Requiescat in pace."

JOSEPH P. REMINGTON.

The death of William C. Alpers must have come as a shock to his friends. While it has been known that he was in precarious health for the last year, few of his friends realized that he was nearing the end.

Professor Alpers was ambitious to bear his full share of responsibility in matters pharmaceutical and he did not shirk any duty that he realized was his. He was an idealist and a most energetic worker. He was a forceful speaker with the gift of language and the ability to express his views clearly. He was courageous and never hesitated to "speak out in meeting." He cared very little for the opinions of the majority, and such men are rare. The painful malady with which he was afflicted undoubtedly influenced his judgment at times, but his earnestness and faithfulness to his ideals will cause the name of William C. Alpers to be remembered by the members of the American Pharmaceutical Association for many years.

J. W. ENGLAND.

I am very sorry to learn of the passing of William C. Alpers. He was one of the "war horses" of the American Pharmaceutical Association and he will be missed. Joining the Association twenty-seven years ago, he became an "active member" in deed as well as in name. Critical, observant and aggressive in fighting for what he believed to be the right, he was, also, a dreamer. He never lost the martial spirit of his early training in the Franco-Prussian War and he never lost the visions of his manhood. He was preëminently a teacher, educator, historian; and a ready and voluminous writer. The influence of his work will remain through the years to come.

I have said that he was a dreamer, using

the word in no sense by way of reproach, because the dreams of men make the deeds of men possible. Without vision no one can see the light. I recall the beautiful word-picture he painted several years ago in the JOURNAL on "Fields and Woods in June," and think how typical his story is. He wrote, in part:

"In our enjoyment of the beautiful June air we do not notice that the sun is going down; the shadows of the trees grow longer and the enchanting charm of the forest twilight gradually surrounds us. We know that it is time to leave the woods, as we might lose our way if total darkness befalls us here; and yet we linger, drawn back by the hands of fairies and sylvan spirits. Here and there a sudden light flares up. Fireflies have lit their candles and show us our way—the first announcers of the concert that is to come. They arranged the notes and instruments. Here and there a chirp, a rasp is heard, like the tuning of the string before the real performance begins. Everything is ready and full of inspiration drawn from the beautiful June night, the thousands of nocturnal choristers of the grass sing without end; each in itself perhaps without account and not much to listen to, but the blending is restful and charming and almost overwhelming.

"And now comes the soloist of the orchestra, a tree toad, that sings its note with a serious deep voice, but full of enthusiasm. The chirping of the bugs is more than a summer's monotonous lullaby, it becomes the musical background of a more skilled performer and assumes a new higher quality. Suddenly the soloist ceases and it appears as if everybody was quiet; the solemnity and grandeur of a June night seems for a moment to overpower all the other charms. Then he begins again and anew the little buzzers and chirpers intonate their songs.

"As we listen in rapture we try to analyze the performance and identify the individual performer, the cricket, the grasshopper, the locust, the golden beetle and others. But we fail in our task and wearily close our eyes, not to sleep, but to relax into a sweet vagrant reverie. Dream pictures appear before us as from the embers of an open fireplace in midwinter. Sweet recollections of our childhood and scenes of days long past and almost forgotten arise in our minds, and the untiring song of nature recalls the harmonies of a Beethoven sonata or Liszt's rhapsody to our ears, when, in the circle of a contented family,

we mused in the twilight while a beloved one, long departed, gently touched the keys with magic finger."

And so it is with human life. We are born. We live and move and have our being. We dream our dreams and have visions. We do our little bit of work for Nature and Nature's God. And then comes—peace.

E. G. EBERLE.

"Death is capricious in his exactions, but at last everyone must obey his summons."

The American Pharmaceutical Association has rarely met, if ever, without having to regret the loss of some of the membership, for whom death has opened the gateway through which all pass out of this life into that which lies beyond. And so, while the death of ex-President, William C. Alpers, was not unexpected by those who knew of his condition, it, nevertheless, comes as a great shock. Dr. Alpers had not been a well man for a year or more; the more acute condition began to develop last summer and the seriousness was fully recognized soon after his return to Cleveland from the Atlantic City meeting.

The acquaintance of the writer with the deceased is largely that of a member of the Association and as a contributor to the JOURNAL. During his year as President of the American Pharmaceutical Association, he contributed quite a number of articles and all of them show his deep interest in pharmacy as a profession, and quite naturally, among the qualities that were impressed on the writer are those of splendid command of language which he was able to make use of in speech as well as diction. His work has impressed the American Pharmaceutical Association and pharmacy in general. The sympathy of the American Pharmaceutical Association goes out to those who have been bereaved of a loving father and husband, while lamenting the loss of a very active member.

JOHN FREDERICK LLEWELLYN.

