

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE LOCAL BRANCHES

"All papers presented to the Association and its branches shall become the property of the Association, with the understanding that they are not to be published in any other publication than those of the Association, except by consent of the Committee on Publication."—By-Laws, Chapter X, Art. III.

Reports of the meetings of the Local Branches should be mailed to the Editor on the day following the meeting if possible. Minutes should be *plainly* written, or typewritten, with wide spaces between the lines. Care should be taken to give proper names correctly, and manuscript should be signed by the reporter.

### BALTIMORE.

The Baltimore Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association met on Wednesday, May 16th, in Harris Hall, of the University of Maryland. The reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was omitted.

Dr. Engelhardt submitted a report on the Proceedings of the A. Ph. A., which was received and ordered to be filed.

Letters from the Columbus, the New York, and the Washington Branches, in which were embodied resolutions in regard to the annual dues and the publications of the American Pharmaceutical Association, were read by the Secretary. After a general discussion, a motion was made and duly seconded that the Baltimore Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association go on record as being opposed to any increase in dues; and that a committee of three be appointed, with power to act during the Summer when there would be no monthly meetings, to consider the publications of the Association, the member of the Council from the Baltimore Branch to be an *ex-officio* member of the committee. President McKinney appointed Dr. E. F. Kelly, W. J. Lowry, Jr., and B. Olive Cole as the other members of the committee.

A very interesting paper in regard to "Aconite and Aconite Preparations" by Dr. H. Engelhardt, was then presented. In this paper it is shown that the assay processes for fluidextract of aconite and powdered extract of aconite give results that are far from being satisfactory; that no concordant results can be obtained when cochineal is used as indicator when assays are made on the same sample by different operators; that the results obtained with methyl red as indicator are more concordant and satisfactory but that they are considerably lower than those obtained with cochineal; that therefore cochineal cannot indiscriminately be replaced with methyl red. This discrepancy seems to be due to the fact

that the alkaloidal residue obtained in the assay process consists of various bases which act differently on the two indicators, because no difference in the results was found when pure aconitine was titrated either in the presence of methyl red or cochineal as indicators.

For the assay of the powdered extract four different methods were applied, the U. S. P. IX method, the U. S. P. VIII method and U. S. P. IX method for the fluidextract adapted for powdered extract, and a direct shaking-out method. The results were not at all satisfactory. The same was the case with the assay of the fluidextract to which the U. S. P. VIII, U. S. P. IX methods and the direct shaking out method were applied. Some of the results obtained were absolutely worthless.

The results of a great number of physiological experiments were given and it is pointed out that when taking the lethal dose for crystallized aconitine as 0.0000005 per gramme guinea pig, the alkaloidal residues can contain only 25 per cent of the crystallized alkaloid when calculated from the requirements of the U. S. P.

The physiological experiments further show that powdered extract of aconite is almost worthless and that the fluidextract deteriorates very rapidly.

It is strongly urged in the paper that the assay process for both the powdered extract and fluidextract of aconite be revised and that some further work be done in regard to the present assay methods.

The entire paper, together with some supplementary experiments will be published at some future time in the JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

A general discussion of the paper followed, after which a vote of thanks was tendered Dr. Engelhardt for his very worthy contribution and the meeting was adjourned.

B. OLIVE COLE, *Secretary-Treasurer.*

## CINCINNATI.

At the May meeting of the Cincinnati Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association, after disposing of the routine business of the Association, President Dr. J. C. Otis presented his annual address, in which he thanked the officers and members for the uniform courtesy and generous support given him during his incumbency in office and also bespeaking for his successor, Mr. Louis Werner, the same hearty support and encouragement. He advocates more energetic measures to be employed by the Membership Committee, but also realizes that, owing to the unsettled economic and political conditions, as well as the exacting nature of the drug business, the much desired increased membership is difficult to attain. He approves of the efforts of the officers and committees to present instructive lectures and discussions before this Branch, which cannot fail to be of material value to our members, and hopes that the coming session will be even more productive of instructive and practical topics than the one just passed. A copy of this address forms a part of this record.

