

## EDITORIAL NOTES

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### THE TREATMENT OF CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING.

Carbon monoxide poisoning is one of the most widely distributed and most frequent of industrial accidents, says the U. S. Public Health Service. The gas is without color, odor or taste. It is an ever-present danger about blast and coke furnaces and foundries. It may be found in a building having a leaky furnace or chimney or a gas stove without flue connection, such as a tenement, tailor shop, or boarding house. The exhaust gases of gasoline automobiles contain from 4 to 12 percent of carbon monoxide, and in closed garages men are not infrequently found dead beside a running motor. A similar danger may arise from gasoline engines in launches. The gas is formed also in stoke-rooms, in gun turrets on battleships, in petroleum refineries, and in the Leblanc soda process in cement and brick plants. In underground work it may appear as the result of shot firing mine explosions, or mine fires, or in tunnels from automobile exhausts or from coal or oil burning locomotives.

Carbon monoxide exerts its extremely dangerous action on the body by displacing oxygen from its combination with hemoglobin, the coloring matter of the blood which normally absorbs oxygen from the air in the lungs and delivers it to the different tissues of the body.

Oxygen will replace carbon monoxide in combination with hemoglobin whenever the proportion of oxygen in the lungs is overwhelmingly greater. Therefore:

1. Administer oxygen as quickly as possible, and in as pure form as is obtainable, preferably from a cylinder of oxygen through an inhaler mask.

2. Remove patient from atmosphere containing carbon monoxide.

3. If breathing is feeble, at once start artificial respiration by the prone posture method.

4. Keep the victim flat, quiet, and warm.

5. Afterwards give plenty of rest.

### DELETERIOUS EFFECTS OF ACACIA FOR TRANSFUSION.

In an article "Hemorrhage as a Form of Asphyxia" (*Journal A. M. A.*, March 11, 1922, p. 697) Henderson and Haggard point out that although acacia solution is apparently distinctly beneficial, immediately after injection, it does not improve the chance of recovery of animals which have been subjected to the so-called "Standard Hemorrhage."

The foregoing statement is taken from an editorial of the *Journal A. M. A.* under above caption; reference is also made therein to a report of the Swedish surgeon, H. Olivecrona, wherein he warns against the indiscriminate use of acacia in intravenous injections, and the *Journal* quotes G. N. Stewart (Cleveland) as saying, that "the use of acacia is unphysiologic." The editorial closes with the comment that "the intravenous method of administering drugs is always accompanied by considerable risk of injury to the patient. It is unjustified with new and untried remedies, and even with those which chemically and pharmacologically appear to be inert and inactive."

### ERGOT AND ERGOT SUBSTITUTES.

Of all the active substances that have been extracted from ergot, Stoll's ergotamine appears to be the most important. This substance has been obtained in well-defined crystals, and exists in ergot of rye in very varying amounts, and may even be altogether absent. Even in exceedingly dilute solution it produces long-continued contraction of the uterus, depresses the blood pressure, produces the char-

acteristic action on the comb and wattle of fowls, etc. Other active constituents of ergot preparations are tyramine, histamine, and ergotoxine. Tyramine and histamine do not stand in any relation to ergotamine; they are to be regarded as intermediate substances resulting from the decomposition of proteids. It has been shown by Guggisberg and Bigler that an ergot extract is continually altering in physiological activity, and probably the change in the physiological action proceeds *pari passu* with the progressive decomposition of the proteids involved. These products may at first be useful and the ergot preparation active, but eventually these useful substances undergo further change and the ergot preparation becomes inactive. Among the proposed substitutes for ergot the following may be mentioned: *Capsella Bursa-pastoris*, *Senecio vulgaris*, *Erigeron canadense*, *Hedera helix*, *Gossypium herbaceum*, *Erodium cicutarium*, *urtica urens*, *U. dioica*, and *Ustilago maidis*. These do not contain ergotamine or any substance corresponding to it, but yet in some cases exhibit an action resembling that of ergot. Such an action would be shown by those that contain active intermediate or end-products of the decomposition of proteids, as, for instance, *Capsella Bursa-pastoris*, which has been shown to contain tyramine. This plant also contains the very active acetylcholine which has possibly been derived from choline. Considering how rich fungi are in proteids, it is surprising that so few are known to possess properties similar to those of ergot.—A. Tschirch (*Schweiz, Apoth. Zeit.*, 60, p. 1; through *Journal and Pharmacist*, March 11, '22, p. 196).

