

establish an organized Pharmaceutical Corps as an integral part of the Medical Department of the U. S. Army? Thereby they will advance professional pharmacy—one of their often-expressed desires—and bring into more hearty accord the efforts of physicians and pharmacists in purposes for which they are united, but above all they will render an invaluable service to the soldiers and to the enlisted medical men.

E. G. E.

THE PREPAREDNESS OF PHARMACISTS FOR SERVING THEIR COUNTRY.

HERETOFORE references have been made to suggestions and resolutions offered by Branches of the American Pharmaceutical Association, which were of such value that they were subsequently embodied in related war measures.

On May 18, 1917, President Frederick J. Wulling, of the American Pharmaceutical Association, addressed His Excellency, President Wilson, as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT: As president of the American Pharmaceutical Association and with the concurrence of Mr. Lewis C. Hopp, Cleveland, Ohio, chairman of the Council of the Association, I hereby pledge the loyal support of the Association and tender to you and the Government such services as the Association can give in the present crisis of the country. Many of the members of the Association have already offered their individual services, but the Association may be able to give a service as an organization. It is ready and willing to help the country in any way it can and holds itself in readiness to be advised by you or by your orders.

President R. A. Lyman, of the American Conference of Pharmaceutical Faculties, addressed the President in a communication of May 1, 1917, wherein it was more specifically stated how this body could be helpful to the country. The letter reads:

MR. PRESIDENT: The Executive Committee of the American Conference of Pharmaceutical Faculties, representing forty leading Colleges of Pharmacy of the United States, has authorized me to inform you that the services of the schools belonging to this Conference are at your command. This organization wishes to render to the country any and every possible service. Some of the special services which these schools can render are suggested below:

1. The manufacture of pharmaceutical preparations, official or non-official, in such quantities as the Government needs.
2. The microscopical and chemical examination of purchases of crude drugs, for the purpose of identification, and the detection of adulterations.
3. The physiological and chemical standardization of medicinal products.
4. The manufacture of medicinal synthetics.
5. The chemical, microscopical and bacteriological examination of food-stuffs.
6. The supplying of crude medicinal plants, such as Digitalis and Belladonna, which are now on hand, or are now growing in our drug plant gardens. The latter will be available this fall.
7. The growing of crude drugs upon a larger scale than is now attempted and the supplying of information or trained men to those who wish to engage in the cultivation of medicinal plants.

Work along the lines indicated has been done for the Government on quite an extensive scale. Some of the schools offered their teaching and laboratory facilities and extended preparatory courses for those enlisting in the Hospital Service. The Department of Pharmacy of the Oregon Agricultural College directed the collection of native *Digitalis* by farmers.

At the April meeting of the New York Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association, Dr. H. C. Lovis, as chairman of the Committee on Military Preparedness of the American Drug Manufacturers' Association, told of the work which has been done by that committee beginning on *February 4, 1916*, when resolutions were adopted by the Association as follows:

WHEREAS, The President of the United States has made an appeal to its citizens on behalf of military preparedness, and

WHEREAS, Adequate military preparedness involves not only the training of citizens as soldiers and the provision of ships, of arms, and of munitions, but also the organization of all the vast industries of the country with a view to their prompt and effective mobilization in case of war, and

WHEREAS, The provision of medical and surgical supplies promptly and in adequate quantities is a most important phase of such preparedness; therefore be it

Resolved, That in the opinion of the National Association of Manufacturers of Medicinal Products* definite plans for the mobilization of all private resources for the manufacturing and delivery of medical and surgical supplies for the Army and Navy of the United States in case of war should be formulated and promulgated at once by the Government; and be it further

Resolved, That the Members of the National Association of Manufacturers of Medicinal products hereby pledge their hearty cooperation in the formulation and promulgation of such plans of mobilization to the end that in the event of war the resources of the United States, for the preparation of medical and surgical supplies, could be made use of by the Government with the least possible delay, confusion and expense.

These and prior editorial comments and the symposium of the New York Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association on "What the Drug Trade Has Done to Win the War" indicate the possibilities of pharmaceutical service, give an idea of what has been done by the allied interests and emphasize that pharmacists realize the importance of their work and have a vision of things necessary for winning the war that extends beyond the limits of their immediate activities. These same Interests are convinced that a Pharmaceutical Corps is necessary for the U. S. Army.

Write your Congressmen and persuade some of their other constituents, especially those of the medical profession, to do likewise. E. G. E.

* Now American Drug Manufacturers' Association.