Frank H. Freericks, chairman of the Committee on Legislation, in making his annual report, stated that a number of legislative changes and enactments were sought by pharmacists in Ohio during the last session of the Legislature, all of which were intended to place pharmacy on a higher plane and to secure for the pharmacist what really belongs to him. One good result secured was an amendment of the law, under which the enforcement of the so-called Pharmacy Laws was again placed with the Board of Pharmacy instead of the Board of Agriculture. A change was also secured in the matter of authorizing the Board of Pharmacy to subpoena witnesses, and in the method of finally suspending or revoking certificates, such final jurisdiction having been placed properly with the Court, instead of leaving the decision with the Governor and Attorney General, to whom such power could not be constitutionally given.

Under the auspices of the Ohio State Association, a strong effort was made for proper amendment of the Poison Law and restricting the handling of potent drugs and for restricting the sale of drugs generally to qualified people, and an amendment to the Narcotic Law was also sought. This proposed legislation largely failed because of the determined opposition of those having special interests, including

grocers, country merchants, proprietary medicine manufacturers and doctors. Without exception the legislation proposed was intended for the public welfare quite as much, if not more, than for the interests of pharmacists. The proposed amendment was an adaptation of the N. A. R. D. model, while some of the other proposed changes were to an extent based upon the intended A. Ph. A. Modern Pharmacy Law.

The opposition to everything which retail pharmacists desire and believe themselves entitled to, by special interests, which are concerned in one manner or another, makes it plain that either by conference with such special interests a satisfactory compromise must be secured, or, that otherwise pharmacists of this state and other states must increase their united activity to a point where they can secure what they and the public ought to have even as against the opposition of special interests.

In these very grave days it seems a word regarding the recognition of pharmacy by our national government would not be amiss. The present governmental machinery, because of the war, includes a Council of National Defense. That Council seems to be made up of men who are qualified along different lines to give advice of value to the proper authorities. It has evidently been the intent to include representatives of every activity which is vitally concerned with the needs of the Army and Navy, but it is noteworthy that no one seems to have thought of the need for having such Council include a representative who knows about pharmacy and about drugs, other than possibly as an incident to some distinct calling or profession.

In view of the above, the following resolutions were adopted by the Cincinnati Branch, copies of which were forwarded to the President of the United States, the two Senators from Ohio and the two Congressmen from the First and Second Districts. These resolutions were introduced by Hon. Frank H. Freericks and seconded by Dr. John Uri Lloyd.

"WHEREAS, The Government of the United States in the proper exercise of its functions, has found it necessary to create a National Council of Defense, constituted of the best qualified persons along the different lines of activity which concern and come in touch with the needs of the Army and the Navy, and,

"WHEREAS, The proper conservation, dis-

tribution, manufacture and supply of drugs and chemicals is in that connection of far-reaching importance, therefore be it

*"Resolved,* To be the opinion of the Cincinnati Branch of the A. Ph. A. that the National Council of Defense should properly include a representative of pharmacy, who is qualified to aid the government with advice and knowledge pertaining to the nation's drugs and chemicals; be it further

*"Resolved,* That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the President of the United States and to the two United States Senators from Ohio and to the Representatives in Congress from the First and Second Districts."

Treasurer Julius Greyer reported a cash balance in the treasury but deplored the fact that it had become necessary to drop from the list those names of members who have been in arrears with their dues, as well as those not eligible to membership in the local branch.

In view of the correspondence regarding the continuance or discontinuance of the Year Book from the Philadelphia, New York, Washington, D. C., Columbus and other branches, the Cincinnati Branch passed the following resolution:

*"Resolved,* That the Cincinnati Branch submits for consideration to the Council of the A. Ph. A. that in connection with meeting the expense of publishing the Year Book, they consider the feasibility of having voluntary contributions to defray such expenses, or otherwise publication on subscription."

The above resolution was introduced by Charles G. Merrell and seconded by F. H. Freericks.

The Secretary's annual report gives a complete résumé of the activities of this Branch during the session 1916-17. It forms part of this record.

