

rare conscientiousness in training his apprentices and in conducting the drug business along strictly ethical and professional lines. He was truly "a grand old man" in pharmacy. May his ashes rest in peace, and may his memory remain as an incentive to all of us to do our best for the interest of our calling.

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CHARLES L. STILLMAN.

Charles L. Stillman, of Lead, S. D., died suddenly on January 20, 1912. He was formerly in business at Columbus, Neb., but removed to Lead, where he has been located for five years. He has been prominent in the pharmaceutical affairs of his state, having served as a member of the Nebraska Board of Pharmacy from 1900 to 1903. He joined the American Pharmaceutical Association in 1910.

J. W. E.

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ERNEST MOLWITZ.

Ernest Molwitz died at his home in New York on January 29, 1912. He was born in Rothenburg, Germany, on August 24, 1836. His father was a druggist. Young Molwitz came to this country when fourteen years old, and was employed in the dispensary at Bellevue Hospital when nineteen. After two years spent at Pittsburg he returned to New York and clerked for A. G. Dunn, on Third avenue. In 1868, Mr. Molwitz started in business for himself at Sixth avenue and Fifty-third street, moving to Fifty-fourth street later. In 1886, he sold the business to Otto Boeddicker and devoted his time to his store at Eighth avenue and One Hundred and Forty-fourth street until his retirement in 1909. He took a deep interest in professional pharmacy and in the New York College of Pharmacy. He joined the American Pharmaceutical Association in 1867, and was one of the few who attended both the 1867 and the 1907 meetings of the American Pharmaceutical Association held in New York. A widow, two sons and five daughters survive him.

J. W. E.

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BENJAMIN S. WOODWORTH.

Benjamin Stadley Woodworth, a prominent pharmacist of Fort Wayne, Ind., died suddenly on February 22, 1912. He was born in Fort Wayne, and was within a few days of his thirty-eighth birthday. He was educated in the city schools of Fort Wayne and attended Cornell and Purdue Universi-

ties, later entering the drug business with his father, and succeeding to the ownership of his father's store. Mr. Woodworth was a member of the Masonic fraternity and a 32° Mason. He became a member of the American Pharmaceutical Association in 1906. He was unmarried, and leaves a brother, Carl Woodworth, of Chicago Junction, Ohio.

J. W. E.

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."—Resolution adopted at the Boston Convention, 1911.

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 *plainly* written, or typewritten, with wide spaces between the lines. Care should be taken to give proper names correctly, and manuscript should be signed by the reporter.

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PHILADELPHIA BRANCH.

(February Meeting)

The regular meeting of the Philadelphia Branch was held at the College of Physicians on the evening of February 6, 1912, Chairman Stanislaus presiding.

A resolution submitted by Chairman La-Wall protesting against the attitude of the Treasury Department in regard to the recovery of tax-paid alcohol used in the manufacture of galenicals was unanimously adopted. In order that the protest might be widespread and effective the committee suggested similar action by other pharmaceutical bodies throughout the country.

Dr. Carl E. Smith was elected a member of the Branch.

Messrs. Kraemer, Vanderkleed and Blair were appointed as members of the nominating committee to select a list of names to be submitted at the next meeting for election to the various Branch offices, as well as to the Council of the A. Ph. A.

The topic of the evening consisted of a contribution on "Purified Caramel and the Standardizing of Caramel Solutions" pre-

sented by Mr. Geo. M. Beringer. The paper is published in full and is well worthy of the attention of practicing pharmacists since it points a way to overcome the varying tinctorial qualities possessed by the Caramel usually available. In closing the interesting discussion which followed the reading of the paper, Mr. Beringer agreed that the final solution of the Caramel problem lay in the working out of the chemistry of the aldehyd resins, but he felt, nevertheless, that his investigations had yielded a product quite sufficient to meet pharmaceutical requirements, which could be supplied at a moderate price.

In discussing the topic, Dr. A. W. Miller outlined the difficulties involved in the manufacture of Caramel. Uniform results were impossible to achieve, he said, and some manufacturers had tried to overcome the difficulty by the addition of anilin colors—a disreputable practice.

