

PROCEEDINGS OF THE LOCAL BRANCHES

"All papers presented to the Association and its branches shall become the property of the Association, with the understanding that they are not to be published in any other publication than those of the Association, except by consent of the Committee on Publication."—By-Laws, Chapter X, Art. III.

Reports of the meetings of the Local Branches should be mailed to the Editor on the day following the meeting, if possible. Minutes should be typewritten, with wide spaces between the lines. Care should be taken to give proper names correctly, and manuscript should be signed by the reporter.

CHICAGO

The 111th regular meeting of the Chicago Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association was held Friday evening May, 28th, at the University of Illinois School of Pharmacy building, at 8.00 o'clock. President Clark presided. The attendance was large.

The evening was devoted to reports from delegates and others who attended the Annual Meeting in Washington, and the decennial Pharmacopoeial Convention. Professor Day reported for the general activities of the A. Ph. A. meeting, calling attention to the principal items of business, the considerable number of very fine papers and addresses, and the very pleasant features of entertainment at this meeting.

S. C. Henry discussed in particular his impressions of the Pharmacopoeial Convention. He called particular attention to the fact that though retail druggists were well represented at this convention very few were elected to the Revision Committee. He deplored this and believed that if actual retail pharmacy was more fully represented on this Committee, there would be a tendency to make the book more applicable to the drug store.

F. W. Meissner, of La Porte, Ind., formerly a trustee of the Pharmacopoeial Convention, spoke briefly, calling attention particularly to the splendid financial standing of the Convention and the fine opportunity the balance

of some \$40,000 gives to the incoming Revision Committee for research.

Prof. C. M. Snow spoke upon several phases of the A. Ph. A. activities, dwelling especially on the most excellent addresses of prohibition officers Kraemer and Gaylord. He also called attention to the fact that the House of Delegates should be strengthened in its personnel and in its activities.

Secretary Gathercoal called the attention of the meeting to the fact that this was the last meeting of the spring, but that already plans were being made for a big meeting in October, at which the 135 Soldier and Sailor members, resident in Chicago, would be given particular entertainment, and called for expressions of opinion as to the most desirable form of this entertainment. It was the opinion of several, including some of our S. and S. members, that no features of the war should be included but rather strictly pharmaceutical material. So it was decided to call upon pharmacists of foresight to present, at this October meeting, the immediate future of American pharmacy to these young men.

Prof. A. H. Clark talked most interestingly about the many beautiful and attractive features of the city of Washington and the great public buildings, illustrating the talk with 100 lantern slides, many of them just completed from pictures the speaker had taken at the meeting.

E. N. GATHERCOAL, *Secretary.*

COMMITTEE REPORTS

REPORT OF THE NATIONAL FORMULARY COMMITTEE.

TO THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.*

The National Formulary Committee appointed for the fourth revision of the National Formulary has not yet fairly begun its work. The committee consists of six retail pharmacists, five pharmacy teachers, three who are connected with manufacturing establishments and one physician. This has been commented upon by Professor J. U. Lloyd as an exceptionally well-balanced committee.

*City of Washington meeting, 1920.

The committee organized promptly, and has subdivided the work of revision into thirteen sub-committees, of which eight are concerned with the formulas and the others with general phases of revision work.

The committee has been considering very carefully the scope and policy of the Formulary. The inclusion of this work as a standard in the Food and Drugs Act of 1906 has placed the book on a very different base from that of the original, and the policy of the Formulary is not yet clear.

Originally the intent was to provide standard formulas for all preparations not included in the Pharmacopoeia which were in common use by physicians. Usage was the main criterion of acceptance, the Formulary assumed no responsibility for therapeutic values, and the aim was to supply standard formulas for preparations that physicians wished to employ. This meant a copying of the flavor, color and other physical properties of preparations in use.

But it is becoming more apparent that if the Formulary is to occupy a place as a standard, it must be more than a simple formulary for popular medicinal preparations. It must have a definite scope and plan which will be of more value to physicians and pharmacists than a book of well selected formulas if it is to hold an influence above other formularies. What this policy shall be is not easy to decide. The preceding committee had some vigorous discussions on the subject, but did not succeed in coming to a clear understanding. The present committee, therefore, lacks an established policy for the N. F. The first policy has been taken away by imposing upon it a standing which was not contemplated in the original plan, and the future aims have not yet become instituted.

Perhaps the most difficult question is what part, if any, therapeutics should play in the acceptance or construction of formulas. While physicians are, and should be, the final judges of therapeutic value, yet they look to pharmacists in considerable measure to furnish formulas which are therapeutically desirable—or at least not objectionable. The fact that physicians employ very largely preparations which are not therapeutically approved by authorities in that subject does not mean that questionable therapeutics is preferred but only that the preparations are desirable for other reasons beside their therapeutic qualities.

The Formulary, designed and revised by pharmacists, cannot presume to pose as a standard for therapeutic values, as does the Pharmacopoeia. But between the exclusive therapeutic standards of the Pharmacopoeia, established mainly by pharmacologists and physicians, and the popular remedies established by commercial houses, there may be a desirable means for the National Formulary to institute. This is the first question to be considered by the committee, and it has already been discussed in some measure.

Other fundamental questions are the alcoholic strength of some preparations, particularly of the elixirs, the future of the medicated wines, the continuance or modification of narcotic preparations, and our relations to the medical profession.

These are far-reaching questions and they can best be settled in conference. The committee is, therefore, planning for a meeting in the near future¹ to discuss and decide upon these and other questions regarding the scope and policy of the Formulary. When the fundamental questions shall have been decided, and we hope that will be soon, the detail work of revision will follow promptly.

(Signed) WILBUR L. SCOVILLE, *Chairman.*

COUNCIL BUSINESS

COUNCIL MEETINGS, 1919-1920.

The sixth meeting of the Council for 1919-20 was held at the Willard Hotel, Washington, D. C., on Monday, May 10, 1920, at 7.20 P.M., Chairman L. C. Hopp, presiding.

Present: Messrs. J. H. Beal, W. B. Day, Clair A. Dye, E. G. Eberle, F. R. Eldred, J. W. England, R. P. Fischelis, H. C. Fuller, J. G. Godding, S. L. Hilton, L. C. Hopp, J. A. Koch, R. A. Lyman, E. H. LaPierre, C. H. LaWall, W. F. Rudd, E. A. Ruddiman, L. E. Sayre, F. E. Stewart, H. M. Whelpley and F. J. Wulling.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

A communication from the Section on Commercial Interests was read as follows:

¹ Held in Longport, N. J., July 1, 1920.