At the installation of the newly elected officers, each one of these gentlemen pledged himself not alone to the progress and welfare of the local Branch but as well to the Parent Association.

CHARLES A. APMEYER, *Secretary.*

#### DETROIT.

Several questions of considerable importance to the druggists of the country were discussed at the May meeting of the Detroit Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association. Among the subjects brought up were Compulsory Health Insurance, The Status of the

Pharmacist in the European War, and the A. Ph. A. Year Book.

The following resolution concerning Compulsory Health Insurance was introduced and unanimously adopted:

The Detroit Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association desires to express its disapproval of the compulsory health insurance bills introduced in the Michigan and other legislatures during the last few months. It may be that, in the interests of the wage earners of very limited income, something in the way of social insurance should be provided under the supervision of the State, but the present plan as worked out by the promoters of compulsory health insurance certainly goes much too far and is open to serious objection.

It would involve a tax burden that would be enormous. It would deal out charity so lavish as to pauperize and enervate the very people whom it is designed to assist. There is a grave question, too, as to whether the compulsory feature is wise or not, since it would compel two-thirds of the entire male population of the country to go into the plan whether they wanted to or not; and the element of un-American discrimination is seen in the fact that the remaining third of the male population would not only be left unprotected, but would have to contribute very largely toward the protection of the others.

At the present time the subject is being carefully studied by experts in various sections of the country, and when some more equitable and judicious plan is offered to the American people, we shall be glad to give it our approval and our support. In the meantime, however, we are unalterably opposed to the proposition for reasons so numerous that they could not well be stated in a resolution of this kind.

A resolution was also adopted to the effect that the Branch goes on record as favoring the discontinuance of the A. Ph. A. Year Book. This step was taken because it was felt that the Year Book is not appreciated by the members in general and that the matter now used in the Year Book could be incorporated to better advantage in the monthly JOURNAL of the Association.

As part of the regular program of the evening interesting talks were given by Carl M. Green and Walter W. Kennedy. Mr. Green, who is the head of the Carl M. Green Advertising

Agency, took for his subject, "Nationally Advertised Goods as a Means for Increasing Sales." Mr. Kennedy, Detroit representative of the Lungmotor, explained the use of the lungmotor in the treatment of asphyxiation and gave a demonstration of the way in which the device is of service in cases of apparent drowning.

Officers for the season of 1917-18 were elected as follows: *President*, Ernest Kimmich; *Vice-President*, F. T. Bradt; *Secretary*, Miss Mary Strawn; *Treasurer*, Charles F. Mann; *Chairman of the Program Committee*, E. R. Jones.

WALTER M. CHASE,  
*Chairman Program Committee.*

#### NASHVILLE.

The regular monthly meeting of the Nashville Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association was held in joint session with the Nashville Drug Club May 17, 1917, D. J. Kuhn, presiding.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and approved. D. S. Sanders, chairman of the Mail Order House Committee, reported progress and that arrangements had been made for this committee to meet with the Retail Merchants' Association in the near future. A number of letters were read from Tennessee Congressmen and Senators, endorsing the action taken by the Nashville Branch and pledging their support in the correction of the U. S. Patent Laws. Attention was called to the fact that several bills had already been introduced in Congress for temporarily correcting the existing laws. A letter on the subject was read from Dr. J. H. Beal. Dr. J. O. Burge emphasized the necessity of having the Patent Laws amended at the present time.

E. A. Gilliland, in speaking of prevalent drug prices, stated that the usual basis of calculation did not obtain now and the law of supply and demand does not control, as deliveries are uncertain and contracts cannot be made as formerly. It is largely a case of "take what you can get." He stated that the glass manufacturers were far behind in their contracts for bottles. Equally as bad or worse conditions exist with regard to tin cans; the Government having commandeered tin plate for the manufacturers of containers for canned foods. On account of the requirements of the Government, the demand for drugs and chemicals is very large, he said, but the potash and dye situation is somewhat improved by recent

developments. Mr. Gilliland predicted higher prices for drugs and chemicals than are required in munitions and for the Army and Navy. He referred to the impending war taxes that will affect alcohol, proprietaries, soda fountain beverages, tobacco, cigars, etc. He suggested that a thorough study be made of the situation and, as far as possible, the payment of these taxes be passed on to the consumers. Notwithstanding these conditions, the speaker predicted that business would continue good, as a result of the increased products of the mines and farms.

