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to the Association and its branches shall become the property of the Association, with the understanding that they are not to be published in any other publication than those of the Association, except by consent of the Committee on Publication."—By-Laws, Chapter X, Art. III.

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 typewritten, with wide spaces between the lines. Care should be taken to give proper names correctly, and manuscript should be signed by the reporter. To maintain its activity and representation each Branch should see that at least three of its meetings during the year are reported in the JOURNAL.

BALTIMORE.

The January meeting of the Baltimore Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association was held at the Emerson Hotel, January 31, 1923, Dr. H. Engelhardt presided.

The secretary gave a résumé of the number of meetings held, the speakers and their subjects, and other important matters discussed at each meeting; and also a report of funds collected and expended.

Dr. Robert L. Swain, who was to speak concerning "Some Aspects of Pharmacy Law Enforcement" from the viewpoint of the Deputy Drug Commissioner, was unable to be present on account of illness.

Dr. Engelhardt gave a history of the development of organic chemistry, dealing mainly with the preparation of synthetic medicinals. He told of many interesting incidents surrounding the dicovery of the therapeutic value and chemical composition of such important compounds as antipyrine, acetanilide, acetparaphenetidin and phenolphthalein. The lecturer made clear that the discovery of the therapeutic value of these chemicals and the arrangement of the complex organic molecules was the result of systematic scientific investigations based on both chemical and pharmacological research.

Dr. Engelhardt asked the members present to suggest which group of organic compounds they would be interested in at a later meeting, and they asked that he speak on Synthetic Hypnotics.

The February meeting will be held on the 28th, at which time the slides of the American Colleges of Pharmacy will be shown.

B. OLIVE COLE, *Secretary-Treasurer.*

CHICAGO.

The 132nd meeting of the Chicago Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association was held at the University of Illinois School of Pharmacy Building, Friday evening, February 9, with a large attendance of officers, members and friends.

Retiring President Snow introduced president-elect L. E. Warren, who presented as his presidential address a splendid dissertation on "Some of the Newer Things in Medicine."

Secretary Gathercoal announced that Dr. Henry H. Rusby could be in Chicago two weeks from to-day, that is, Friday, February 23, and would be pleased to address the Branch that evening. While this will throw two meetings of the Branch into February, yet the opportunity to hear Dr. Rusby is one that we should not neglect and therefore arrangements have been accordingly made for the next Branch meeting. A request was made that the announcement should be spread among the members and friends of the Branch.

Mr. Warren discussed carbon tetrachloride in the treatment of hookworm disease. This remedy, in this disease, is not only very efficacious in a single dose, but produces no known lesions or ill effects in the patient; it is inexpensive and obtainable in large quantities, hence its discovery is one of the most striking and perhaps far-reaching in the realm of medicine since the discovery of salvarsan. The speaker pointed out that a very large percentage (95 to 98 per cent. in some districts) of the population of tropical and semi-tropical countries is afflicted with this disease, and further that the disease can be eradicated in a district within a few weeks, and that there is now a possibility of practically removing the disease from the face of the earth. Carbon tetrachloride was suggested two years ago by an investigator in the Bureau of Animal Husbandry of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, who, working on the theory that chloroform was fairly efficacious in hookworm

disease, tried carbon tetrachloride as a compound containing four atoms of chlorine. Much to his surprise a single dose to a dog completely cleaned out the hookworms, and experiments on swine, horses and monkeys were equally successful. He then experimented upon himself regarding the toxicity of the substance and found that it was in no sense toxic to man. Since then the remedy has been used very extensively and in series of 20,000 cases reported from one district in the Philippines the remedy was successful in every case and no harmful results of any kind were reported. Mr. Warren discussed the life cycle of the hookworm; the history of the treatment of the disease, including the use of eugenol compounds, beta-naphthol, thymol, oil of chenopodium, and chloroform; and also the great need of education among the infested populations regarding sanitary measures, covering of the feet, etc.

