

JAMES HARTLEY BEAL

URBANA, ILL.

President of the American Pharmaceutical Association (1904); General Secretary (1911); First Editor JOURNAL A. PH. A.; Chairman of the Council A. Ph. A. for a number of years; Chairman of the Board of Trustees U. S. P. IX; President of the National Drug Trade Conference, etc.



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Among those who are active workers in the pharmaceutical field of to-day there are probably not many who have devoted their lives more completely and unselfishly to the best interests of that calling than Prof. James Hartley Beal, whose career began September 23, 1861, as the eldest son of Jesse and Mary McKnight Beal, of New Philadelphia, Ohio. At an early age he became his father's frequent companion on long walks in the woods and fields, and to this youthful experience he has often attributed his lasting interest in plant life and love of nature. It is still a source of pleasure to him to recall these memories of his boyhood days, during which the foundations were laid not only for the acquirement of useful knowledge and of systematic habits of study which were invaluable in after years, but for a sympathetic and life-long comradeship between father and son.

His early education was obtained in the public schools of New Philadelphia and at Jewett, Ohio. At about the age of seventeen years he began his first regular work as a drug clerk, at Uhrichsville, Ohio, and later continued for several years at Akron, Ohio. While at Akron he also carried several branches of study under tutors in Buchtel College. In 1882 he entered the School of Pharmacy of the University of Michigan, where he was able to carry the regular work of that department and also to pursue studies in other departments of the University. After a year's work at the University of Michigan, he completed a literary course at Scio College (since merged with Mt. Union College, Alliance, O.). After graduating at Scio he returned to the University of Michigan for a year's work in law and philosophy, and then entered the Cincinnati Law School, from which he graduated with "honorable mention" in 1886, and the following September was married to Fannie Snyder Young, of Uhrichsville, O. He soon after accepted a position as instructor in Scio College and in 1889 was given the chair of pharmacy and chemistry. Some years later he was elected to the chair of applied pharmacy in the Pittsburgh College of Pharmacy, and thereafter divided his time between the two institutions. In 1902 the Scio College of Pharmacy and Chemistry was established on an independent basis, with Prof. Beal as Dean, and in 1908 it was consolidated with the Pittsburgh College of Pharmacy.

Prof. Beal became a member of the American Pharmaceutical Association in 1892, and has since served in various capacities as Secretary, and then as Chairman of the Section on Education and Legislation, President of the Association (1904-5), Chairman of the Council, Chairman of the Conference of Pharmaceutical Faculties, etc., besides serving on various important committees. His first paper, on "The Definition of a Poison," was presented at the Asheville, N. C., meeting in 1894, and was rejected by the Committee on Publication. Since that date he has contributed numerous papers to the pharmaceutical press and to the

annual meetings of the A. Ph. A., of which he has so long been an active and loyal member.

In 1900 Prof. Beal was elected a member of the U. S. P. Board of Trustees, and has served as chairman of that body since 1910. In 1911 he was elected General Secretary of the American Pharmaceutical Association and Editor of the official Journal of that organization, the first number of which appeared in January, 1912. The difficult task of launching a new publication and at the same time performing the onerous duties of General Secretary—which at that time included the general supervision of the publication and sale of the National Formulary—together with the care of some considerable private interests, lead to the almost inevitable result of failing health, which compelled his resignation from the combined offices June 1, 1914. A few months later, Prof. Beal removed to Urbana, Ill., where he has a beautiful home and, although still a very busy man, has time to enjoy life more fully than during those years when business obligations claimed so large a portion of every day and often extended far into the night.

As stated in a preceding paragraph, Prof. Beal has always been a lover of nature and likes to "escape and be free in the joy of the open air." For many years it has been his custom to spend a few weeks each summer, in the company of congenial spirits, camping in the Great North Woods of Wisconsin or in the Ontario Highlands, where the finny denizens of the beautiful lakes and streams afford the true sportsman opportunity for securing an abundance of material for the "fish stories" he will take back with him to "the States" and also a welcome addition to the camp fare. To escape the rigors of the northern winters, there is also the opportunity of spending a few months at his Florida home, where he turns fruit grower on a small scale, and enjoys the pleasures and privileges of the fortunate dwellers in that delightful region.

Prof. Beal has been Chairman of the A. Ph. A. Commission on Proprietary Medicines since its organization, and has been tireless in his efforts toward the accomplishment of the work with which the Commission is charged. During his membership, covering a quarter of a century, he has always had the interests of pharmacy in view and has spared neither time nor energy for the accomplishment of those undertakings which seemed to him to be for the uplift and general betterment of the profession as a whole. In this work his thorough legal training has been of great value, while his force of character and magnetic personality command thoughtful attention to the sound arguments presented, which frequently clear away differences of opinion resulting from a mistaken view-point. One of the legislative achievements which earned for him the lasting gratitude of the people of his native state was the enactment of the Beal Local Option Law, secured by him while a member of the 75th General Assembly of Ohio, a measure which was upheld by the United States Supreme Court, and which has since served as a model for the drafting of local option laws in other states. He also drafted the "Model Pharmacy Act" approved by the A. Ph. A. at the Richmond, Virginia, meeting in 1900, a model poison law, and a model state anti-narcotic law (1903), all of which have been frequently copied from in state and national legislation. And he is frequently called upon by legislative committees for assistance in the preparation of bills of interest to pharmacists.

Prof. Beal possesses in an unusual degree the qualifications of the true teacher, and hundreds of chemists and pharmacists in the United States are proud to acknowledge that much of their professional success is due to the careful training received while under his instruction.

As drug clerk, professor of pharmacy and chemistry, author of several textbooks and many papers on pharmaceutical and general topics, Prof. Beal has been prominent in various lines of professional activity, and enjoys in large measure the respect and esteem alike of those interested with him in the struggle for the betterment of conditions affecting all branches of the drug trade and of those with whom he is associated in the world at large.

M. L. C.