

EDITORIAL

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THE GOING AND THE COMING YEAR.

PROGRESS has been compared with the seed that is brought to blossom and the blossom that comes to fruition. Our activities and developments are continuous—our work is builded on the past. The results of a year's work are appraised according to the viewpoints of individuals; the possibilities of an association in a succeeding year may be differently estimated, but they are largely dependent upon the energetic enthusiasm of its members—their belief in the usefulness of the association and their ability to accomplish the purposes of the organization.

No attempt will be made to speak of all of the accomplishments of the American Pharmaceutical Association during the year, for these have only recently been reported in the pages of the *JOURNAL*; at this time the references, for reasons indicated, will be very brief.

A plan for readjusting the activities of the Association for better and greater service of American pharmacy was adopted at the Cleveland meeting, and this may be termed the unfolding of thoughts in a plan of action; further progress is to come through its activation. A desire to promote the usefulness of the Association was evidenced by the purpose to coördinate the efforts of national and state organizations; the subject is ably presented by Chairman E. F. Kelly in the editorial of the September *JOURNAL*, p. 664.

Research has been perhaps too frequently the theme of the *JOURNAL*'s editorials but in the list of important accomplishments of this year the organization of the National Conference on Pharmaceutical Research must be assigned a prominent place. The last number of the *JOURNAL* recorded the minutes of the Scientific Section and also investigations promoted by the Association's Research Fund, and others are still to be printed.

Codes of ethics are the means by which groups keep their members socially victorious over self and develop an interest in those served. The first code of ethics of the American Pharmaceutical Association was approved soon after its organization; a revised code was adopted at the Cleveland meeting.

The American Pharmaceutical Association has always stood for enforcement of law; no organization has more promptly recognized the necessity for regulations applying to pharmacy nor has any body more earnestly formulated laws governing the sale of narcotics, with due and rational regard for the practice of medicine, while safeguarding the public. In legislative matters the Association has been consistently active during the year. A Model Pharmacy Law is nearing completion, and foundations have been laid for properly defining a poison. A Year Book has been completed and copy for another volume of this important reference work is ready for the publishers. Progress is being made with the A. Ph. A. Book of Formulas, and that in the revision of the National Formulary has been reported from time to time, promising not only a practical standard but one which shows the advancement of pharmacy during recent years. The revised edition of the Pharmaceutical Syllabus has been completed and that, too, speaks well for the

observant and careful revisers. The U. S. Pharmacopoeia is not a product of the Association, but nearly all of the members of the committee in charge and other officials of the Revision are members. The work promises to maintain the standing attained by this official standard and conforms with modern advancement in pharmacy.

These few notations are sufficient to encourage us to meet the coming year with renewed assurance of continued progress. The membership of the Association has grown, necessitating a larger monthly printing of the JOURNAL; fortunately there has been an increased net income which offsets the larger corresponding expense of production. Related publications of other organizations dare to request their members to speak for the encouragement of their official organs, so that their income may be increased and their service improved and, in that same spirit, we invite the active coöperation of our members.

The possibilities of the Association are largely dependent on the morale of the members. "Morale," as Herman J. Stich has said, "is born of confidence—the confidence created by faith and determination, by enthusiasm and unflagging energy."
E. G. E.

REËDUCATION OF PHARMACISTS.

MANY medical colleges provide opportunities for physicians and surgeons to come back to the class room, clinic and lecture hall for the betterment of their powers of serving the public health. In most instances, perhaps, these special courses are designed for surgeons and physicians who wish to brush up on specialties or get the benefit of later science in surgery or the general practice of medicine. Related work is arranged for in programs of local medical associations, which include occasional invitations to experts from other localities. The need of reëducation by medical men is quite generally recognized and is a commendable practice which inures to the public's health and welfare, and it is the recognition of the latter results, by the public, that has proved of great value to the medical profession.

The situation as to pharmacy is somewhat different—relatively more information can be gained for the pharmacists' application from publications than is possible in surgery and the specialties in medical practice, wherein observation is of great importance—the pharmacy owner can employ those who have had later opportunities in pharmacy schools. It is possible, however, to utilize colleges and schools, local, state and national organizations to a larger extent by a greater number for reëducation in pharmacy. Reference was made in the November issue of the JOURNAL to an article by Prof. Wilbur L. Scoville on "High-brow Stuff and the Prescription Counter," which is applicable, in a degree, to the subject. More practicing pharmacists should become active in the Branches of the American Pharmaceutical Association; they should assist in arranging the programs so they will be of interest and service to them. Coöperation of hospital pharmacists and of those engaged in retail pharmacies will prove helpful to both classes and subserve pharmacy in general, and such participation and reëducation will produce other values, for which pharmacists are constantly striving. E. G. E.

May you have the joy of Christmas charity, and the happiness of health and success during 1923.—THE EDITOR.