COMMITTEE REPORTS

REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE A. PH. A., OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON NOMENCLATURE OF CULTIVATED PLANTS.*

The catalogue of scientific and popular names of shrubs and trees that was published last year by the Joint Committee, and copies of which were distributed at the preceding meeting of this Association, has accomplished considerable good. It did not adhere strictly to proper rules of nomenclature, because the Committee was obliged to compromise with a purely commercial element that was not sufficiently considerate of the just claims of science upon those whose business success was made possible by the benefits that science had conferred upon them. Nevertheless, even this element conceded something, so that a step was taken in the direction of correct nomenclature.

Another result attained was that of forcing consideration and discussion of the principles of nomenclature, even upon those who are opposed to them. If we can once get a question of right and wrong up for discussion, we may confidently depend upon the correct side to gain in strength, however slowly, as the discussion proceeds.

A third result has been that of securing some uniformity in the matter of violations of principle. If people are to violate a rule, there is at least a practical advantage in getting them to agree on a single incorrect form, thus lessening confusion, costly mistakes and discomforting disputes.

It should therefore be accepted that the first work of the Committee has brought forth valuable fruits.

It is planned to go ahead with this work along the same lines, taking up another group of plants, the nomenclature of which is in great disorder. Much work in this direction has already been done since our last meeting by individuals and sub-committees and the plans for future work are of a very definite character. I will say now as I said last year, that the great majority of plants under consideration by the Committee have no direct application to medicine or pharmacy, but that both professions, and especially pharmacy, have a strong indirect interest in securing general accuracy and stability in plant names, and I trust that the Association will not take a narrow view of its obligations but will continue to coöperate in this work, the results of which will be monumental in applied botany.

I would like to refer especially to the work of my colleague, Mr. Farwell, in this bibliographical enterprise. He is exceptionally favored by having access to extensive library and herbarium facilities and has a keen interest and special ability in this line of work.

Should the Association so desire, I will be glad to submit a detailed report of progress and plans for printing in the Association Journal.

I have two recommendations upon which I should like the action of the Association:

The first is that the Association should appropriate $150 for the expenses of the Joint Committee. All this money is economically expended for the most necessary purposes. Contributions range from $150 to $300 from the different organizations concerned, and there are various individual contributions also. Last year I secured $190 from friends in the Association and this would be possible again although it is neither right nor desirable. If the Association is interested in the work and maintains a sub-committee, it ought to contribute as an organization.

The second recommendation is that we should express our opinion on a proposition to drop the final "i" from such names as "Dillenii" and "Fabii." These names are the genitive forms, respectively, of "Dillenius" and "Fabius," and according to every rule of nomenclature should end in two "i's." In the case of the genitive form of "Brutus," we should, of course, have but a single "i." Some of the correspondents of the Joint Committee who are either not versed in the rules of the subject or who are not properly interested in them wish to drop the final "i" from the botanical name simply as a matter of convenience. While we should not seriously

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* Presented at Second General Session, A. Ph. A., Chicago meeting, 1918. The item of expense was referred to the Council, and the second resolution to the Committee on Resolutions and afterward favorably reported and approved. (See minutes of Final General Session.)

oppose juggling with common names, in the interest of practicality, we feel that the botanical names should be respected. We therefore submit the following resolution and trust that you will adopt it.

WHEREAS, Botanical names are essentially foreign in origin and form, and should be dealt with in accordance with the rules of the language to which they pertain; therefore it is

Resolved, That in the opinion of the American Pharmaceutical Association, the Joint Committee on Nomenclature should not drop the final "i" of specific botanical names which retain them in accordance with such rules.

Respectfully submitted,

H. H. RUSBY, *Chairman.*

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE NATIONAL FORMULARY.*

Your Committee on National Formulary has been occupied during the past year with a consideration of plans for the next revision of the National Formulary. During the last revision confusion and delay resulted at times because of misunderstandings regarding the plan of the work, and it became evident that an efficient plan at the start for the work of revision is an important factor in the obtaining of results. At the meeting of the Association at Atlantic City this Committee made the following recommendation, which was afterward adopted by the Council:

"We recommend that with the appointment of the (next) committee general principles be outlined for the guidance of the revision, and that thereafter the final decision on all questions pertaining to the revision be left to the Committee."