Others who discussed the paper from interesting and varied viewpoints were Messrs. Cook, Kraemer, Blair, Horne, LaWall, Stanislaus, and Henry.

Mr. Toplis exhibited an interesting, yet simple, device to be used for sterilizing normal salt and other solutions. The device consisted of an ordinary galvanized iron bucket sufficiently large to contain eight one-pint bottles in an upright position, and provided with a cover. A raised inner bottom designed to give free circulation of water under the bottles consisted of a tin pie-plate, punctured liberally and used in an inverted position. To prevent ingress of contaminated air into the sterilized solutions, Mr. Toplis stoppers the bottles loosely with proper corks, the latter being covered with pleated parchment-paper caps of sufficient length to extend well down the lips of the bottles, these being drawn closely and tied when the operation is completed.

Mr. Cadmus submitted the report of his committee on the proposed additions to the N. F. The report was adopted and directed to be sent to the proper N. F. sub-committee.

AMBROSE HUNSBERGER, Secretary.



PHILADELPHIA BRANCH.

(March Meeting)

At the last meeting of this Branch, held on March 5, 1912, the following list of officers was elected to serve during the ensuing year:

President, Dr. F. E. Stewart; First Vice-

President, Samuel C. Henry; Second Vice-President, E. Fullerton Cook; Secretary, Ambrose Hunsberger; Treasurer, William McIntyre; Member of Council, Robert C. Cadmus.

Committee on Professional Relations—Frank E. Morgan, Wm. L. Cliffe, Dr. H. C. Wood, Jr.

Committee on Practical Pharmacy—Paul L. McConomy, Geo. M. Beringer, O. T. Osterlund.

Committee on Membership—Otto Krauss, J. W. England, W. E. Lee.

Committee on Program—The President, Secretary, Treasurer and the Chairmen of the above Committees.

A rousing vote of thanks was given the retiring officers for their efforts in the interest of the Branch during the past year.

With Mr. Beringer in the chair the scientific program of the evening was provided by retiring President Stanislaus.

This consisted of an extremely interesting and comprehensive paper on "Biebrich Scarlet and its Pharmacy and Chemistry" in which the writer considered every phase of the topic. No abstract is given as the paper will appear in its entirety.

The advisability of arranging for an exhibit at the approaching convention of the A. M. A. to be held at Atlantic City was referred to a committee consisting of Messrs. Blair, Beringer and Henry. In view of the splendid recognition accorded the exhibit made at a similar convention several years ago the committee will no doubt decide to repeat the demonstration.

A prolonged discussion followed a reference to the objectionable features of the Richardson Bill now before Congress. The Branch went on record as endorsing the suggestion of President Taft in the matter of therapeutic claims, but the question of stating the opposition of the Branch to certain other features of the bill was referred to the executive committee with power to act.

AMBROSE HUNSBERGER, Secretary.



PHILADELPHIA BRANCH.

SCIENTIFIC SECTION.

The meeting was called to order Tuesday, March 5, 1912, at 8 p. m., President LaWall presiding.

The topic of the evening was "The Organic Substances of the U. S. P."

The discussion of alkaloids, synthetics, essential and fixed oils, ferments, etc., was par-

ticipated in by Messrs. Beringer, England, Pancoast, Pearson, Rosengarten, Sadtler, Stanislaus, and others.

Dr. J. W. England read a paper on Creosote, calling attention to its variable nature and the difficulty of keeping it within standard limits. He recommends raising the standards for specific gravity and boiling point.

Professor Sadtler spoke of the action of the Revision Committee and commended a reduction in the Pharmacopœa tests so that only the most important ones would be retained, and feels that this would make the Pharmacopœa a much more practical volume.

Professor Pearson called attention to many imperfect tests and proposed a number of more practical ones and mentioned a number of substances which he thought would be well to incorporate in the Pharmacopœa.

