

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE LOCAL BRANCHES

### CHICAGO.

Prof. Henry Kraemer of Ann Arbor presented a very fine illustrated lecture on "War and Microscopical Research," before the Chicago Branch, American Pharmaceutical Association, Thursday evening, March 14, at the City Club. Members of the Branch, their ladies and friends and a goodly delegation from the Illinois Microscopical Society formed a large and appreciative audience that greeted Dr. Kraemer most cordially.

About one hundred sat at dinner, preceding the lecture, in honor of Dr. Kraemer and as a farewell to Hugh Craig, President of the Branch who has resigned his office because of removing from Chicago to Detroit where he takes up new work.

Testimonials appreciative of Mr. Craig's good work and fine character were presented by Thomas H. Potts, James Crowley and W. B. Day. There was an expression of deep regret at our loss of Mr. and Mrs. Craig, accompanied, however, with an offer of best wishes to them in their new home and social circle.

In the short business session of the Branch, a very able and remarkably complete report of the Committee on Compulsory Health Insurance<sup>1</sup> was read by J. H. Wells in the absence of Chairman Beal. The report recommended that the Chicago Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association refuse to endorse the standard bill proposed by the American Association for Labor Legislation and, in case such legislation is proposed in the State of Illinois, that the members of the Branch, individually and collectively, take an active part in seeing that the general public, and especially taxpayers, wage earners, and members of the medical profession and of the drug trade shall be fully informed of the dangers of state subsidized compulsory health insurance and of the results that have followed the establishment of such insurance in other countries.

E. N. GATHERCOAL,  
*Secretary.*

### DETROIT.

The regular meeting of the Detroit Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association was held at the Wayne County Medical Build-

ing, March 15. Dr. Leschoier, a member of the medical staff of Parke, Davis & Co., gave a very interesting talk on vaccines and antitoxins. With the aid of a stereopticon, the steps in the preparation of these products were shown. The druggists were cautioned regarding the storage of vaccines and antitoxins, which, on account of their extremely delicate nature, must not be subjected to temperatures higher than specified on the containers.

Chas. F. Wendell, Display-Manager of the J. L. Hudson Company, told his audience that, as a class, the druggists' windows were not what they should be in order to make them yield the proper returns. But bearing in mind the points which Mr. Wendell named as the first essentials, Detroit druggists will soon rank as leaders in the art of window decorating. Since quality is the first consideration of a pharmacist, this must be demonstrated in the displays. Mr. Wendell advised that a window appropriation be made, that suitable fixtures and not makeshifts be obtained and that a layout be arranged before attempting to dress a window; change the displays frequently and have everything spotless.

MAY STRAWN,  
*Secretary.*

### NEW YORK.

The March meeting of the New York Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association was called to order by President McCartney in the lecture hall of the New York College of Pharmacy Building on Monday the 11th, at 8.30 P.M.

Fifty-two members were present.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer's report was received and ordered filed.

*Member of the Council:* Professor Hostmann stated that he had nothing new to report.

*Committee on Education and Legislation:* Mr. Lehman reported on the proposed change in the Board of Pharmacy laws, shorter hours bill, the Hicks bill, on the new disclosure of formulas bills and on various suits and court decisions. He also reported on the Federal alcohol tax refund and discussed probability that the Workman's Compensation Insurance

<sup>1</sup> See this issue of the JOURNAL under Committee Reports.

would be taken over by the state. After some discussion it was ordered accepted.

*Progress of Pharmacy:* Dr. Diekman brought in a lengthy report and abstracts on the following topics:

Manufacture of Potato Starch from Partially Decomposed Potatoes.

Use of Straw for Manufacturing of Gas.

Detection of Foreign Oil in Castor Oil.

Detection of Chlorates in Presence of Hypochlorites.

Detection of Toxicity of Cottonseed Products.

Production of Zinc Perhydrates.

Colorimetric Methods of Determining Morphine.

Reaction for Nitrils.

Composition of Thymol Mercurial Acetate.

Considerable discussion followed the reading of this report, which was ordered accepted.

*Special Committee:* The Committee on By-Laws brought in their report. After considerable discussion some changes in amendments of the by-laws were adopted. The Committee was then discharged with the thanks of the Branch. By motion, regularly moved, seconded and carried, the Secretary was empowered to have printed copies of the constitution together with the new by-laws as well as a list of members of the Branch and to send each member of the Branch a copy of the foregoing. It was now moved, seconded and carried that the President appoint the members of the Committee on Legislation and Education to act as delegates to go to Baltimore and Washington to attend the conference and hearing on the Edmonds Bill.

*New Business:* The Secretary read a short paper outlining a plan for a "Pharmacy Honor Medal"<sup>1</sup> and suggested that the Branch consider it. It was then moved, seconded and carried to consider the proposition and the following committee was appointed: Hugo H. Schaefer, *Chairman*, Jeannot Hostmann, Caswell A. Mayo, J. L. Mayer and Fred Nitardy.

