

reagent by use of which he was enabled to convert homochelidonine into chelerythrine and chelidonine into sanguinarine, etc. He also developed a theory on the formation of alkaloids in the plant and of their biological value to the plant.

In 1919 Prof. Gadamer was appointed successor to his former teacher, the late Prof. E. Schmidt, at the University of Marburg. Here he determined the constitution of scopoline of corycavine and of corydaline, etc. He is editor of the *Archiv der Pharmazie*, and author of several scientific textbooks. Since the death of Prof. Schmidt he has also revised and reëdited the several books of which the latter was author. He is an honorary member of many pharmaceutical and other organizations devoted to science and a member of the National Health Commission of Germany.

HUGO H. SCHAEFER.



PAUL S. PITTENGER.

Awarded the Ebert Prize at Asheville Meeting, A. Ph. A., 1923. See report of General Sessions in this issue of the JOURNAL.



CHARLES B. GILLESPIE.

Winner of Fairchild Scholarship for 1923. See report of Fairchild Scholarship Committee in this issue of the JOURNAL.

STUDIES IN THE GENUS MENTHA.*

XII. *Mentha piperita*, L. (Peppermint) as a Subject for Biochemical Research.

Experiments of F. J. Bacon, G. C. Jenison and R. E. Kremers, at the Wisconsin Pharmaceutical Experiment Station, suggest that menthenone is formed first and that menthol considered characteristic of peppermint is formed from it by reduction. Since pipertone gives isomenthones, whereas pulegone appears to give ordinary menthone, upon reduction, these relationships may possibly be definitely traced.

The finding of menthenones in peppermint oil has influenced the authors' biochemical theories and also suggested a means of improving the quality of the oil.

The presence of aldehydes, though in very small quantities, in the natural oil also supports the biochemical theory of oil formation.—[Abstract by Arno Viehoveer.]

* Scientific Section, A. Ph. A.