He feels that the nomenclature of alkaloids should be retained so that the ending "ina" or "ine" should be used instead of the curtailed "in."

Professor Stanislaus called attention to the fact that the synthetic alkaloids are optically inactive while the natural alkaloids, with three exceptions, are optically active. He showed a sample of sandalwood oil containing 92% of Santalol, which he found to be prepared from 80% East India oil with 20% South American oil. The Amyris or South American oil increases the amount of Santalol present.

Since oil of wintergreen and oil of birch are identical, he recommended that the Pharmacopœa admit only oil of birch since its use is much more common.

Messrs. Rosengarten, Pearson, Sadtler, Pancoast and others gave a general discussion of the subject of the evening, thus producing a very interesting meeting throughout.

At the close of the program the election of officers for the ensuing year took place with the following result:

President—Professor C. H. Kimberly of the Medico-Chirurgical College.

Secretary—Professor F. P. Stroup of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy.

C. H. KIMBERLY, Secretary.



NASHVILLE BRANCH.

(February Meeting)

The regular monthly meeting of the Branch was held at Furman Hall, Vanderbilt, February 8, with Dr. J. O. Burge presiding.

The exhibition and criticism of the proposed formulæ of the new edition of the National Formulary was continued from last meeting.

Samples of the Salicylated Mixture of Iron were exhibited. A copious precipitate formed on mixing this was left on the filter. Warming this mixture before filtering was found to aid the solution of this precipitate considerably.

A sample of Compound Gargle of Guaiac exhibited was a very stable mixture.

Samples of Liquid Petrox were also shown. A sample made with the light oil made a clear preparation. Dr. Burge suggested the use of Spirit of Ammonia instead of Alcohol and Stronger Ammonia Water.

The sample of 10 percent Iodine Petrox was an elegant pharmaceutical. The Petroxoline preparations form emulsions that do not separate easily when mixed with water.

William R. White read a paper before the Branch on the subject "Pharmaceutical Arithmetic," in which some very interesting practical problems were discussed. Considerable discussion followed the reading of this paper.

A resolution was passed instructing the Secretary to write the Nashville Academy of Medicine in regard to the desirability of having a joint meeting of the two associations to discuss the samples of the proposed additions to the next edition of the National Formulary.

The subject assigned for the regular March meeting was "Disinfectants and How to Use Them."

William R. White,
Secretary.



NASHVILLE BRANCH.

(Joint Meeting with Academy of Medicine)

The Branch held a joint meeting with the Nashville Academy of Medicine Tuesday night, February 27, to discuss and criticize the formulæ and samples of the new preparations proposed for the next edition of the N. F., a very large crowd being present.

Dr. J. O. Burge spoke on the history and work of the Branch, and Dr. E. A. Ruddiman, after explaining the status of the N. F. and the objects of the meeting, exhibited samples and formulæ of the proposed preparations.

Quite a good deal of discussion was had and some very good criticisms were made by the physicians. A resolution was passed by the Academy that it was the sense of the

physicians that the number of formulæ should be lessened and the others simplified as much as possible.

The meeting was in most respects a harmonious one and expressions of good feeling were made by both bodies.



CHICAGO BRANCH.

(February Meeting)

The February meeting of the Chicago Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association was held at the University of Illinois School of Pharmacy on Tuesday evening, February 20. The program consisted of a lecture upon the National Formulary by Professor C. M. Snow, who displayed an extensive exhibit of preparations of the National Formulary. Professor Snow's talk was greatly enjoyed and was followed by a discussion, which was participated in by Professor Clark, Mr. Potts, Mr. Gray, Mr. Becker, Professor Patterson and other members of the Branch.

Secretary Day announced that the March meeting would be a notable one, and read a letter from Professor J. U. Lloyd accepting an invitation from the Branch to make an address at the next meeting. Professor Lloyd will talk about his travels in the Orient and will discuss the collection of drugs as witnessed by him during his travels.

The officers of the Branch have extended an invitation to the Chicago Retail Druggists' Association to make the March meeting a joint meeting of the Branch and the C. R. D. A.