The plans which the present committee has considered pertain only to the method of distributing the work, and do not include general principles for the control of the revision. The system which we herewith propose is not intended to be mandatory, but only to give to our successors the benefit of our experience in the work of revision and to suggest means by which the work may be expedited. Future conditions will probably demand some changes in the details, and it is not intended to hamper in any degree the judgment or desires of the next committee by a closed method for the revision.

With this interpretation we recommend that the work of the next committee be based on the following plan:

Time.—That future revisions of the National Formulary should be made simultaneously with those of the United States Pharmacopoeia.

Organization.—Future committees should consist of 15 members, to be appointed each ten years by the Council of the American Pharmaceutical Association. The officers of the committee should consist of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary, to be elected by the committee.

Plan of Work.—The committee should apportion its work to the following sub-committees which shall report to the general committee:

1. On Admissions, Deletions and Nomenclature.
2. On Botany and Pharmacognosy.
   (To have charge of the preparation and revision of text for vegetable drugs in Part II.)
3. On Chemistry and Assays.
   (To prepare text or revise the text for chemicals in Part II, and to add or revise such assay processes as are needed throughout the book.)
4. On Doses.
5. On Elixirs.
6. On Syrups, Spirits and Wines.
7. On Fluidextracts.
8. On Fluidglycerates and Tinctures.
9. On Infusions, Liquors, Mixtures, and Emulsions.

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* Read before Section of Practical Pharmacy and Dispensing and referred to the Council.

10. On Pills, Powders, Species, Effervescent Salts, Troches, Pastes, and Pencils.
11. On Glycerogelatins, Liniments, Lotions, Nebulae, Mulls, Oleates and Ointments.
12. On Miscellaneous Preparations not included in the above.

The above division of work is more equable than may appear on first reading and it conforms to natural divisions. It may be modified in detail as conditions demand.

Considerable attention was paid to the question of increasing the number of members from 15 to 25, but after discussion it was decided to recommend the present number of members, as is required in the Association By-Laws. While an increased membership would lighten the demand for laboratory work on individual members, it prevents as many personal conferences as fifteen members may hold, and one day of conference of this kind can accomplish as much as many weeks of work by correspondence. A smaller committee also is more prompt in its work, is usually more harmonious, and saves much time in correspondence.

The question of alternate formulas, or the temporary dropping of formulas for preparations containing glycerin or sugar, as a war measure, has also received attention. This question was brought to us from several sources, and at first a considerable sentiment was displayed toward extreme conservation of glycerin and sugar. But the necessity for such measures has not yet appeared sufficiently urgent for action, and the matter is held in abeyance.

When it is considered that the total amount of sugar used in pharmaceutical preparations of all kinds is less than half as much as is used in tobacco, less than is used in chewing-gum and less than a tenth of that used in soft drinks, it does not seem needful that the sick should be the first to be deprived of their share of pleasure.

No figures are yet available for glycerin, but we can depend upon an imperative demand being made by the War Department if stringent conservation of glycerin should become necessary. So at present the committee is following the policy of watchful waiting on these questions.

The question of issuing a supplement in 1919 has also received attention. At present there appears no marked demand for such, and official changes in formulas or additional official formulas within the ten-year periods are troublesome to pharmacists and unless really necessary are inadvisable. Under present conditions official changes are especially unwelcome and thus far criticisms of the National Formulary IV do not indicate a need of immediate revision. Therefore, unless war conditions should develop some situation which calls for immediate action within the next year, this present committee may consider its work as finished.

Respectfully,

WILBUR L. SCOVILLE, *Vice-Chairman.*

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PHYSIOLOGICAL TESTING.*

Athough concerted experiments by the Committee are lacking, largely for the reason stated by its Chairman, there has been considerable work along the lines of Biological Standardization which seemed of sufficient importance to summarize.

The bibliography herewith submitted, with short abstracts of articles, may not be complete but includes all that came to the Chairman's attention. Several of these must be noted by title only, as neither the article nor an abstract could be found on short notice.