"WHAT OUGHT THE UNITED STATES PHARMACOPOEIA TO CONTAIN?"

Under above caption,\* Dr. Horatio C. Wood, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Scope of U. S. P. Revision Committee, points out certain inaccuracies in the article by Dr. Osborne printed in the *Journal A. M. A.*, March 4, p. 639.

"First, the final decision as to the admissibility of therapeutic agents now rests solely in the hands of the medical members of the committee.

"Second, Dr. Osborne gives a list of 'substances recommended for deletion because they cannot be standardized.' On this list are a number of substances which both can be, and are, standardized. Many urgently

require standardization; for instance, if there were no legal standard for distilled water, pharmacists would be at liberty to employ any kind of water, which in case of certain drugs—as silver nitrate—might have serious influence on the final result of the prescription. Again, when we remember what a variety of substances are sold under the name of soap, some of them containing free alkali, some containing various irritant fatty acids or poisonous coloring matters, and when we remember that soap is an ingredient in compound cathartic pills and other preparations for internal use, it appears that soap is in much need of pharmaceutical standardization. What Dr. Osborne means by the expression 'cannot' be standardized is a little obscure. Why a standard for flaxseed (*linum*) is any less explicit or enforceable than a standard for strophanthus seed does not appear obvious. Of the list of substances which he says cannot be standardized, the great majority are standardized.

"Third, in regard to the spices, there is room for difference of opinion as to which are of sufficient therapeutic importance to justify recognition; but to dismiss them all cavalierly with the statement that 'such aromatic oils as are needed may be listed' seems to be going too far. For instance, oils of capsicum and of ginger are neither commercial articles nor therapeutically active. I myself greatly prefer powdered mustard seed as a counterirritant to the oil of mustard. (Incidentally, Dr. Osborne later dismisses mustard oil.) It should be remembered that there are few substances on the market more freely adulterated than the spices. If they have therapeutic uses, which I believe some of them do have, they require standardization.

"Fourth, Dr. Osborne gives a long list of drugs and preparations that he believes are therapeutically undesirable. Such expressions of personal views may be of value if collected from a large number of sources, but Dr. Osborne makes the very common mistake of forgetting that the Pharmacopoeia is the legal standard for drugs from the Philippines to Cuba and from Alaska to Florida, and that the citizen of San Francisco or New Orleans has just as much right to protection from impure drugs as the citizen of New Haven. For example, Dr. Osborne apparently uses sodium bromide in preference to all others; other physicians prefer the ammonium or calcium salt. There are quite a number of drugs on his list that he believes should be

\* *Journal A. M. A.*, March 25, p. 915.

deleted which I have used frequently with great satisfaction. He may not like the flavor of anise water, but many persons do, and find it a very useful vehicle. As Dr. Osborne does not specialize in skin diseases, he naturally has little use for sodium thiosulphate or diachylon ointment; but both are widely used by dermatologists.

"Another common error into which Dr. Osborne falls is forgetting that substances, not directly valuable themselves as therapeutic agents, are important as the source of widely used drugs. For instance, granulated ferrous sulphate, which he would delete from the Pharmacopoeia, is one of the bases of the very popular Bland's pill; hypophosphorus acid is used in the preparation of syrup of ferrous iodide; lead oxide is an essential in the preparation of solution of lead subacetate, etc. Any assertion that a chemical which enters into a pharmaceutical preparation does not require standardization I cannot assent to. If, for instance, in the manufacture of syrup of ferrous iodide, a hypophosphorus acid was used which was contaminated with barium or oxalic acid (each of which is used in manufacturing hypophosphorus acid) the finished syrup might be highly toxic.

"The Subcommittee on Scope realizes that it is impossible to make a pharmacopoeia which would meet all of the widely divergent views of the medical profession as to what should be included; but it has striven to reflect the usage of the great mass of the competent physicians of the country."

#### REMEDIES FOR CERTAIN DEFECTS IN MEDICAL ORGANIZATION AND SERVICE.

In a comprehensive paper, published in the *Monthly Bulletin* of the Department of Health, Dr. Louis I. Harris, Director of the Bureau of Preventable Diseases, after reviewing and commenting upon "factors which have operated to create the present unorganized and confused state of medical practice and of private welfare activities" makes certain proposals for reorganization. "It is strange," he says, "how the medical profession has failed to recognize the remarkable opportunities there are, for service primarily, and for personal benefit as well, in practice which is reorganized so as actually to make the prevention of disease a conspicuous part of everyday work."