L. A. Jeancon, of Denver, Colo., being present, he was introduced to the members. He stated that recently a study of the cost of doing business had been promoted by the retail druggists of Denver in cooperation with the wholesalers. The druggists are constantly advised relative to price changes and an experienced drug man has been employed to visit the stores weekly to assist in communicating information along the lines of good business conduct and more particularly an understanding of the cost of doing business. A committee, consisting of J. B. Sand, E. J. Schott, C. W. Jennings, S. C. Davis, D. S. Sanders and D. J. Kuhn, was appointed to start a movement along similar lines in Nashville.

WILLIAM R. WHITE, *Secretary.*

#### NEW YORK.

The May meeting of the New York Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association was called to order by President Mayer, in the lecture hall of the New York College of Pharmacy, on Monday, the 14th, 1917, at 8.30 P.M.

Forty-eight members were present.

The minutes of the April meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer's report was read and accepted.

The report of the Member of Council (Professor Hostmann) was read and ordered accepted.

*Membership Committee.*—In the absence of Chairman Walter, the Secretary presented 24 applications for membership in the parent association.

The Secretary was directed to follow the usual course with regard to these applications.

*Legislation and Education.*—Due to the absence of the Chairman, no report was rendered.

*Fraternal Relations.*—Chairman Diner reported that due to the more pressing ques-

tions brought up by the present condition of war, little could be done.

*Progress of Pharmacy.*—Chairman Diekmann read a number of interesting abstracts on the following:

Effect of Fertilizers on Oranges.

Determination of Antipyrine.

Chlorine in Perfumery.

Potassium from Kelp.

Waterglass Paints.

Analysis of Milk Powder.

Alkalinity of Pure Cocoa Ash.

Separation of Mineral Matter in Rubber.

Natural and Synthetic Camphor: A Comparison of their Physiological Action.

Test for Vanillin.

Communications from Mr. Woodruff and from the Philadelphia Branch were read and ordered filed.

The death of Mr. Main was reported by Professor Army, and the latter moved for the appointment of a committee to draw up suitable resolutions. The following committee was appointed for this purpose by President Mayer: Professor Army, Charles Holzhauser, C. O. Bigelow.

Dr. Diner then read an interesting paper on "Diagnostical Tests of the U. S. P. IX," pointing out a few improvements which might be made.

Mr. Penick then read a paper on "The Crude Drugs of the U. S. P. IX, from the Drug Merchant's Point of View." The paper dealt chiefly with the commercial aspects of the crude drug situation of the present time.

Dr. Satterthwaite led the discussion by reading a paper on "Pharmacopoeias, Pharmacists and Physicians." Further discussion of the papers was carried on by Dr. Weinstein and Professor Raubenheimer.

The meeting was then adjourned.

HUGO H. SCHAEFER,

*Secretary.*

At the meeting of New York Branch A. Ph. A., held May 28th, Caswell A. Mayo presented the resolutions which follow. These were adopted and present a very important matter for consideration by pharmacists everywhere; unless they themselves call attention, lives of the sick may be imperilled and pharmacies will be seriously inconvenienced.

#### EXEMPTION FOR PHARMACISTS FROM DRAFT.

"WHEREAS, The welfare of the community demands and the laws provide that none but qualified pharmacists shall be permitted to prepare and dispense medicines; and

"WHEREAS, Many qualified pharmacists will be amenable to draft into the Army by conscription; and

"WHEREAS, In many cases such draft may leave the pharmacy without legally qualified men to prepare and dispense medicines, thereby imperiling the lives of the sick; therefore be it

*Resolved*, By the New York Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association, that the President of the United States is hereby requested to make provision for the exemption from service under the draft of one qualified pharmacist and of one qualified assistant pharmacist for each pharmacy in the United States, and in addition, one qualified pharmacist and one qualified assistant pharmacist for each fifty prescriptions, or part thereof, compounded daily in said pharmacy above the first fifty; and be it further

*Resolved*, That copies of these resolutions be sent to the President of the American Pharmaceutical Association, to the members of the Council, to the presidents of the several branches, and to the members of the National Drug Trade Conference, with a request that they too ask for exemption of a sufficient number of pharmacists to protect the public welfare by maintaining a competent staff of qualified pharmacists and assistants in every pharmacy in the United States."