A paper was read by Prof. Jeannot Hostmann on "Legislating for the Pharmacist." The speaker related many interesting and amusing anecdotes of his experience with legislatures, etc.; considerable discussion followed. A rising vote of thanks was extended to Prof. Jeannot Hostmann.

HUGO H. SCHAEFER,  
*Secretary.*

#### A PHARMACY HONOR MEDAL.<sup>2</sup>

We have all heard of the "Perkin Medal" and of the "Nichols Medal." These are medals given annually by the American Chemical Society and by the Society of Chemical Engineering as the highest mark of honor for work done or things accomplished by any individual in the respective branches of science which these two great societies represent. Should not Pharmacy also possess a similar method of showing its appreciation for any signal service performed in the interest of American Pharmacy? With this in view I would suggest the following plan:

That a gold medal or a bronze medallion suitably named be awarded annually to the man or woman who has done most for American Pharmacy during the preceding year or whose efforts during a number of years have culminated to a point during the preceding year where the result of these efforts would be considered as being the most important and advantageous for American Pharmacy.

That the New York Local Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association take the matter in hand to the extent of devoting one meeting annually to the presentation of this medal.

That in order to make the presentation of this award permanent and perpetual, a fund of \$1000.00 be created either by donations or by means of arranging for a sinking fund, this fund to be invested in gilt edged stocks or bonds, preferably Liberty Bonds and the interest thereof to be used to defray the expense of the award.

That the medal be awarded by a standing committee consisting of all the past presidents of the American Pharmaceutical Association, and in case the number of living past presidents is less than five, the senior past vice-presidents of the American Pharmaceutical Association are to be drawn upon in sufficient number to create a committee of five. That no bar be placed as to the candidate's profession, or kind of work accomplished.

That the medal be presented by the senior past president of the Local Branch mentioned above and taking this meeting in hand.

That the consent and support of the American Pharmaceutical Association be officially obtained to give the presentation of this medal at the Local Branch meeting a national aspect

<sup>1</sup> See immediately following the report of this meeting.

<sup>2</sup> See action of New York Branch, A. Ph. A., this issue of the JOURNAL.

and as coming from the American Pharmaceutical Association and not merely from the Local Branch.

In conclusion, I would like to say that of course the criticism will be brought up that the presentation of such medal ought to be performed at the annual meeting of the parent organization rather than at a Local Branch meeting. To this I would like to point out that such a presentation could only represent a small part of the day's programme at the Convention, while at a Local Branch an entire evening would be devoted to it.

Since our Branch is the largest and fastest growing branch, since we are located in the largest city as well as for many other reasons, I would suggest that this plan be taken up for consideration by the New York Branch.

HUGO H. SCHAEFER.

#### PHILADELPHIA.

The regular monthly meeting of the Philadelphia Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association was held at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy Wednesday evening, March 19, with the president, Ambrose Hunsberger, in the chair.

Following the regular order of business, reading the minutes, election of new members, etc., Dr. Horatio C. Wood, Jr., read a very interesting paper on "The Elixirs of the National Formulary IV,"<sup>1</sup> in which he pointed out in his own inimitable style the faults of most of the elixirs and the merits of a few. He particularly deplored the lack of uniformity in the doses of the medicinal elixirs and also the uselessness, as he termed it, of many of the formulas given. "It is an insult," said Dr. Wood, "to the intelligent physician to bring into an official book, as simple a formula as the elixir of cascara, which is made by just mixing together the fluidextract and aromatic elixir. An elixir, containing such antagonistic agents as strychnine, bismuth and pepsin, has no place in an official and, presumably, scientific book and the sooner such preparations are deleted, the better it will be for the reputation of the National Formulary."

Professor LaWall opened the discussion on Dr. Wood's paper by quoting the senior Dr. Wood's statement that "it is the duty of framers of pharmacopoeias and other official books to maintain standards for anything which a physician might have occasion to use in his

practice, even if it has no more value than brick dust."

Mr. Beringer then ably answered Dr. Wood's statements and said, in part, that the National Formulary was compiled to answer a specific purpose, to establish a uniformity of standards for the less widely used preparations and drugs. Pharmacists could not be directly charged with the lack of uniformity in the doses of the various medicinal elixirs. Mr. Beringer also pointed out the fact that the comparison of the N. F. IV with the U. S. P. IX was not quite fair, when one had the advantage of eight previous editions and the other only three.

Mr. England stated that the paper was well worthy of being submitted to the Chairman of the Committee of Revision of the N. F., and made such a motion, which was adopted. He also moved that the Branch extend its thanks to Dr. Wood for his constructive criticisms and his very helpful remarks.