The March meeting will be held on Thursday evening, March 21, the date having been changed to suit Professor Lloyd, who was unable to come for the regular meeting night.

A cordial invitation is extended to all the druggists of Chicago and vicinity to attend this meeting, which will be held at the Northwestern University Building, Lake and Dearborn streets.

W. B. DAY,
Secretary.



CHICAGO BRANCH.

(March Meeting)

The March meeting of the Chicago Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association was the most successful and most largely at-

tended meeting that the Branch has held for several years. By invitation of the Branch the Chicago Retail Druggists' Association joined with the Branch for this meeting and was well represented both in officers and in members.

The guest of the evening was Professor John Uri Lloyd who gave a most interesting talk concerning his travels in eastern lands and his observations concerning the collection and shipment of such drugs as opium, licorice, tragacanth, myrrh, frankincense, nutgalls, etc. Professor Lloyd's lecture was enlivened by many anecdotes and reminiscences and greatly delighted his auditors.

At the conclusion of the lecture Professor Lloyd was given a rising vote of thanks.

W. B. DAY, Secretary.



NORTHERN OHIO BRANCH.

The regular meeting of the Northern Ohio Branch was held at the Cleveland School of Pharmacy, March 8th. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, L. C. Hopp, Ph. G.; Vice-President, Wm. T. Hankey, Ph. G.; Secretary-Treasurer, T. Bernard Tanner, P. D.; Member of the Council, L. C. Hopp.

A very interesting paper was then presented by Professor N. A. Dubois, on The Test Solutions of the U. S. P., with a brilliant array of figures. Dr. Dubois pointed out the advantage of having the solutions made up according to normality instead of percentage strength, as they are at the present time.

The following took part in the discussion: L. C. Hopp, Professor Feil, John Krause, Wm. T. Hankey, Professor Tanner.

Professor Tanner then read a paper on the Solution of Magnesium Citrate, with a suggested modification in method of manufacture. Dr. Tanner said that he thought the present formula very satisfactory, but thought in view of the fact that unless the solution is protected by being distinctly acid precipitation will take place, that he could see no reason why the syrup of Citric Acid should

not be added at once, this additional quantity of acid seemingly to promote the formation of a bicarbonate after the potassium bicarbonate had been added. Mr. Hankey said that he had used the method suggested by Professor Tanner for over twenty years and was surprised that the majority of pharmacists did not know of it. The paper was very thoroughly discussed by L. C. Hopp, W. F. Fox, Professor Feil, Wm. T. Hankey, John Krause and others. Professor Tanner presented examples of the solution prepared by the method which were practically permanent.

Mr. Hopp then brought up the discussion of Ointments, Ungt. Phenolis being discussed particularly. It was the unanimous opinion of everyone present that the addition of wax to the base of this Ointment would be a decided advantage. Mr. Hopp also spoke of the duo-decimal system for the manufacture of Triturations, saying that since the Troy system was still in great use, he thought twelve a better figure than ten.

The subject of manufacture of Glycerin suppositories was then quite fully discussed by Hopp, Tanner, Feil, Hankey and others.

T. BERNARD TANNER, Secretary.



DENVER BRANCH.

The Denver Branch gave a dinner at the Traffic Club Tuesday evening, February 20, at which Messrs. Robert S. Hiltner, W. A. Hover, L. B. Bridaham and E. L. Scholtz were guests of honor.

The dinner was followed by the regular meeting, which President Best called to order at 8:30 p. m. The minutes of the January meeting were read and approved. Mr. Bresler reported the election of Mr. Jeanson as Secretary of the Program Committee. •

Mr. Robert S. Hiltner, Chief of the U. S. Food and Drug Inspection Laboratory of Denver, who was on the program for a paper on Drug Adulteration, was then called on by the President.

A hearty vote of thanks showed the appreciation of Mr. Hiltner's paper.

