

CORRESPONDENCE

PHARMACOPOEIAL CONVENTION, MAY 11, 1920.

SECOND NOTICE.

In harmony with the requirements of the By-Laws, attention of interested parties is called to the meeting of the Tenth Decennial Pharmacopoeial Convention of the United States, to be held beginning at 10.00 A.M., May 11, 1920, at the Willard Hotel, Washington, D. C. All incorporated bodies and other institutions entitled to membership in this convention are requested to at once apply to Dr. Noble P. Barnes, Arlington Hotel, Washington, D. C., for the necessary blanks for membership in the Convention.

Prior to the meeting of the Convention, the Committee on Credentials will meet in Washington to consider all applications which are made. It is important, therefore, that all applications for membership should be in the hands of Dr. Barnes at least six weeks before the date of the meeting. It will be difficult to consider, properly, credentials which are delayed beyond that date and especially those which may be presented at the time of meeting.

Sincerely, H. W. WILEY,

President, 10th Decennial Pharmacopoeial Convention of the United States

THE DECLARATION OF THE ALCOHOLIC CONTENT OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS.

THE EDITOR:

The object of the Federal law in requiring on the label of all "drugs" a truthful declaration of their alcoholic content, was to advise or warn the public regarding the percentage of this ingredient in preparations, so that anyone having scruples about the use of products containing alcohol would not be using them without such knowledge. Of course no more alcohol is supposed to be used than is necessary for the purposes of solution, preservation, etc., but this means little to the unscrupulous manufacturer.

Now since the advent of prohibition has not this requirement of the law served its purpose? Does it not now become a detriment to prohibition, to the ethical pharmacist and manufacturer and quite an advantage to the unprincipled druggist, manufacturer and certain members of the laity affected with the "alcoholic blues?"

It seems that it would be best for all parties concerned for this feature of the law to be repealed and to make it mandatory to remove declarations of alcoholic content or suggestions of same from the labels, descriptive literature and advertising. There can be no objections to this from the public or pharmacists and manufacturers not catering to a tainted business. The only objection would be from druggists and manufacturers who are desirous of a business of this nature because *the alcoholic content declaration on the label is a decided advantage to their scheme.*

The authorities, no doubt, will control the sale of certain products such as bay rum, witch hazel, tincture of ginger, etc., but there are many others which now have a large legitimate sale that have not yet been thought of in this connection and which could be used—possibly not as a delightful beverage but would certainly satisfy a severe craving for alcohol.

This proposed step would not remove all sources of information as to the alcoholic content of products to the public, but it would remove the greatest source of information.

If this idea is considered feasible, a few of the necessary details could be considered and recommendations in the form of resolutions could be made to the proper authorities from a pharmaceutical association.

CLEVELAND, OHIO.

R. W. TERRY.

January 24, 1920.

Just before completing the February issue of the JOURNAL OF THE A. PH. A., we are advised of the death of Mrs. Claus, wife of Dr. Otto F. Claus, St. Louis, Chairman of the House of Delegates, 1918-1919.

Frontis Lentz, Secretary of the Baltimore Branch A. PH. A., and member of the faculty of Maryland College of Pharmacy, died February 5.

George P. Engelhard, publisher of the *Western Druggist*, died February 10, and George W. Lattimer, Columbus, Ohio, an ex-President of the National Wholesale Druggists' Association, died February 12.