

THOMAS F. MAIN

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Honorary President of the American Pharmaceutical Association, 1912



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Thomas F. Main, of New York, who was elected Honorary President of the American Pharmaceutical Association in 1912, at the Denver meeting, died April 27, 1917, of pneumonia, at St. Mary's Hospital, Orange, N. J. He was born in Greenwich, England, May 9, 1849, and came to the United States in early youth. He entered the drug business and matriculated as a student of the New York College of Pharmacy while employed in the retail department of Tarrant & Co., graduating with the class of 1871. After graduation he continued as head of the retail department of the above-named company and organized its pharmaceutical laboratory. In 1876 he bought an interest in a pharmacy located at New Britain, Conn. In 1878 he acquired an interest in Tarrant & Co., becoming also the general superintendent and later president and treasurer. On account of the wholesale and manufacturing interests of this company, Mr. Main identified himself with the National Wholesale Druggists' Association, in which he took a very active part up to the time of his demise. During the many years of his connection with that association, he served this body in many capacities, being honored also with the presidency in 1894.

Soon after graduation from the New York College of Pharmacy, he helped to organize the Alumni Association and served as its president, and for many years was treasurer of the organization. As a delegate from this body Mr. Main attended the Cleveland meeting of the American Pharmaceutical Association, in 1872, and became a member of the Association at that time. During all these years he has been a faithful and loyal member, not only recognizing that the American Pharmaceutical Association stands for the highest ideals in pharmacy but exerting every effort in its welfare and promotion. It was in recognition of his work that he was unanimously elected Honorary President of the Association. He early recognized the mutuality of interests between the associations that he was so deeply interested in, and, in speaking before the American Pharmaceutical Association as a delegate from the National Wholesale Druggists' Association in 1886, emphasizing this point, he said, "As you are well aware, between individual members of both associations, there exists certain intimate relations and there seems to me to be no reason why the relations between the two associations should not be very fraternal and close, inasmuch as I find in the articles of your constitution that one of your

principal aims is to regulate the drug markets, prevent the importation of poor drugs, and expose sophistication and adulteration. On these grounds both of these associations can join hands."

Mr. Main was at the time of his demise secretary of the New York College of Pharmacy and also honorary president. Mr. Main was a bachelor; a sister died several years ago, and his only relatives in this country are two nephews.

In the American Pharmaceutical Association, he always occupied a place on important committees. He was a broad-gauged man of business, whose extended experience and sound judgment was ever at the command of his friends and the organizations with which he was connected. He was genial and most courteous in his relations with his fellow-men; while strong in his opinions, he was always tolerant of those of others. Mr. Main rarely missed the meetings of the American Pharmaceutical Association, was a valuable counsellor and will be missed not only as a friend but also as one of the most valuable members of the American Pharmaceutical Association.

E. G. E.

A. PH. A. MOBILIZATION.

The hum of preparedness is to be heard in Indianapolis pharmaceutical circles. Plans for the American Pharmaceutical Association Convention August 27th to September 1st are well under way. The camp site has been selected; the committees are consuming extra cigars over the luncheon coffee cups, and affairs are taking shape.

Indianapolis is essentially a convention city. Its hotels are plentiful, comfortable, hospitable. Next August, if the committees' hopes are realized, a record-breaking attendance will hear the fall of the president's gavel at the opening session on the 27th.

The pharmacist is a public service man. The better the public is served the greater is progress served. The public servant has need of enthusiasm and loyalty. He must be ready to "do his bit" in advance of the demand of progress; he must be prepared in mind and heart for action and accomplishment. The parent pharmaceutical association offers potent possibilities for progress.

Will the war scare affect the attendance? Not much! If ever there was a time when concerted action on the part of the thinking men of the drug world is necessary, now is the time.

The Indianapolis convention spells opportunity, but it must be met from the front and not from the rear. This year's pharmacy problems are greater than ever before. It is the time for mobilization of forces, the renewal of pledges of coöperation and fellowship by which the tools of accomplishment are sharpened.

It is not too early to plan to come to Indianapolis next August. "No Mean City" extends a cordial welcome, her gates are always open. The thing to do is to begin right now to plan to attend the American Pharmaceutical Convention at Indianapolis next August. Further details will be announced later. Watch for them.

THE LOCAL COMMITTEE.