The Richardson amendment of the Federal Food and Drugs Act, which was on the program for discussion, was now taken up. Mr. Nitardy read a paper which he stated had been written for the February issue of the Rocky Mountain Druggist. A very lively discussion ensued. Mr. Clayton stated that

in his opinion the sentence in Sec. 8, making any drug misbranded "when represented to the public as having any remedial property," was rather radical and would make it impossible to sell any kind of a patent medicine.

Mr. Ford explained that in this sentence lay the life and value of the proposed amendment. As long as the ruling of the Supreme Court regarding therapeutic statements, as illustrated in the Johnson Cancer Cure case, would stand, it would be impossible to make a law forbidding lies on the label. The only manner in which the evil can be checked lies in forbidding all therapeutic claims on the label. The amendment if passed would not prohibit the sale of patents, but would prohibit any and all therapeutic claims, false or true, on the label. Preparations would be sold on their merit only. To illustrate the point, he said that under the new amendment castor oil might be sold under a label stating that it is castor oil and a laxative or cathartic, to be taken in such or such doses; but if the label should state that it was a remedy or cure for constipation, the article would be deemed misbranded. Mr. Ford further stated that it must be remembered that the law would only affect interstate traffic and that a drastic federal law would be a protection to the individual states. Under present conditions state laws are nullified because merchants from outside states can ship in anything and everything so long as they do not violate the federal law.

Mr. Bresler spoke along the same line, giving illustrations where our pharmacy law was made void through the lack of sufficiently stringent federal laws.

Mr. Hover thought that lye and tobacco had no proper place in a Food and Drugs law and should not be included. Others could see no objection to including them. Surely no harm could come from the honest labeling of these articles, even though they may not be properly classed as foods or drugs.

Mr. Clayton expressed himself on this subject by saying that he believed that we were coming towards a time of honest merchandising, a time where not only foods and drugs but all manner of merchandise would have to be true to label or claims made for it, and the sooner we would reach this point the better for all concerned. His remarks were applauded by all.

Mr. Nitardy criticised the amendment for permitting official drugs and preparations to

be sold under official names when they deviate from the official standard, and offered the following resolution:

"Be it Resolved, By the Denver Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association, that we recommend that the Food and Drugs Act of June 30, 1906, be so amended that all articles sold for medicinal purposes that are recognized by United States Pharmacopœia or National Formulary shall conform to the official standard and be deemed misbranded if they do not conform to the standards laid down by these authorities; provided, that they may be sold when not conforming to these standards if plainly labeled, 'Not for Medicinal Use.'"

After a lively debate the provision was added to the resolution by Mr. Nitardy, its final form being the above mentioned. A motion to adopt the resolution was carried by unanimous vote.

It was decided to consider the Richardson amendment further at the next meeting, as the bill had not been thoroughly studied by all members.

F. W. NITARDY, Secretary.

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CITY OF WASHINGTON BRANCH (February Meeting)

The February meeting of the City of Washington Branch was held on February 21, 1912, in the Trustees' Room, National College of Pharmacy, George Washington University.

After completing the routine business before the Branch, and discussing the acceptance of the invitation of Dr. True to visit the drug gardens at Arlington, Va., the proposed Petrox preparations were discussed.

A motion was duly made and carried to accept the invitation of Dr. True, and the time of the visit was set for May.

The first of the Petrox preparations to be discussed was Liquid Petrox. Several samples of this preparation made on various dates were exhibited.

A motion that it be recommended that the directions for making this preparation be so amended as to read that heat be used only when the preparation is not clear, was carried.

At this point a very interesting letter from Dr. Thum of the Philadelphia, Pa., German Hospital was read. He recited his experiences with this preparation and suggested a modified formula with which he had had much success.

