

## EDITORIAL NOTES

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### SERUMS AND VACCINES IN INFLUENZA.

In an editorial of the *Journal A. M. A.*, November 2, 1918, it is stated that up to the present time there is no specific means for the cure of influenza, and no specific vaccine or vaccines for its prevention.

### TOXICITY OF CERTAIN ORGANIC ARSENIC COMPOUNDS AND TOXICITY OF EMETINE HYDROCHLORIDE.

*Bulletin No. 113* of the Hygienic Laboratory, U. S. Public Health Service, reports on experimental investigations of the toxicity of certain organic arsenic compounds by George B. Roth, and on the toxicity of emetine hydrochloride, with special reference to the comparative toxicity of various market preparations by Gleason C. Lake.

The first part of the first report deals with **Salvarsan** made in America and the second with **Neosalvarsan** and **Neodiarsenol** and cover forty pages.

The general conclusions of the reporter are (1) that no marked variation in toxicity was found in either German or American salvarsan, as shown by intravenous administration to rabbits and rats.

2. Individual variation in susceptibility to salvarsan is quite marked in both rabbits and rats.

3. The toxicity for rabbits and rats closely parallels the arsenic content of the salvarsan preparations examined.

4. Neosalvarsan preparations were found to be less toxic for rabbits and rats than the salvarsan preparations examined.

The author states that the work reported is to be followed by a more detailed examination of a larger number of samples and a consideration of some of the questions developed are now being made subjects of experimental study.

Gleason C. Lake acknowledges indebtedness to Dr. Carl Voegtlin, of the Hygienic Laboratory for many valuable suggestions and criticisms.

The results indicate a widely variable individual susceptibility with the same preparation of emetine hydrochloride in rabbits, white rats and white mice. The author states that Rowntree and Levy's work shows that the same holds true in cats and dogs, and concludes that the range of susceptibility to emetine poisoning varies in man, and perhaps more so, in so far as it has to do with cases of amoebic dysentery, where there is always present a pathological condition, varying in intensity.

### ACUTE POISONING FROM 5 GRAINS OF ASPIRIN.

Dr. Edmund P. Shelby, New York City Hospital, reports on a case of poisoning from the administration of five grains of aspirin. The subject was a strong, vigorous woman. The toxic effects followed in less than an hour after taking the medicine and persisted for several hours. The report states that unusual susceptibility to the action of salicylates has often been noted, but no case is recalled wherein so small a dose produced such marked symptoms.

### INDIANA STATE MEDICAL JOURNAL COMMENTS ON THE EDMONDS BILL.

While the editorial of the October issue *Indiana State Medical Journal* indorses the Edmonds Bill, a fear is expressed that, unless proper provisions are made, "unscrupulous manufacturers will foist their wares upon the Army." Also the following lines occur in the editorial: "It is nothing short of a disgrace to note that at the present time a few worthless proprietaries, through the influence of mercenary manufacturers' have been accepted and included as part of the medical supplies of the Army."

The latter can only indicate that the medical men of the Army have permitted these preparations to be included, and the first quotation shows where the trouble is, namely, lack of confidence in the sincerity of pharmacists. It is the old story. Pharmacists and physicians should know each other better and work to-

gether for the uplift of pharmacy, for the benefit of mankind. Carping criticism and lack of confidence will never do it.

The Edmonds Bill provides for pharmacists, as such; the fact that drug stores handle "patent medicines" has nothing whatever to do with them. Though they be pharmacists they are also men.

#### REQUIREMENTS FOR S. A. T. C. LOWERED.

Requirements for entrance into the Student Army Training Corps at U. of P. have been reduced by an order of the War Department issued through the Committee of Education and Special Training. Inductions under previous orders were limited to men who presented sufficient college entrance credits and who applied for admittance before October 30.

Now all men desiring to attend any of the student army training colleges may do so, regardless of the fact that they have not quite enough preparatory work to meet the college entrance requirements, providing they have had vocational, military or business experience which in the estimation of the commanding officials will qualify them as officer material.

#### PHARMACISTS COMMENDED FOR GALLANT CONDUCT IN BATTLE.

Secretary Daniels, of the Navy, has commended seven pharmacists and two hospital apprentices now on service with the Sixth Regiment of Marines, A. E. F., for gallant conduct under fire in battle. Those cited are:

Oscar S. Goodwin, North Carolina; Percy V. Templeton, Georgia; Emmett Cline Smith, Georgia; Edmund P. Groh, Iowa; Leveque L. Whalen, Washington; Ursher Lee Fifer, Virginia; Horatio D. Gates, North Dakota; John Humphrey Marks, Oklahoma; Clyde A. Kinde, California; Bernard W. Herrmann, Jr., Ohio.

