

sessions of the Section was discussed by Messrs. Noll, Craig, McCutcheon, and Pease.

Escorted by O. F. Claus, Missouri, the newly-elected Chairman, A. V. Pease, and Associate W. H. McCutcheon (the only officers-elect present at the time) were duly installed.

On motion of M. Noll, Kansas, seconded by C. J. Clayton, Colorado, the Section adjourned *sine die*.

APPLIED COOPERATION.

WILHELM BODEMANN, CHICAGO.

Cooperation is an old scheme; Webster found it on the list when he got out his dictionary in 1840, but applied to pharmacy, it cannot be denied that the N. A. R. D. is the mother and nurse of what is now known as the Age of Cooperation. Some of these concerns are a very boon, some a decided curse to pharmacy. Since it is not denied that the patent medicine traffic is a bane, nay a curse to pharmacy, any concern increasing this curse cannot but be injurious to pharmacy. My hope for better things is based on a cooperation between the two great national bodies, the A. Ph. A. and the N. A. R. D. May the N. A. R. D. help to commercialize the professional, and the A. Ph. A. reciprocate by throwing a shower of professionalism into the commercialist. An unsuccessful professional is a pitiable farce, and a danger, for with the unsuccessful goes limited capital, and a shortage in the exchequer is a mighty slippery path for the honest and conscientious. On the other hand an unprofessional commercialist is a menace and a disgrace. It is true we cannot all be scientific, but we can at least be honest. We need not be four-flushers. Let the two great bodies join hands and start a propagandum for honesty and for self respect. If the successful commercialist kicks about the decrease of prescription business, how can he expect a physician to patronize him, if this commercialist has flashy signs and ads about the "Great Liver and Bladder Regulator," his "Unfailable Cough Cure" and his "Peerless Bowel Panacea?" How can an honest man recommend his cough cure when he is unable to diagnose the cause of the cough, which can be due to tuberculosis, alcoholism or nervous derangement? How damnably wrong is it to traffic in life and health by stringing along a sufferer on a worthless bowel regulator, when perchance the knife is the only resort to save a life? If a patent medicine factory wanted to diagnose, how can it be done if a batch of nostrums is dished out regardless of the specific case? How can an individual pharmacist recommend such rot, when he doesn't know any more about the disease, except perhaps than that diphtheritis and hemorrhoids are located in different geographical sections of the anatomy.

Our cooperative thinkers have launched a number of beneficial schemes, saving the druggist in insurance expense, and in purchasing staples, and in manufacturing pharmal products, and in securing quality prices and ownership of

brands of cigars, as you may be aware has been done by the Bergermaster of Cigars.

In the Cigar Cooperative Company we have a guarantee of quality, and a price protected selling arrangement, giving the stockholders a margin in first-class goods and reasonable retail prices, which they never dared to dream of before. If our honorable Chairman were not at the same time the Bergermaster of Tampa, I would go into a regular boost, but the iron hand of the aforesaid Bergermaster precludes this.

Now let the aforesaid thinkers get busy, and advise ways and means to, at least, arrest the flood of new disgraceful abortions of pharmaceutical activities if not completely crush the curse of the age, the quack nostrum crime.

If we expect favors at court we must come with clean hands into court, and not have the stain of blood and untold misery on our hands and conscience. If a man decides to be a crook let him hang out a shingle to that effect, and I will respect him along side the man who is a crook under the guise and cloak of a Sunday School leader and the outward trademark of a moral uplifter. By the Eternal! there is honesty even among thieves, and when I say thieves, I mean it, and not use the word in the pickwickian sense so often heard at late political conventions! Let us have a cooperative marriage of the great A. Ph. A. to the great N. A. R. D. and may this union be blessed with a progeny of an abundance of healthy children, and both of these married to the good old fashioned doctrine of honesty and decency.

“FOR SWEET CHARITY’S SAKE.”

There is a case in the Paris police courts just now, the defendants in which had worked, with some success, a trade in pharmaceutical preparations under the specious and dangerous disguise of advertising “for sweet charity’s sake” or “from pure charity” to indicate certain cures for various maladies. The idea is by no means new, but the methods followed showed some ingenuity. A certain M. Clouet, who was formerly in the horse-trade, opened consulting rooms in the Rue de la Harpe, Paris, and secured the services of a physician and also of a pharmacien, M. Pierre by name, who were announced as “specially attached to the establishment.” The idea was to seek a connection among devout people, and with this object in view two ex-priests were engaged at a monthly salary to lend their aid. Advertisements were then published and circulars distributed under the names of the priests from an address in the Rue du Temple, offering to supply means of relieving maladies from pure charity, etc. The priests had suitable letter-paper stamped with a figure of the Virgin Mary and the title “Society of the Great Pilgrimages of France.” A voluminous correspondence was the result of this little scheme, and the ex-men of the church had only to reply to their correspondents to apply to the “great medical authority” at the Rue de la Harpe, who would prescribe the valuable pharmaceutical inventions of M. Pierre, Pharmacien of the First Class. It would appear, however, that the geese which were laying the golden eggs were exploited a little too much, as complaints were made to the police, and now the five men engaged in the nefarious trade are being prosecuted for illegal practice of medicine and pharmacy.—*The Chemist and Druggist.*