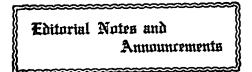
ings the zinc is then precipitated as carbonate and from its weight the oxide may be calculated .- Pharm. Ztg., LVII (1912), No. 55, 555; from Südd. Apoth. Ztg., 1912, No. 33.



JAMES H. BEAL, Editor.....Scio, O.

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# RESENTING GRATUITOUS IN-SULTS TO PHARMACY AND PHARMACISTS.

It has been a favorite doctrine of the Editor for many years that pharmacists invite attacks from the sensational press by failing to protest against them when made.

The same element of human nature that lead the ancient Romans to crowd the gladiatorial amphitheatre leads them to buy the sensational newspaper. They want to see somebody get "spiflicated." The publishers know this, and as a policy they select the man or class who can't or won't hit back. They have found this quality prevailing among pharmacists generally, and so pharmacy comes in for an abundant share of gratuitous and wholly unmerited vilification.

The way to change the policy of the press on this subject is for pharmacists to change their attitude of quiescent acceptance to one of indignant remonstrance against such unjust attacks.

In this connection we quote the following letter by one of our members to the New York Times:

To the Editor of the N. Y. Times: In last Sunday's N. Y. Times, an editorial appears under caption, U.S.P." Judge Learned H "Senna, Broken, Judge Learned Hand being quoted: "The Pharmacopoeia is a book put into the hands of druggists all over the country, men of no great learning-

Webster defines the terms, druggist. apothecary and pharmacist synonymously, hence the assumption that the pharmacist is the one referred to. It is very regrettable that one of the judiciary should cast an un-called-for slur upon a calling which is a profession, and morever one which carries with it the greatest responsibilities, life and death, the latter not being subject to review and reversal because of error, for error with the pharmacist, may mean death to the patient, and extinction of the pharmacist's profes-sional career. Callings of this kind are not left to the illiterate. Furthermore in proof of the aforesaid would I point to the U. S. Pharmacopoeia itself, which though not perfect, still is the best book of its kind extant, and its contents are the product of the American druggist. I hope the learned gentleman may become acquainted with some druggists, that is socially, not professionally, for we wish him no ill, and he will find as many bright and learned heads in our profession, as he may find in the legal one.

J. F. BEHRENS.

Possibly the Editor of the Times did not lose any sleep over this single remonstrance. but if any considerable number of the druggists in his territory had remonstrated in like manner, the result would probably have been quite different.

The way to get proper recognition for pharmacy is to go after it, go after it hard, go after it all together, and go after it all the time. Remember Grant's doctrine, that the other fellow is as likely to be as much afraid of you as you are afraid of him.

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## ENACTMENT OF THE SHER-LEY BILL.

The Sherley Bill, amending the Pure Food and Drugs Act, is now a law. It consists in the addition of a third clause to Section 8 of the enactment of June 30, 1906, the exact language of the new addition to the law being as follows: (A drug shall be deemed misbranded.)

"Third, If its package or label shall bear or contain any statement, design or device regarding the curative or therapeutic effects of such article or any of the ingredients or substances therein which is false and fraudulent."

As is well known, the necessity for such an amendment was pointed out by the decision in the so-called "Johnson Cancer-Cure" case, in which it was decided with evident correctness that the Food and Drugs Act, as it then stood, did not cover fraudulent claims as to the curative properties of medicines.

There can be no doubt but that the amendment greatly strengthens the law, and will make it fairly effectual in restricting extravagant claims for the properties of medicines which are sold in interstate commerce.

It cannot but be regretted, however, that the Richardson Bill as proposed to be amended by the Legislative Conference of the national pharmaceutical societies was not enacted instead.

The writer has never shared the fears of those who believed that the enactment of this bill would have been deterimental to the interests of legitimate pharmacy and medicine. It is no doubt true, as asserted that in the hands of executives who were extremists such a law might have occasioned a great deal of unnecessary hardship, but this statement would apply equally to every law which is draughted in such terms as will permit of effective enforcement.

The infirmities of language are such that if we should enact only laws which could not by technical construction be used to produce hardship they would be of but little consequence. The same loophole which will permit the escape of those who offend only innocently and technically will also permit the escape of the intentional wrong doer.

If laws are to be effective they need to contain some general and absolute terms, and we must rely upon the spirit of fairness of executives and upon the powers of the courts to prevent their administration with undue harshness.



### THE NATIONAL WHOLESALE DRUG-GISTS' ASSOCIATION.

#### Annual Meeting, Milwaukee, Wis., October 14-19, 1912.

To the Members of the N. W. D. A.

You have been advised by the Committee on Arrangements and Entertainment that our 38th Annual Convention will be held October 14-19th at the Hotel Pfister, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The Committee and the Officers of the Association hope to see a large attendance, and the purpose of this call is to urge cur members — active, associate, honorary and complimentary — to be present with their companions.

Not only has the Committee provided liberally for the comfort and pleasure of its guests, thus assuring them a pleasant visit and an enjoyable entertainment, but the individual member will find in the deliberations of the Convention, particularly in its consideration of the momentous trade questions of the day, much of direct benefit to himself. It is our opinion that no member, no matter how important he may consider his engagements at home, can afford to lose this opportunity to broaden his views.

Trusting, then, that the members will be present at the coming meeting in numbers never equalled before, we await in anticipation the benefits and pleasures of the Milwaukee meeting.

Meanwhile, I remain

Yours very truly THEO. F. MEYER, President.