The difficulty in getting stronger ammonia water which had not lost considerable of its strength for making this preparation brought up a discussion as to the merits of anhydrous ammonia for preparing ammonia water, stronger ammonia water, and spirit of ammonia. A letter from Edward Mallinckrodt calling attention to the danger of explosion from the too rapid evaporation of the ammonia, causing a vacuum to form; the cylinders then refilling by sucking back (usually unnoticed by operator), and then because of an insufficiency of space being left in the cylinders for expansion, they are liable to explode with the rising temperature. Very serious accidents have occurred, it was stated, from this cause, and would be more likely to occur when the anhydrous ammonia was handled by inexperienced druggists and their assistants. Mr. Mallinckrodt recommended that the handling of anhydrous ammonia be limited to experienced refrigerating engineers. Nevertheless, it was shown that stronger ammonia and spirit of ammonia could be prepared at a considerable saving, and it was then assured that these preparations would be of the full strength essential in the making of Liquid Petrox and numerous other preparations.

Great care should be taken in the selection of the alcohol and the stronger ammonia water used in Liquid Petrox, for if the ammonia water has lost part of its strength, and the alcohol is not U. S. P. standard, the finished preparations will be unsatisfactory and may be of numerous varied colors.

Considerable criticism was made of the idea of having so many preparations combining Liquid Petrox with medicaments where no technical skill was required to mix, and burdening the National Formulary in this manner.

A motion, therefore, was made wherein it was recommended that the National Formulary have but one basic Liquid Petrox preparation, that under its subject matter, statements be made showing that various medicaments readily soluble therein, that in certain percentages they are best fitted for dispensing in said basic preparation, and that in the event a physician prescribes one of the medicaments listed, failing to state the strength he wishes, the strength recommended under the subject matter of Liquid Petrox be dispensed.

In the samples of Iodine Petrox, 5%, presented, crystals of Iodine were present and a

sediment of Ammonium Iodide and Iodate was in the bottle. The 10% solution was in almost the same condition.

A new formula for the 10% Iodine Petrox was suggested, as follows:

Iodine	10.
Alcohol	15.
Acid Oleic.....	15.
Liq. Petrox, qs.....	100.

The sample of Iodoform Petrox was wholly unsatisfactory. Free iodine was present and a distinct odor of acetone was distinguishable.

Attention was called to the improper naming of Sulphur Petrox, which should be called Balsam of Sulphur Petrox; and Compound Sulphur Petrox, which should be named Compound Balsam of Sulphur Petrox.

Attention was invited to the fact that both iodoform and sulphur when mixed with solid petrox, made excellent extemporaneous preparations and can be most successfully dispensed in that manner.

The samples of solid petrox made according to the proposed formula were unsatisfactory as each had separated into layers.

The following formulas, both of which have been successfully made and used, were presented:

(1) Paraffin	25.
Liq. Petrox	20.
Woolfat (anhydrous).....	10.
Oleic Acid	3.2
Oil Lavender	3.
Alcohol	5.
Stronger Ammonia	5.
(2) Spermaceti	20.
White Wax	15.
Liq. Petrox	20.
Oleic Acid	3.2
Oil Lavender Flowers.....	3.
Alcohol	5.
Ammonia Stronger	5.

A modified formula for Mercury Petrox, the sample of which made according to the proposed formula being unsatisfactory, was proposed by Dr. Hilton, as follows:

Mercury	30.
Oleate of Mercury.....	2.
Anhydrous Woolfat	13.
Solid Petrox	55.

Triturate the mercury with the oleate of mercury in a warm mortar until globules of the intimately distributed metal are no longer visible. When the mixture is examined under a lens magnifying ten diameters, incorporate the woolfat, and then the solid petroxolin thoroughly.

Dr. Flemer then read a paper on the derivation of the word "Elixir," and cited numerous authorities to show that the derivation is uncertain and the meaning varied. Several criticisms were made of the United States Pharmacopœa, and National Formulary for not containing a definition for this word and hope was expressed that the deficiency would be remedied.

A motion was made that the title Essence of Pepsin be changed to Elixir of Pepsin and Rennin Compound, with Essence of Pepsin and Elixir of Pepsin as synonyms. This recommendation supersedes that made in the January meeting relative to the name of this preparation.

HENRY B. FLOYD,
Secretary.