In a foreword to Dr. Harris's statement, Health Commissioner Copeland said: "Al-

though I do not endorse or share some of the critical views expressed by Dr. Harris, I commend his chief proposals for the reorganization of medical practice to the judgment of the members of the medical profession."

Dr. Harris said that to ignore the new social demands that have arisen for those who practice medicine is to challenge various lay groups to take entirely into their own hands the reorganization and the control of medical service. He said that there are being established medical enterprises and institutions which threaten the stability of the present system of medical service and increase the existing confusion. In the face of this, he said, some doctors are lulled into fancied security by their ready acceptance of assurances that the prevalence and the effects of poverty have been greatly exaggerated, and that the number of sick who are without medical care is negligible.

"The medical profession has been aroused from its apathy," Dr. Harris said. "The challenge this situation offers and the inroads which pseudo-scientific and pseudo-religious and commercial cults and frauds of various kinds have made upon the medical profession have thus far failed to bring leaders with large vision in whose support the profession could be united. Under the circumstances, private, semi-private and official organizations have dominated the situation. The medical profession in default of such broad-minded and able leadership has thus far waged what in effect has been a defensive and obstructive campaign.

"The quacks, the faith healers, the varied types of masseurs in masquerade, the spine drummers and the joint manipulators, and others who have exalted a single weapon or method of regular practice into a 'system' of healing and cure-all, are never reserved in the promises they hold forth, nor are they embarrassed by humility or modesty. Compare their effrontery with the humility of Virchow, a great pathfinder in medicine and a successful physician."

Dr. Harris said that the development of specialists has reached a point where it affects the economic status of the general profession and the public as well. While no just person, he said, would begrudge the surgeon who performed a difficult operation a reasonable compensation for his service, it cannot be overlooked that in many cases the work of specialists is either greatly overpaid or is

rewarded out of all proportion to the fees paid general practitioners.

Dr. Harris says that economic difficulties are likely to result from the pay clinic. Especially do these clinics affect the specialist since it has been shown, he said, that a great majority of dispensary cases come for specialists' consideration.

#### PERSONAL AND NEWS ITEMS.

**Dr. H. V. Army** has been named Remington Medalist for 1922. This is the third award; the others thus honored are Prof. John Uri Lloyd and Dr. James H. Beal.

The Remington medal is awarded annually by a committee consisting of the former presidents of the American Pharmaceutical Association, the secretary of the New York branch acting as secretary for this committee. The 1922 award of the medal will take place at a banquet tendered to Professor Army by the New York branch at the Hotel Pennsylvania on the evening of May 15. Dr. Jacob Diner, the senior former president of the branch, will make the award.

**Prof. Joseph L. Mayer** of the Brooklyn College of Pharmacy was tendered a dinner commemorating the 25th anniversary of his service in the institution of which he is a faculty member. The event was celebrated April 11 at the Hotel Bossert, Brooklyn, and more than 200 friends of the honor guest were present; Dr. William C. Anderson presided as toastmaster. Among the speakers were Drs. Jacob Diner, Royal S. Copeland, Elias H. Bartley and Leon Lascoff. Congratulatory letters and telegrams from various sections of the state and adjoining states were read. Professor Mayer was presented with a watch, chain and charm, so that he may time the next quarter of a century in a continued useful service.

**Dr. Frederick B. Power**, in charge of the phyto-chemical laboratory of the Bureau of Chemistry, has been named as representative of the bureau in the Division of Federal Relations of the National Research Council.

More than fifty years have passed since the Chicago fire. *The Chemist and Druggist* of April 15, 1872 announced that "the list of contributors to the Chicago College Fund will be closed." The sum donated by British druggists amounted to about 500 guineas; besides many books and apparatus.

The centenary of Pasteur's birth will be celebrated May to October of next year. It

is proposed to erect a statue facing the Strasbourg University, where, as a professor, Pasteur commenced his work. An exhibition of hygiene and bacteriology will be opened and a congress of scientists engaged in these branches will be held.

This centennial year of Pasteur should encourage research endowments.

**A. Ph. A. Fund for Research.**—The American Pharmaceutical Association has available a sum amounting to \$360, which will be expended after October 1, 1922, for the encouragement of research.

Investigators desiring financial aid in their work will communicate before June 1, with Prof. H. V. Army, Chairman of the A. Ph. A. Research Committee, 115 West 68th St., New York, giving their past record and outlining the particular line of work for which the grant is desired.

**Baskerville Scholarship Planned by Students.**—A fund to establish a scholarship at the College of the City of New York as a tribute to the memory of Dr. Baskerville, head of the department of chemistry since 1904, has been started by students of the day and evening sessions.