F. M. Apple deplored the lack of intelligent propaganda among physicians, to acquaint them with the good formulas of the N. F. and U. S. P., and stated that the parent body was derelict in its duty in not taking the initiative in this matter.

Coinciding with Mr. Apple's views, J. K. Thum then made a motion that a committee be appointed to report on the desirability of commencing propaganda work among physicians. Professor Gershenfeld seconded this motion, which was subsequently adopted and the president was authorized to appoint a committee of three to consider the matter.

The other contribution of the evening was a paper by Prof. H. W. Youngken, on "Wafer Ash Bark as an Adulterant for Euonymus (Wahoo Bark)." Despite the technical character of the paper, Professor Youngken presented it in an understandable and interesting manner and it was afterwards very briskly discussed by Dr. Lowe, Messrs. Beringer, Thum and Griffith. The lantern slides which were shown added much to the value of the paper.

The Secretary then read the report of the Committee on the Endorsement of the Edmonds Bill, and the Branch endorsed this bill or any other measure that would give pharmacy the professional standing to which it is rightfully entitled.

Professor Cook, in presenting the report of the pharmaceutical section of the committee on ways and means of conserving drugs and

<sup>1</sup> See this issue of the JOURNAL.

supplies, suggested that the next meeting of the Branch be dedicated to a thorough consideration of this question, when the committees would be able to present more comprehensive reports. Professor LaWall made such a motion and it was duly seconded and adopted.

The Committee on Nominations then presented their report which was accepted and the nominees were thereafter elected. President Hunsberger relinquished the chair which he had so ably filled during the past year and Mr. McNery assumed his new duties. The thanks and appreciation of the Branch were extended to the retiring President whose year of administration had been particularly suc-

cessful from every standpoint. The new officers and committees follow: W. W. McNery, *President*; F. P. Stroup, *First Vice-President*; K. F. Ehmman, *Second Vice-President*; Ivor Griffith, *Secretary and Treasurer*; *Committee on Fraternal Relations*—F. M. Apple, *Chairman*, F. E. Stewart, J. K. Thum; *Committee on Practical Pharmacy*—J. C. Peacock, *Chairman*, E. Fullerton Cook, J. R. Minehart; *Committee on Membership*—R. P. Fischelis, *Chairman*; Ambrose Hunsberger, L. Gershenfeld.

The meeting was attended by over 60 persons.

IVOR GRIFFITH,  
*Secretary.*

## COUNCIL BUSINESS

### A. PH. A. COUNCIL LETTER NO. 12.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., MARCH 16, 1918.

To the Members of the Council:

*Motion No. 19 (Election of Members; applications Nos. 69 to 84 inclusive)* has received a majority of affirmative votes.

The following report is presented:

*Report to the Council of the American Pharmaceutical Association:*

The special committee of the Council which was appointed at Indianapolis for the purpose of determining the situation at the United States National Museum relative to the housing of the collection of historical pharmacy has conferred with Mr. F. L. Lewton, Curator of Pharmaceutical and Medical Exhibits, and desires to report that adequate provisions exist in the National Museum for the custody and display of specimens illustrative of historical pharmacy.

The National Museum would prefer, wherever possible, that the specimens be offered as outright gifts, but where this is not desirable or feasible, it will gladly accept as loans or deposits, valuable material on the subject of pharmacy, materia medica, and the history of pharmacy. It is customary for loans to be accepted with the understanding that they will be left undisturbed for a year or more, while deposits are usually made for a longer indefinite period. The Museum cannot bind itself to permanently install any exhibit, or to keep any certain assemblage of specimens always exhibited to public view. It can, however, agree to safeguard them and keep them available for examination and study whenever desired. In order to avoid duplica-

tion of material, the Museum would request that all exhibits offered it as gifts, loans or deposits, be first arranged for by correspondence, and the submission of a list or inventory giving an idea of the character and quantity of the material offered.

The committee believes that any property of the Association placed in the National Museum will receive adequate care and therefore recommends to the Council that the collection of historical pharmacy or whatever part of it as may be deemed advisable be placed in the National Museum as a gift or loan from the American Pharmaceutical Association.

Respectfully submitted,

W. W. STOCKBERGER,  
H. C. FULLER,  
S. L. HILTON.

A motion to approve this report is in order.

The following communication has been received from E. G. Eberle:

"I am in receipt of the following letter from the Smithsonian Institute, United States National Museum, Washington, D. C.:

"In exchange for publications of the United States National Museum, a list of which is enclosed, may I obtain for the Library Vols. 1-5 and Nos. 1-7 of Vol. 6 (1917) of the JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, which are wanted to complete the set? In return I shall be pleased to have sent you such of a selection of the available Museum publications as you may desire.

(Signed) By authority of the Secretary."

"In my opinion we should grant this request and have a full set of the JOURNAL in the Library of the Smithsonian Institute. I therefore move