CITY OF WASHINGTON BRANCH

(March Meeting)

The March meeting of the City of Washington Branch was held March 13, 1912, at the National College of Pharmacy, Washington, D. C., and at the suggestion of President Flemer there was a general discussion of the merits of fluidextracts as preparations. Mr. Flemer, from his own experiences, believes that the fluidextracts of the U. S. P. and N. F. are impracticable to make in small quantity, and can seldom be satisfactorily diluted.

Dr. Kalusowski, Dr. Kebler, and Mr. Wilbert recited their views in the matter, all concurring in the belief that all the fluidextracts with the exception of about six, were not a credit to American pharmacy, and merely offer an opportunity for making tinctures, infusions, decoctions, syrups and other preparations in a manner not sanctioned by the U. S. P. or the N. F. Especial attention was invited to fluidextract of digitalis, as an example in support of this latter statement. It was stated that physicians are discontinuing the use of infusion of digitalis, because they can not get the results expected, and merely because the pharmacist makes the infusion

from the fluidextract. The product made from the leaves is entirely different from that made from the fluidextract, and therefore the expected results could not be obtained.

Strong protest was made against the policy of manufacturing pharmacists giving formulas for making tinctures, infusions, syrups, and other preparations on the labels of bottle containing fluidextracts. It was pointed out that the original fluidextracts were intended for internal administration, without dilution, but that this idea in their manufacture had long ceased to exist, and the tendency now is to produce a basic preparation for the making of other preparations of the same drug.

It was stated by Dr. Kalusowski that more fluidextracts were consumed by patent medicine manufacturers, than in any other way, and the next largest use for such preparations was for preparing compressed tablets.

Following this discussion a motion was made, and carried, that the addition of fluidextracts to the U. S. P. or N. F. be discouraged.

Fluidglycerates were then considered. The consensus of opinion was that there was little need for such preparations in the U. S. P. or in the N. F., and that they would not make desirable additions thereto. Of the samples of the fluidglycerates proposed for the National Formulary, which had been prepared by Dr. Hilton and submitted by him for the inspection of the branch, glyccyrhizæ appeared the most useful and elegant. A slight excess of ammonia was noted, although Dr. Hilton expressed his opinion that more ammonia was required.

A motion was made, and carried, that the City of Washington Branch deprecate the addition of any preparation or preparations to the National Formulary for which there is no actual demand and but little use, and that as fluidglycerates fell under this class of preparations, it was recommended that they be not added to the list of preparations to be included in that work.

The next meeting of the Branch was ordered to be held on April 10, 1912, at the National College of Pharmacy, and be devoted to a discussion of the granular salts proposed for the National Formulary, and to the reading of papers on Glycerin and Bees' Wax, by Mr. Fuller, and Dr. Kebler.

HENRY B. FLOYD, Secretary.

PITTSBURGH BRANCH.

The March 12th meeting of the Pittsburgh Branch was again favored by a good attendance of students, while the excellent promise held out by the program brought together a number of representative men in pharmacy, among them Dr. J. H. Beal, General Secretary of the American Pharmaceutical Association, and Editor of the Association Journal.

Dr. A. F. Judd suggested that the holding of the meetings on Tuesday evening interfered materially with the attendance of the senior students, many of whom are much interested in the work of the Branch, and submitted a proposition in writing, as required by the by-laws, to be acted upon at the next meeting, fixing the second Friday of each month as the time for the regular meetings hereafter.

A communication was read from the President of the National Association of Pharmacologists, accompanied by a draft of a proposed act of legislature providing for reciprocity in registration of pharmacists between the states. An interesting discussion followed as to the wisdom of this Branch acting thereon as requested, during which Dr. Beal stated that while he favored reciprocity in registration, he did not think the form of bill proposed would meet the situation. In this view Dr. Emanuel, President of the Pennsylvania State Board, warmly coincided. The communication was received and placed on file.