Current plans provide for the presentation of an annual prize, but it is hoped ultimately to establish a Baskerville Research Scholarship in Chemistry.

Friends and neighbors of **Dr. Henry H. Rusby** to the number of over a hundred gathered in the forum room of the Forest Hill (Newark, N. J.) Presbyterian Church on the evening of April 6 to do honor to the returned explorer, who, with Mrs. Rusby and their daughter, Miss Marguerite, was present.

Curtis R. Burnett presided. Rev. John S. Carlile spoke at length, others made brief remarks and all joined in the welcome and congratulations.

Three other members of the Mulford Expedition have arrived at home; they are: Dr. William Mann, assistant entomologist of the United States Department of Agriculture; Orland E. White, botanist of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, and Nathan E. Pearson, assistant ichthyologist of the University of Indiana.

**H. C. Christensen**, secretary of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy with the collaboration of other N. A. B. P. officials, has prepared a chart giving a tabulated summary of requirements for state pharmaceutical licensure. While the secretary asks for further

suggestions to extend the usefulness of the compilation, the work reflects credit and shows painstaking care.

Greater uniformity in legislation is evident, but there is possibility and necessity for further improvement, and this tabulation points the way.

**Dean Dr. Jacob Diner** of Fordham University College of Pharmacy was presented with a Hudson automobile by the students, alumni and faculty members, also with a framed testimonial expressing the friendship and esteem of the donors. Professors Gustave Horstmann and Otto Canis spoke for the faculty; Messrs. Robinson, Strauss and Israel represented the classes and alumni.

**Charles L. Parsons**, secretary of the American Chemical Society, has submitted an offer for the Muscle Shoals project. There seems to be little information available about it. It is said to be contingent upon government completion of the dams, and to contemplate development of nitrogen industries at the Shoals.

Page 1 of No. 1, volume 1 of *The Squibb Message* carries a good picture of the late Dr. Edward R. Squibb. The purpose of the publication is expressed in the hope that it will promote the broader harmony between producer and retailer that makes for joint success.

*Revista del Colegio Farmaceutico de la Habana* is the name of a new pharmaceutical publication of Cuba which is in charge of Drs. Felipe Pazos, Francisco de la Carreva and Ignacio G. Noble. The journal will devote attention to pharmacy, the pharmaceutical associations and the College of Pharmacy. There is evident throughout the spirit to advance professional pharmacy. We extend best wishes for success and hope the publication will be represented at the seventieth meeting of the American Pharmaceutical Association, and that many of the pharmacists of our close neighbor will be present, for their friendship is highly regarded.

Editorial consideration is given to "The Digest of Comments on the Pharmacopoeia of the United States of America and on the National Formulary" in the *Pharmaceutical Journal and Pharmacist* of April 15. Regret is expressed that there is no corresponding compilation in Great Britain. The following lines conclude the editorial: "It is doubtful if a more effective aid to revision could be devised."

*Bulletin No. 9*, issued by the Drug Trade Board of Public Information, gives publicity to the last volume of the YEAR BOOK A. PH. A. Description of the contents, reference to the authors and scope of the work is followed by an appreciation in these words: "The value of this annual review of pharmaceutical and allied literature is beyond estimate to the research worker, the student and the pharmacist."

A. R. Elliott Publishing Co. (*American Druggist*), publishers of the New York Medical Journal, has purchased from William Wood & Co., the Medical Record. By this purchase Mr. Elliott has consolidated under one head four great weekly medical journals, which will now appear as the *New York Medical Journal and Medical Record*.

**Ex-President John G. Godding** and wife accompanied Boston Commandery K. T. to the triennial conclave in New Orleans. The S. S. "Cristobal" was chartered for the trip; Easter Sunday was spent in Kingston, Jamaica, the Atlantic side of Panama Canal was reached April 18th and the Pacific on the 19th; they arrived in New Orleans on the 24th, and hope to be at home May 5.

**Prof. Charles H. LaWall** spoke before the Community Club of Glenside, Pa., on April 25, on foods and food laws.

**C. S. Brinton**, of the U. S. Bureau of Chemistry and Appraisers Stores, Philadelphia, recently gave an illustrated lecture to the Chemistry Club of the Central High School, on "Pure Food Laws."

The birthday of **E. G. Raeuber** was celebrated by the Milwaukee Veteran Drug Club, February 16.