#### PHILADELPHIA.

The regular monthly meeting of the Philadelphia Branch, A. Ph. A., was held Tuesday evening, May 8th, at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, with the President, Ambrose Hunsberger, in the chair. The evening was entirely dedicated to a consideration of the pharmacist's opportunities for aiding his country during the present period of stress. The regular order of the meeting was changed to accommodate the various speakers.

Major Frescoln, representing the Army Branch of the service, spoke enthusiastically of the opportunities which were offered to the pharmacist in that branch of the service, but despite the major's lucid and spirited explanation of these so-called opportunities, the general consensus of opinion among the audience was that very little recognition is given the profession of pharmacy. The fact that the U. S. Army provides no commission for pharmacists, no matter how advanced they may be, and offers them practically nothing different from what it offers any laymen, was made clear by the major, who emphasized the fact

that the pharmacist entered the service as a private and could be promoted according to his talents receiving for his highest rating, Master Hospital Steward, a rating that can also be given to any layman enlisting in the Hospital Corps. The fact must be borne in mind, however, that the major obtained his facts, solely from the status of the Army on a peace footing. The new aspect will probably change things. A cautious listener could not help catching the inference in the major's talk that in truth there was no need for a trained pharmacist except at the base hospitals, since the field medicaments were few and conveniently packed and could be handled by any intelligent layman. Still the major insisted that a thorough knowledge of the metric system was essential and one knows few even "intelligent" laymen, who know anything about the metric system. The unmistakable but unmeant impression left by Major Frescoln's talk was that the pharmacist can undoubtedly be of extreme usefulness in the Army, *but* that the profession is needful of bringing this thought to the minds of the proper authorities. Mr. England, discussing the speaker's presentation, ably summed up the question, when he said, that "the doctor is given his commission and so is the dentist and veterinarian, but the pharmacist is offered no more than the ordinary layman, simply because the profession has been asleep at the switch."

Chief Pharmacist's Mate Cooley, representing the Naval Service, brought a more cheerful message, despite the fact that he spoke in the course of his interesting talk of the pharmacist occupying the rôle of "embalmer" on board ship. There is a great need of pharmacists in the Navy, according to the speaker, and the opportunity for promotion is excellent. As a matter of fact the chief pharmacist is a commissioned officer, a junior lieutenant. Much opportunity is given the pharmacist in the Navy to specialize along certain lines, such as chemistry, bacteriology, etc., and full compensation given for such extra services.

Everyone starts on an equal footing, but recognition of talent is said to be certain and swift. Indeed it was quite evident that the Navy offers something to the pharmacist greatly in excess of what the Army offers and it seems strange that such should be the case. England and the United States are far behind other countries (France, Germany, etc.), in the recognition which is given to the pro-

fession of pharmacy in either branch of the service.

Dr. Boston, representing the American Red Cross Society, then spoke briefly of the aims and ideals of the Society, and of the opportunities which the retail druggist had of furthering the work of that excellent association, by distributing its literature, displaying its posters and taking names of new members, etc.

The meeting was then switched to its regular schedule. The routine business dispensed with, committee reports were read. Professor LaWall, chairman of the committee chosen to consider the report of the New York Branch, relative to the Year Book, etc., read a very comprehensive analysis of the New York Branch communication.

President Hunsberger then related the difficulties, mostly of the scarlet tape variety, which he had encountered in arranging the evening's program. He outlined the plans of the Committee of Defense, of which he is chairman, working in harmony with the State Public Safety Bureau, and stated that cards were being prepared whereby the retail druggists of the state would be informed of the various ways in which they might be of assistance to the Government. The following excerpts, taken from the letter sent by the Branch War Defense Committee to headquarters, are given as being of particular interest to the pharmacists of the country.