#### THE NEED OF PUBLICITY FOR PHARMACY.

British Pharmacists are planning a general campaign of education to inform the Government departments and the public generally, relative to pharmacy. In an article on the subject in the *Chemist and Druggist* anent the propaganda use is made of a quotation from an address by an ex-President of the A. Ph. A., Dr. Oscar Oldberg, in 1911, when he said:

"I venture to call upon all pharmacists present to begin here and now a vigorous campaign to compel full recognition of the

great service rendered to mankind by the pharmacist. The public is ignorant of the fact that the pharmacist is the sole agent to whom must be entrusted the enforcement of so much of the public health laws as relates to the drugs used in the practice of medicine. Let us try to remove that ignorance. It is our right and duty to demand respect for the service rendered by our craft."

We have just as much need of this kind of publicity for pharmacy as they have in Great Britain. There unwarranted charges of profiteering have been made, which will be answered. Here we frequently have aspersions cast upon pharmacy and pharmacists that should be refuted. The public has not the proper conception of pharmacy nor is a very great interest displayed for it; if it had been otherwise, a pharmaceutical corps would have been part of the Medical Department of the Army before now. A good Republican once said, "I have watched —— and I have never discovered him in any wrongdoing, and he is a Democrat!" There are medical men so possessed of self-righteousness that they think none of their profession can do wrong, and every pharmacist is to be distrusted. Let us get closer; we should know each other, we have the same interests and purposes in common. Surely the liberal-minded men know that pharmacists are sincere in their desire for betterment, and they also know that disinterestedness is not universal among medical men. It is an easy matter to "break down"—we prefer to "build up" and not only for the good of professions but for humanity.

Let the propaganda by local, State and National associations proceed with a purpose of education, to tell the truth, and impress the value of pharmacy. In each locality the work will be somewhat differently outlined, but the purpose should be to advance the drug business and the cause of pharmacy. The address of Chairman J. C. Peacock of the Section on Practical Pharmacy and Dispensing, A. Ph. A., is worthy of careful study.

#### THE CHINESE OPIUM SCANDAL.

The opium trade is one of the causes of the split between North and South China.

Production and importation of opium were forbidden in 1911, and the law came into full operation on April 1, 1917, when the opium syndicate found it had 1,576 chests of opium on hand. President Feng Kuo-Chang con-

tracted to buy this opium for the Chinese Government, which was to pay 8,200 taels per chest, but the syndicate was to get only 5,700 taels. The difference was to go into the pockets of the President of China and his associates.

It now appears that the Peking government afterwards made a new deal with the opium syndicate and resold the opium on hand to another syndicate in which some prominent Japanese have an interest. The old opium syndicate got about \$10,000,000 for its stock of opium, and the President and members of the Peking government took as their share about \$3,000,000 and a loan of \$5,000,000 from the Japanese financiers.—From an editorial in *N. Y. Commercial*.

#### WAR PROFITS.

In a recent discussion on War Profits, Chas. J. Lynn, President of the American Drug Manufacturers' Association, furnished much food for thought when he said:

"War profits in my opinion are those which are the direct result of the war, such as those made by manufacturers who furnish directly or indirectly material of whatever kind used in the prosecution of the war, and only that portion of the profit made on such material is war profit. In the case of the average mercantile house, they will not know what their actual profits have been during the period of the war until after the war is over and they have passed through a readjustment period and are able to strike an average, and in my opinion the average thus found will in many cases be less than the normal average for the pre-war period.

"Many concerns have shown a considerable increase in profits as expressed in dollars and cents, due to increased business resulting from the general prosperity of the country without, however, having increased their normal percentage of profit even a small fraction. Other concerns not supplying materials for use in the prosecution of the war may thus far have shown an abnormal profit both in dollars and cents as well as in percentage due to the very large and rapid increase in the value of merchandise on hand. But this profit must later in practically every case be offset by the very large and rapid decline in stock values the moment peace is declared.

"I think that in determining just what is a war profit these conditions should be taken into consideration."

#### PAPER CONSERVATION.

November 11 to 16 was named as Paper Economy Display Week, and the Paper Economy Section of the War Industries Board asked that every retail merchant use a window display setting forth the necessity for paper economy and bringing to the attention of the public that all merchants are directed to discontinue the wrapping of package merchandise. This is a matter in which every druggist should be interested, from an economic standpoint. The Paper Economy Section suggested window displays during this week, and they are prepared to suggest slogans and other material which will help in the preparation of window cards. The Section is also desirous of securing photographs of good displays.