ABSTRACTS AND BIBLIOGRAPHY OF PHYSIOLOGICAL STANDARDIZATION, 1917–1918.

"*den Besten und de Lind von Syngaarden*, Physiological Standardization of Digitalis Preparations upon warm blooded animals," *Nederl. Tydschr. Geneesch.*, Amsterdam, 1917, 2, p. 479.

Colson, "Biological Standardization of the Heart Tonic Preparations," JOURNAL A. PH. A., 1918, 7, 13.

Tests were carried out by the M. S. D. Frog Method and the Cat Method, slightly modified. He concludes that the former is subject to too many variables to make it practicable or

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* Presented at second General Session, A. Ph. A., Chicago meeting, *1918*. Chairman E. M. Houghton stated that owing to press of other work in connection with the manufacturing of supplies for the U. S. Government (U. S. Army Medical Service), the members of the Committee were unable to prepare a report, but present this in lieu of it to show the progress of the year in physiological testing.—EDITOR.

accurate and that the Cat Method has much to recommend it. He admits that the Cat Method belongs to the toxic type of assay but is convinced that the digitalis action is on the heart and not on the respiratory centers.

Colson and Engelhardt, "Is the Biological Standard of Squill and the Preparations thereof Correct? JOURNAL A. PH. A., 1917, 6, p. 950.

The authors submit data of tests of squill by three methods, the M. L. D., M. S. D., and Cat Methods, and claim that the U. S. P. standards for squill are incorrect, the toxicity by the Cat Method being only one-half that of digitalis.

Eckler, "On the Deterioration of Crude Indian Cannabis," JOURNAL A. PH. A., 1917, 6, p. 872.

The author shows by tests that the attic-stored crude drug loses its activity entirely in 5 years, while in a cool basement the average yearly loss is only one-half as great.

Eckler, "Apparatus for Studying the Effect of Drugs on the Isolated Guinea Pig Uterus," *Journ. of Lab. and Clin. Med.*, 1917, 2, p. 819.

This is a detailed description with cuts showing an apparatus designed to control the various factors concerned in the assay of pituitary extracts on the isolated guinea pig uterus.

Focke, "*Ueber die physiologische Wertmessung des Digitalysate*," *Zeitschr. f. Exp. Path. & Therapie*, 1916, 18, p. 382.

Hamilton, "Biological Standardization," *Amer. Journ. of Pharm.*, 1917, 89, p. 61.

The author criticizes the methods or the technic adopted by the U. S. P. Revision Committee for the biological assay of cannabis, adrenalin and pituitary products and the digitalis series of heart tonics, pointing out errors and suggesting improvements.

Hamilton, "The Stability of Cannabis and Its Extracts," JOURNAL A. PH. A., 1918, 7, p. 333.

The author takes issue with Eckler as to the rate of deterioration of cannabis, showing results of the drug 15 and 21 years old as being still 75 and 30 percent of standard. The drug was kept in bottles on the laboratory shelves.

Hamilton, "The Deterioration of Digitalis Extracts," JOURNAL A. PH. A., 1918, 7, p. 433.

The author points out that while some samples of digitalis tincture have deteriorated greatly in a short time the average deterioration is far below that observed by Pittenger and Mulford, Jr.

Hall and Hamilton, "Investigation on the Composition of Oil of Chenopodium and the Anthelmintic Value of Some of Its Components," *Journ. of Pharm. and Exper. Therap.*, 1918, 61, p. 231.

The authors show by tests of oil of chenopodium and of various fractions of the oil that while the activity is not improved, the objectionable features are largely eliminated by selecting a fraction—about 70 percent—rather than using the whole oil as an anthelmintic.

Krogh, "The Physiological Standardization of Digitalis," *Ugeskr. f. Laeger*, 1917, 79, p. 475.

This author assayed digitalis preparations by use of the isolated frog's heart, selecting as the endpoint the amount of drug, applied by perfusion, necessary to arrest spontaneous contraction. He considers the method accurate within 10 percent.

Morris, "Standardization of Digitalis and Potency of the Minnesota Leaf," *Journal Lancet*, 1917, p. 176.