J. F. Llewellyn, life member of the American Pharmaceutical Association, died at his home in Mexico, Mo., January 25th, following an attack of heart disease. Mr. Llewellyn had not been in the best of health for some time but his sudden death came as a great shock to his family and fellow citizens.

The deceased was a native of Kentucky, born in Louisville, September 13, 1845. His

parents were Robert Llewellyn and Abbie Knott Llewellyn, natives of England. Mr. Llewellyn was a lineal descendant of Llewellyn ap Gryffydd, the last Welsh prince who fought to establish independence for Wales. He was also related to Robert Peel, British Premier, and John Bright, Speaker of the British House of Commons.

Mr. Llewellyn received his early education in the public schools of Louisville, and his first engagement in the drug business was with the Louisville Chemical Works. He afterwards engaged with George H. Carey, with whom he remained for seven years. In 1867



JOHN FREDERICK LLEWELLYN

he came to Mexico and established a drug business which is now continued by his sons. His sterling qualities as a man, as well as his personal popularity, not less than his thorough knowledge of pharmacy and strict attention to business built up his successful business.

Mr. Llewellyn always took an intelligent and public-spirited interest in the general affairs of his home city and manifested a great zeal for its advancement and improvement. October 2, 1879, he was married to Miss Callie Duncan, of Mexico, who survives him. He leaves three sons, Henry D., Frederick W. and R. Merritt; and one daughter,

Mrs. Abbie Snoddy. The sons were associated with the father in business and will continue the store, and one of them writes that the store will not only be continued under the same name as heretofore, but conducted along the same lines established by his beloved father.

Mr. Llewellyn was a life member of the Missouri Pharmaceutical Association and served as president of that organization. He was a regular contributor to the Proceedings of that Association and quite frequently of the American Pharmaceutical Association, his subjects always being along the lines of historical pharmacy and medicine.

Mr. Llewellyn was interested in a number of enterprises of his home city and active in the various Masonic bodies. The local paper referred to the deceased as the best known citizen of Mexico. Mr. Llewellyn was a great lover of art and music and had collected a very extensive library. The thorough use of the latter is indicated by his many contributions. The high regard in which he was held was evidenced by the large attendance of the funeral services in the Presbyterian Church, of which he was an honored member and elder.

CYRUS JOSEPH LAMMERT.

Cyrus J. Lammert, a member of the Cincinnati Branch, A. Ph. A., was born in Cincinnati, April 27, 1861. He attended the public schools here, and graduated from St. Xavier College. He went into business for himself at the age of 27, having purchased the drug store at the corner of Fourth and

Smith Streets, in 1881. He conducted this store for a number of years with success. After selling this, he bought the drug store at the corner of Fifth and Main Streets, which he sold a number of years later and then again located at Park avenue and McMillan Street, Walnut Hills.

Each one of these stores he conducted with considerable financial gain, and after disposing of the store at Park Avenue and McMillan Street, retired from business. He then made an extended tour of Europe, but, upon his return to Cincinnati, concluded that he was too young to retire; and anyhow "Joe" Lammert was one of those intense, high-strung sort of fellows, who could not be satisfied, if idle. He therefore connected himself with the Stein-Gray Drug Co. and had charge of their city business as long as this concern remained in business; thereafter he became manager of the Cincinnati branch of the Bishop-Babcock-Becker Co., manufacturers of soda fountains. After several years in this position, this company abandoned their branch office, whereupon Mr. Lammert purchased the drug store at the corner of Burnet and Albany Avenues, Avondale, and after conducting same for about two years, he sold it and became assistant manager of the Cincinnati Economy Drug Co., the position he held until his death. He graduated from the Cincinnati College of Pharmacy in 1882.

"Joe" Lammert passed away the 13th of February, and the funeral services were held at the Cincinnati Crematory, February 15, 1917.

CHARLES A. APMEYER.

SOCIETIES AND COLLEGES.

NEXT ANNUAL MEETING OF NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RETAIL DRUGGISTS.

Plans for the next annual convention of the National Association of Retail Druggists, to be held in Cleveland next September, have already been made by the local organization. The Hotel Hollenden, most centrally located hostelry in Cleveland, has been obtained for the sessions and the Drug Show to be held in conjunction with the event. Two large ball-rooms, which can be made into one, will house the show. Other details will be worked out at future meetings of the local association.

COMMITTEES OF THE DRUG TRADE SECTION NEW YORK BOARD OF TRADE AND TRANSPORTATION.

The committees for 1917 of the Drug Trade Section, New York Board of Trade and Transportation, have been announced as follows:

Membership Committee.—Frank C. Starr, Stanley P. Jadwin, E. C. M. Kemp, Frank L. McCartney and Edward Plaut.

Committee of Jobbing Druggists.—William P. Ritchey, *chairman*, and one representative from each jobbing house in the drug trade section.

Committee on Legislation.—H. C. Lovis,