We heartily endorse every movement for economy in every possible direction. Unfortunately, however, there are many who disregard the necessity of economizing and all too frequently we see much waste of the very things that the conscientious citizen economizes in, thus, for example, it has been under advisement to construct a papier mache track for an international six-day bicycle race in New York. In this construction 48,000 square feet of material would be required. This is only one instance in which there is disregard of conservation. There is also much printed matter that consumes a great deal of paper and has really little general value. A movement is on foot to standardize the size of catalogues. This is a splendid move and will undoubtedly not only conserve paper but also make the filing of the catalogues more convenient. This proposition is discussed in the Proceedings of the Catalogue Conference held in Chicago May 22. The Proceedings are published by Poole Brothers, Chicago, from whom a copy of the report may be had.

#### ELIMINATE RETURNS OF MERCHANDISE.

The following request has been made by the War Industries Board:

"The Conservation Division of the War Industries Board has issued a special appeal to retailers, wholesalers and manufacturers in every industry and trade to cooperate with each other for the elimination of all unjustifiable returns of merchandise. This request is not intended to interfere with the return of merchandise when there has been an error on the part of the seller as to price, style, or quality, misinterpretation of order, unauthorized

substitution, or when merchandise is inferior or not up to sample. When goods are delivered as bought, however, they should not be returned to the seller. If merchandise is to be returned because of substitution or error of any kind, notice should be given by the purchaser within ten days after the receipt of the goods that return is intended.

"Ample time should, of course, be allowed for explanation or proffered adjustment. Salesmen should make definite sales only. In their

travels, furthermore, they can be of particular assistance by enlisting the coöperation of their customers for careful selection and purchase of merchandise so that returns will be unnecessary. Whole-hearted compliance with this request in the spirit of husbanding our resources and eliminating waste of transportation, materials and labor will be a substantial contribution by the merchants and manufacturers of the country to our general welfare and the success of the war program."

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## OBITUARY.

### FREDERICK E. NIECE.

Frederick E. Niece, Superintendent of the Claremont Laboratories, New York City, died October 26 at his home in Queens Village, Long Island. Mr. Niece contracted influenza while experimenting to obtain a preventative serum for this disease. He was also preparing a lecture on the subject, to be delivered at the Cooper Union some time during this month. Mr. Niece was 43 years old, a native of Scranton, Pa., and held degrees from Cooper Union and the Brooklyn College of Pharmacy. He was a frequent contributor to various Sections of the American Pharmaceutical Association. He joined the American Pharmaceutical Association in 1903.

### THOMAS LATHAM.

Thomas Latham, a prominent pharmacist of New York City, died September 24. Mr. Latham had been in poor health for several years, on which account he sold his drug store at Third Ave. and Seventy-fifth Street some time ago. Mr. Latham had established this store about thirty years ago, and previous to that time had been connected with Eimer and Amend. Mr. Latham was active in pharmaceutical organizations and was one of the founders of the Manhattan Association and also an officer. He was President during two years of the New York County Pharmaceutical Association, and an active member of the American Pharmaceutical Association, which he joined in 1900. The deceased is survived by a sister.

### JESSE D. HODGES.

Jesse D. Hodges, of Little Rock, Arkansas, and President of the Arkansas Association of Pharmacists, died October 15, of influenza. Mr. Hodges joined the American Pharmaceutical Association in 1915.

### GEORGE P. HEMM.

George P. Hemm, oldest son of Professor and Mrs. Francis Hemm, of St. Louis, died at his home in Hayes, Kansas, October 11. Dr. Hemm was a graduate of the St. Louis College of Pharmacy and of the St. Louis University Medical School.

### ALBERT HENRY HEIDBREDER.

Albert Henry Heidbreder, of Quincy, Illinois, a graduate of the University of Illinois School of Pharmacy, Class of 1899, and a member of the firm of Heidbreder Bros. & Co., who operate several drug stores in Quincy, died at his home recently. He leaves a widow and a young son. He joined the American Pharmaceutical Association in 1905.

W. B. D.

### CARL WILLIAM LUTZ.

Carl William Lutz, a prominent business man of Ottawa, Ill., died October 20, 1918, of pneumonia after a brief illness. Mr. Lutz was born in Ottawa June 10, 1887, and educated in the public school and high school of his native city. In 1910 he graduated from the University of Illinois School of Pharmacy, and after spending one year in drug stores in Chicago he entered upon his course in medicine at the College of Medicine of the University of Illinois, from which he was graduated in 1915. Though licensed to practice medicine, he was called to pharmacy again by the death of his father, C. J. Lutz, in July 1915, and since that date he successfully managed the drug store that he inherited from his father in Ottawa. In 1917 Mr. Lutz was appointed a member of the Board of Pharmacy examiners by Governor Lowden and served up to the time of his demise. In 1915 he married Miss I. M. Berg, of Chicago, to whom one child was born, Carl Frederick, now three