Pittenger, "Biological Assay Methods of U. S. P. IX," JOURNAL A. PH. A., 1917, 6, p. 865.

This is a critical review of the biologic assay methods of the U. S. P., with suggestions for improving the technic and as to the standards employed.

Pittenger, "An Improved Apparatus for Testing the Activity of Drugs on the Isolated Uterus," JOURNAL A. PH. A., 1918, 7, p. 512.

This is a detailed description of a complicated apparatus for testing drugs which are standardized by their action on the isolated uterus muscle such as ergot and pituitary extracts.

Pittenger and Mulford, Jr., "The Deterioration of U. S. P. and Fat-Free Tinctures of Digitalis," JOURNAL A. PH. A., 1918, 7, p. 236.

The authors give details of results obtained from testing samples of digitalis tinctures prepared by different menstrua and aged for about 7 months. These show a remarkably high

rate of deterioration, in one case a loss in 7 months of about 70 percent. Their results seem to show that a fat-free tincture prepared with 50 percent alcohol deteriorates the least.

Pilcher, "The Bio-Assay of Veratrum Viride," *Amer. Journ. of Physicians*, 1917, 44, p. 1.

The author proposes the use of frogs for assaying veratrum preparations.

Robinson and Wilson, "A Quantitative Study of the Effect of Digitalis on the Heart of the Cat," *Journ. of Exp. Pharm. and Path.*, 1918, 10, p. 491.

The authors used the Cat Method of Assay and studied the action of digitalis on the heart. Among other facts developed is this—that the M. L. D. varied 100 percent, which coincides with results by some other authors.

Rogoff, "A Method for the Standardization of Thyroid Preparations," *Journ. of Pharm. and Exp. Therap.*, 1917, 10, 199.

The author suggests the action of thyroid material as a means of standardization. The effect is on the differentiation and growth, the more active the product the slower is growth and development.

Redonnet, "The So-called Titration of the Digitalis Preparations on Frogs," *Cor.-Bl. of Schweiz. Aertze*, 1917, 47, p. 974.

Roth, "The Activity of Wild American Digitalis," *Pub. Health Reports*, 1917, 32, p. 377.

Examination of digitalis from Oregon showed a high degree of toxicity compared with that commonly found on the market.

Salant, "The Pharmacology of the Oil of Chenopodium with Suggestions for the Prevention and Treatment of Poisoning," *Journ. Amer. Med. Ass'n*, 1917, 69, p. 2016.

The author determined the M. L. D. for a number of animals, showing by some experiments the action on circulation and respiration as well as on the digestive organs and the kidneys. He also demonstrated the value of a fatty oil such as olive, cocoanut or castor to minimize these effects.

Sellards and McIver, "The Treatment of Ameobic Dysentery with *Chaparro Amargosa*," *Journ. of Pharm. and Exp. Therap.*, 1918, 11, p. 331.

These authors found an active constituent in *Chaparro Amargosa*, testing it not only for chemical and toxic properties but also for its action on the parasite of moebic dysentery.

Sollmann, "The Comparative Activity of Local Anesthetics," *Journ. of Pharm. and Exp. Therap.*, 1917, Nov.; 1918, Feb.

Five series of tests were carried out in comparing the action with other local anesthetics. By different methods, different ratios were obtained, showing that their action is not identical and that no one method will show the efficiency of an anesthetic. The tests were carried out on the motor and sensory nerves (isolated) of frogs, on frog's skin, on the cornea and intracutaneously on human subjects.

Spaeth and Barbour, "The Action of Epinephrin and Ergotoxin upon Single Physiologically Isolated Cells," *Journ. Pharm. and Exp. Therap.*, 1917, 9, p. 431.

Using the melanophores of *Fundulus heteroclitis*, this author demonstrated its value in standardizing adrenalin (epinephrin), the pigment cells contracting with a dilution of 1 : 50,000,000. Ergotoxin expands the pigment cells and thus demonstrates the equivalence between these and other smooth muscle cells.

Apaeth, "A New Method for the Standardization of Pituitary Extract," *Journ. Pharm. and Exp. Therap.*, 1918, 11, p. 209.