Dr. Emanuel presented a valuable paper bearing upon the proposed Richardson amendment to the Federal Food and Drugs Act. In the course of his paper Dr. Emanuel says:

"Now is the accepted time for the parent body, the A. Ph. A., to make good its aim to suppress empiricism, and to restrict the dispensing and sale of medicines to properly educated druggists and apothecaries, as expressed in paragraph five of its constitution. Here is an opportunity that will not come soon again, for this bill will surely prove a solar plexus blow to proprietary and secret medicines. All legislation should aim to protect and benefit the ultimate consumer, and this is certainly the aim of this bill. I would like to have the pharmacists wake up and take enough interest in the bill so that when properly amended it will, as a secondary re-

sult, take care of their interests and, at the same time, keep medical practitioners from added aggressiveness."

Dr. Emanuel then suggested several important amendments, among them that the term misbranded shall apply "If the compounder or vender thereof is not authorized under the law of the state or community to practice pharmacy where the article is produced or offered for sale directly to the consumer." "When represented to the public in any manner as having any remedial property which cannot be substantiated by authorities on medicine, therapeutics or pharmacology." "If any statement or expression of opinion concerning its physiological, therapeutic, remedial or nutritive property be made or promulgated in any manner so as to deceive or mislead the purchaser or the prescriber."

Dr. Kutscher insisted that the bill in its present shape would prohibit the sale of a large number of the most commonly used and innocently sold drugs by the pharmacist, and for which there exists perfectly legitimate uses.

Dr. Beal said: "The bill evidently does not meet the intention of its author, as can be readily seen by the language used in its construction. I am free to confess that if some of the indefinite provisions were eliminated or corrected, I strongly favor the bill. The provision permitting U. S. P. and N. F. preparations to differ from the official formula when so stated on the label is the same as in the present law, and is necessary, but should be guarded by amendment to prevent abuse. Experience under the present Food and Drug Law clearly shows that the privilege has been exercised more frequently for fraudulent than for righteous purposes. Permissible variation is oftentimes a necessity, as, for instance, where an article is intended for purely technical or commercial purposes, and not for medicinal use, and the word *technical* conspicuously placed upon the label should be sufficient. Where the spirit content constitutes the variation it could be clearly expressed by stating the percentage of alcohol present."

Discussion of proposed N. F. formulas was participated in by Drs. Kutscher, Saalbach, Judd, Koch and Emanuel. *Mistura Ferri Salicylatis*, which had been referred to a special committee for experimentation, was

given much attention. Dr. Saalbach reported that a perfectly clear mixture results from the addition of a larger amount of ammonium carbonate than the formula contains, and presented a new working formula for presentation to the committee. Dr. Emanuel suggested that attention should be given to the matter of decomposition and to what changes take place, and why the citric acid and the ammonia are used. Dr. Koch said the latter ingredient is necessary to dissolve the sodium salicylate. Mr. Campbell asked for suggestions as to why this preparation is being given consideration, but none were forthcoming. Dr. Saalbach also presented several samples of the *Petroxolin* preparations, and said that the N. F. process will not produce complete saponification, hence he had resorted to a different method by which a perfectly clear mixture is brought about.

Dr. Judd, who had undertaken to prepare a sample of *Extractum Cinchonæ Liquidum*, said he had repented of his rash promise long before reaching the goal of a finished product. Trouble began at the point where the instructions read, "then allow the percolation to proceed slowly until the *Cinchona* is exhausted." After having used up something like eight litres of water the point of exhaustion (except in his own person) seemed to be still somewhere in the remote future, while the water was running up the figures on the water meter, and when he realized that his finished product was to measure but one litre, his mind reverted to what was going to happen to the gas meter when evaporation set in, then he got cold feet and threw up the job. He recommended that owing to the impracticability of the pharmacist preparing this formula in the pharmacy it had better be eliminated.

The balance of the time of the session was given over to Dr. J. H. Wurdack who, starting with the crude ore, carried his audience through all the processes involved in the fire assay of ores to determine their value in content of the noble metals. He had a complete outfit of tools, utensils and appliances at hand and at the proper point made each ones use apparent, and was given a very enthusiastic vote of appreciation by his audience.

P. E. PRITCHARD,
Secretary.