**J. L. Hopkins, F. E. Holliday** and **Ralph R. Patch** spoke before New York section of the American Pharmaceutical Manufacturers' Association at the Drug and Chemical Club, April 5.

The parents of our fellow-member **Edward H. Walsdorf**, New Orleans, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary March 7; children, grandchildren and great grandchildren were present, also two of the bridesmaids who stood with Mrs. Walsdorf on the wedding day in 1872.

**Turner F. Currens** is making an extended trip in the Southern States.

**William Mittelbach**, for twenty-eight years treasurer of the Missouri Pharmaceutical Association, is secretary of the Boonville School Board.

**Ivor Griffith**, Chairman of the Section on Practical Pharmacy and Dispensing, A. Ph. A., gave an illustrated lecture and demonstration on and with "One Drop of Blood," as part of the popular series of the lecture course at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy. A large audience, constituted in part of hospital technicians and internes, attested to the value and

interest of this type of instruction.

**Louis G. Clark**, of Portland, Ore., is on an extended trip in the Orient. He will not return for several months.

The New York Quinine & Chemical Works have moved their business offices to more commodious quarters at 152-154 William Street, from 135 William Street.

## OBITUARY.

### FRANK A. SOUTHARD.

Frank A. Southard, Jr., has advised us of the death of his father, Frank A. Southard. The deceased was a first class Pharmacist in the Public Health Service, he had been in the Service for twenty-two years and held a fine record; many members will remember him in connection with the Indianapolis meeting of the American Pharmaceutical Association, which he attended as delegate and representa-

tive. He had planned to be present at the Cleveland meeting. Following partial recovery from influenza, he was ordered to the Buffalo Hospital for rest. Weakened by illness, the fatigue of the trip brought on a serious condition which terminated in his sudden death March 27. Pharmacist Southard's last station was at Arrowhead, California; he joined the Association in 1903, and was an enthusiastic member.

## SOCIETIES AND COLLEGES.

### SUBSCRIPTIONS TO AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION HEAD-QUARTERS BUILDING FUND. (APRIL 28, 1922.)

Although the letters of invitation to participate in the creation of the above-named fund were mailed only a short time before the report was sent in for publication, some have responded.

Every pharmacist should avail himself of the opportunity to participate in this undertaking, which will reflect credit and insure a recognition never before accorded to pharmacy. No.

1. Theodore Weicker, New York, (Paid)	\$250.00
2. Lewis F. Grewe, St. Louis,	5.00
3. William T. Adams, Chicago	10.00
4. W. P. Thomason, Guntersville, Alabama	10.00
5. M. H. Potter, Piggott, Ark.	25.00
6. F. T. Shackelford, Minneapolis, Minn.	10.00
7. Emil L. Boerner, Iowa City, Ia.	100.00
8. Fred G. Kustermann, Minneapolis, Minn.	5.00
9. Julius M. Keil, Western Springs, Ill. (Paid)	5.00
10. R. L. Francis, Fredericksburg, Va.	10.00
11. Ernest Berger, Tampa, Fla.	5.00
12. Isador L. Zeman, Pittsburgh, Pa.	25.00

13. Arthur Van Hooser, Metropolis, Ill.	10.00
14. F. W. Meissner, La Porte, Ind.	100.00
15. Herman L. ————— Milwaukee, Wis.	100.00
16. F. Wilbur Neuman, Canton, Ohio.	2.00
17. A. R. L. Dohme, Baltimore, Md.	150.00
18. Thos. D. McElhenie, Brooklyn, N. Y.	100.00
19. E. W. Parker, Victoria, Texas	25.00
20. P. Henry Utech, Meadville, Pa.	50.00
21. J. D. Yongue, Pickens, S. C.	5.00
22. James H. Adams, Sagamore, Mass.	10.00
23. F. W. Nitardy, Brooklyn, N. Y.	50.00
24. Jacob J. Cohan, Chicago, Ill.	10.00
25. Herbert Haynes, Providence, R. I.	5.00
26. S. Bienstock, Hartford, Conn.	5.00
27. William H. Rudder, Salem, Ind.	25.00
28. S. L. Hilton, Washington, D. C. (Paid)	100.00
29. J. L. Lascoff, New York City	50.00
30. Joseph L. Lemberger, Lebanon, Pa.	20.00
31. Albert G. Groblewski & Co., Plymouth, Pa.	10.00
32. Redmond Mayo, Washington, D. C.	25.00
33. G. D. Searle & Co., Chicago, Ill.	50.00
34. William Gray, Chicago, Ill.	25.00