The method just described was applied to the standardization of pituitrin solutions. The action is a contraction apparently identical with that observed with dilutions of adrenalin. The test is proposed as a method for quantitative assay of pituitary extracts. No results are appended.

REPORT OF THE DELEGATES OF THE A. PH. A. TO THE NATIONAL WHOLESALE DRUGGISTS' ASSOCIATION.*

As one of your delegates to the Annual Meeting of the National Wholesale Druggists' Association in Chicago last fall, I am pleased to report a cordial reception and disposition to cooperate in legislative matters. Mr. George W. Lattimer, of Columbus, Ohio, before reading his

* Presented at the Chicago meeting, A. Ph. A.

creditable and very valuable report of their Legislative Committee, expressed his joy in the selection of men to represent them in Washington who could be depended upon for correct information before Bureaus or Committees of Congress, backed by letters from members of their Committee resident at the principal State capitols.

This report will be of great interest to the legislative committees of this and other druggist associations, as it gives intelligent consideration to War Revenue Legislation, Bone-Dry Legislation, Harrison Narcotic Law, Testing of Imported Drugs, Drug Patents, Mailability of Poisons, Federal Child Labor Law, recently held as unconstitutional, Honest Paint Legislation, as indicated by bill introduced by Senator Kenyon of Iowa, Price Maintenance and the Stephens Bill, and other honest merchandising measures and statistics relating to the drug business in the various States.

Upon the conclusion of this report President Morrison recognized Mr. W. L. Crounse, their legislative correspondent, who had just arrived from Washington, in reference to the War Revenue Law to go into effect on that day (Oct. 3, 1917). Following his general remarks, we quote from page 399 of the printed Proceedings:

"President Morrison: The report of the Committee on Legislation is now open for general discussion.

"George H. Schafer:* Mr. President and Gentlemen: I was one of the pioneer members of the Western Wholesale Druggists' Association; was on the Committee on Legislation when Mr. McKinley was chairman of the Ways and Means Committee.

"I today arise as a delegate of the American Pharmaceutical Association to commend the report just read and to briefly refer to our meeting at Louisville in 1874 (Proceedings, pages 545–550), when I proposed resolutions to petition Congress to remove the Liquor Dealers' License libel and other legislative evils that were hampering our profession and with increased membership ask Congress to abate such evils by pharmacists' license regulations to make a distinction between alcohol as sold by liquor dealers and alcohol used by the pharmacist. The idea was to make title distinction fundamental to tax exemption of alcohol for all legitimate uses of the licensed pharmacist and have the tax apply only to distilled spirits used for beverage purposes.

"In 1874 the Association felt they were not prepared to ask Congress for a differentiation as between the liquor dealer and the druggist, but such legislation is progressing, and through the instrumentality of the State pharmacy laws we are advancing to where this Association, the most influential of all, followed by the American Pharmaceutical Association, the National Association of Retail Druggists, and others, should endeavor to make a concerted effort to have these fundamentals adjusted and have a differentiation made between retail liquor dealers and registered pharmacists in the use of alcohol, especially so, when the Internal Revenue Law, just enacted, makes a partial but positive distinction as to distilled spirits not intended for beverage purposes.

"I will be glad to assist your Board of Control to perfect plans for the federation of all drug fraternities to unitedly petition Congress to now perfect such legislation as will exempt the Registered Pharmacist who complies with proper regulations from hanging up a liquor dealers' license or paying exorbitant taxes that should apply only to sales as a beverage."

Thereupon general discussion took place and many questions propounded, to which Mr. Crounse gave ready response and Secretary Holliday, preceding a suspension of this discussion, said:

"This information is very valuable, but there are many points which can not be covered in a discussion of this character, and I want to say that just as soon as I return home from this convention I will go to Washington and Mr. Crounse and myself will work out all of these details to the best of our ability and secure all the information we can from the Internal Revenue Bureau, and we will then send out a bulletin covering every item, and do it as soon as possible."

It pays to have known personal representatives at seats of government to issue bulletins or reply to important correspondence relating to the drug trade, and all druggists' associations should make coöperative arrangements to support same.

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. H. SCHAFER,

Attested by C. P. VAN SCHAACK.

H. M. WHELPLEY.