

# THE DEPARTMENT OF THE AMERICAN CONFERENCE OF PHARMACEUTICAL FACULTIES

[**EDITOR'S NOTE.**—Last year there was published in the Conference Section a number of articles by prominent educators which had to do with the equipment and use of a Pharmacy Library. One article was by Dr. H. V. Arny and was descriptive of the Library of the College of Pharmacy of the City of New York. In the present number of the *JOURNAL* the same author tells in a scholarly way the actual working of that library. If the same effort should be made in every institution teaching pharmacy, it would mean a new era for cultural and scientific pharmacy. The paper is very timely, following that of Doctor Kremers in last month's issue.

Since the World War, no one problem has aroused greater widespread interest in educational circles than the various mental tests which have been devised to test the intelligence of an individual. The practical value of such tests has been an object of study in the College of Pharmacy of the University of Michigan, where these tests have been used for a number of years. The Editor requested Professor W. J. McGill of the Michigan faculty to briefly describe the results obtained at that institution. They are presented herewith.

R. A. LYMAN, *Chairman and Conference Editor.*]

## THE SERVICE FEATURES OF A COLLEGE OF PHARMACY LIBRARY.

BY H. V. ARNY.

During the past year, Chairman Lyman and Editor Eberle published in the *A. Ph. A. Journal* a paper written in 1914 about the library of the College of Pharmacy of which I have the honor of being librarian.

It is, therefore, unnecessary at this time to discuss the make-up of a good college of pharmacy library since that was the subject of the paper just mentioned. At this time I deem it a privilege to outline how a dead collection of books may become a living factor in the life not only of the college of pharmacy but also of all of those in the community who are interested in pharmaceutical subjects.

Those of us who have passed the half-century mark will recall some of the libraries of our boyhood when the books were apparently bought to be catalogued rather than to be used. I remember a certain library in a southern city where a chum and myself met our tutor for our German lesson, since it was such a quiet unfrequented place. We three sat at a table in one corner of the room and on the other side of the room at her desk sat the librarian, the relict of a much-beloved clergyman, chatting with some old friend as they did the "fancy work" in vogue in those days.

What a difference between this scene and the busy library of to-day with its corps of helpers more desirous of serving visitors than is the best salesman in a popular store.

In the same way, the college of pharmacy library of to-day should be a place where books are used rather than stored and with this thought in mind the following service features have been developed during the past decade.

### INFORMATION BUREAU.

All of us pharmacy teachers have had the opportunity of helping our friends in the drug business by giving information on out-of-the-way subjects relating to pharmacy. This idea we have capitalized into a definite bureau which can best be outlined by the following clipping taken from our college announcement.

The information bureau conducted by the library staff is designed to furnish pharmacists with data required in emergencies and not available in the library of