A brief outline of the work which we believe could be taken up by the pharmacists of the country and carried on with increased efficiency until the end of the war includes the:

Continuous display of posters.

Distribution of literature.

Interpreting to prospective recruits the various branches of national service.

Enrollment of recruits.

Dissemination of information, orders and proclamations.

Providing quarters for home defense units.

Fostering intensive production of foodstuffs in rural communities.

Receiving donations for forwarding to central distributing points.

Furnishing reports of disloyal conduct, suspicious actions, etc.

Control of the sale of potentially dangerous chemicals, such as chlorates, nitrates, etc.

The fact that drug stores are open in the evenings and are in many communities the neighborhood hub, should not be lost sight of in considering the availability as useful ad-

juncts to the larger organizations, which are laboring to systematize the national resources. Messrs. England, Rohrman, LaWall and Fischelis participated in a discussion of the committee's plans, coinciding thoroughly with their motives and methods.

Prof. LaWall then offered a motion, which was acted upon, calling for the appointment, by the President, of a committee of three to draft resolutions of respect and sympathy to be forwarded to the family of the late C. Lewis Diehl.

IVOR GRIFFITH, *Secretary.*

#### CITY OF WASHINGTON.

The committee appointed at the last meeting of the City of Washington Branch, A. Ph. A., to consider the resolutions of the New York and Philadelphia branches relative to the disposition of the Year Book and JOURNAL, has canvassed the situation and submits the following report:

Since the last meeting a communication has been received from the Secretary of the New York Branch with the resolutions adopted by that body. This report contains a very careful analysis of the entire question. It deserves the attention of all members of our branch and should be read and studied by every member of the Association. It is unnecessary to repeat the valuable information and suggestions contained therein.

This committee feels the dues of the Association should not be increased. The JOURNAL deficit will undoubtedly be wiped out in the near future through the careful business management of the new editor, the increase in advertising, and by cutting down the amount of printed matter which appears in its pages. The committee recommends the elimination of the detailed reports of the meetings of the Association, Council and other bodies of the Association which encumber the JOURNAL; and the substitution of short statements of the essential features, and furthermore that the activities of the local branches be reported in the form of brief synopses. These changes will save a vast amount of paper and printer's ink.

The Year Book is an institution which the committee feels has an established place in

American pharmacy and should not be abolished. The suggestion that "Chemical Abstracts" will assure all the purposes that the Year Book now serves is not well taken as many members of our Association are not members of the American Chemical Society. The committee recommends that the Year Book be brought up to date as rapidly as possible, that the abstracts be made shorter, that the essential features only be given as the reader, if interested, can refer to the original article, that the corps of abstractors be chosen for their special fitness in handling such work; that the references to the original articles follow the method used by "Chemical Abstracts;" that the page headings, lists of officers, past presidents, etc., be eliminated; that a list of subjects for research be included; that the illustrations be improved; and that the compilers make a careful study of the British Year Book 1916, from which many valuable suggestions can be obtained, the *Pharmacognostische Rundschau* and the *Jahresbericht der Pharmazie*.

The committee recommends further that the Association should inaugurate a systematic and aggressive campaign for increasing the membership.

The committee therefore submits the following resolutions:

1. "Resolved, That the Washington Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association is not in favor of increasing the dues of the Association.
2. "Resolved, That this Branch does not favor the abolition of either the JOURNAL or the Year Book.
3. "Resolved, That this Branch advocates the inauguration of a systematic and aggressive campaign for increasing the membership of the Association.
4. "Resolved, That a copy of this report and its accompanying resolutions be sent to the President, Secretary and Treasurer of the Association, the Chairman of the Council, the Chairman of the Committee on Publication, and to the Secretary of each local branch.

Respectfully submitted,  
H. C. FULLER,  
A. VIEHOEVER,  
S. L. HILTON."