Chaulmoogra oil compounds in the treatment of leprosy and the latest data on their success in this disease were next considered. He stated that the cost of the oil and its scarcity were retarding the elimination of leprosy. J. F. Rock, an investigator for the U. S. Office of Foreign Seed and Plant Introduction, has been able to collect a quantity of true chaulmoogra seed and of seedlings and these along with seeds of related trees are now growing luxuriantly in Hawaii and the Philippines. At present the commercial supply of chaulmoogra seed comes from wild trees in very inaccessible regions of Burma and India, carelessly collected by natives. It is hoped that our Government plantations of these trees will begin producing abundantly in twelve or fifteen years. It is said that the wild trees produce a good crop of the fruit only about once in three years. It is estimated that 1,000,000 liters of the oil per year would be required for several years to completely eradicate leprosy.

Mr. Warren discussed briefly some of the latest ideas regarding vitamines; the discovery and use of insulin, the hormone from the pancreas that has such a marked effect on reducing blood sugar and in the relief of diabetes; quinidine in the cure of auricular fibrillation, the use of phenyl barbitol and related compounds in epilepsy, the remarkable curative effects of "Bayer 209" in the cure of trypanosomiasis, the sleeping sickness of Africa, and the use of pollen extracts and epidermal extracts in the diagnosis and treatment of hay fever and related diseases.

The lecture was very well received.

E. N. GATHERCOAL, *Secretary.*

INDIANAPOLIS.

At the meeting of the Indianapolis Branch at the Chamber of Commerce, Feb. 5th, an appreciative audience welcomed Director Edgar B. Carter, of the Biological Laboratory of the Swan Myers Co., who had for his subject: "What the Pharmacist Should Know about Bacteriology." The subject, however, was much more than the title would indicate and the pharmacists, chemists, nurses, teachers and students present were well repaid for their time, in the instructions received.

Mr. Carter gave a very graphic explanation on the blackboard as to what bacteriology means, and the benefits to be derived by a knowledge of the subject. He said the pharmacist should know something about the general classification of bacteria, especially those pathogenic forms which are encountered in the practice of medicine; he should also know something about the simple forms of non-pathogenic forms which affect the stability of the preparations which he dispenses, and which are factors in sanitation at the soda-fountain. The common division of the bacteria is represented by the coccocae, those which are spherical in shape but which occur in different groupings such as the staphylococcus, meningococcus, pneumococcus, and streptococcus; the bacteria, the rod forms of which the *bacillus typhosus, bacillus coli, bacillus paratyphosus, bacillus tuberculosis,* and *bacillus diphtheria* are common examples; and the spirillums which may vary from curved forms up to the typical spirochaetes. The common organisms in this classification were described and their relationship to disease processes were pointed out. Simple tests for their identification were explained, as were some phenomena, as the Widal Test and other simple diagnostic procedures. The use of antiseptic and germicidal solutions was explained, and applications were made to the preservation of pharmaceutical preparations subject to bacterial deterioration. The lactic acid ferments are of special interest due to the popularity of buttermilk, Bulgarian milk, and others, as therapeutic agents, and a method of preparing Bulgarian milk in the home was given. Several examples of how moulds and bacteria are used in chemical processes and even in performing chemical tests were explained.

The bacteriological test of determining the kind of sugar in a supposed diabetic urine was well illustrated.

The discussion following the presentation brought out many points and indicated much interest in the subject. In appreciation of Mr. Carter's lecture a rising vote of thanks was extended to him.

At the close of the meeting the secretary reported six additions to the membership.

The secretary was requested to arrange, if possible, for the next meeting to be held at the Purdue School of Pharmacy at Lafayette in March.

ERNST STAHLHUTH, *Secretary.*

NEW YORK.

The monthly meeting of the New York Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association was held the evening of January 8th at the New York College of Pharmacy.

After the reading of the minutes, Dr. Jacob Diner, as member of the Council, announced that the date of the annual meeting of the parent body had been set for the week commencing September 3rd, at Ashville, N. C.

Clyde L. Eddy, for the committee on legislation and education, stated that the prerequisite law was now in effect in sixteen states and that it would also go into effect within three years in Arkansas, Connecticut and Kentucky. He said that eight or nine states will follow the lead of New York in introducing a bill to limit the ownership of a pharmacy to a registered druggist.

Dr. Jacob Diner supplemented the above by stating that in a recent interview with Dr. Downing, assistant commissioner of education, the latter had said that the educational department will back the ownership bill to the fullest extent. Dr. Diner in reporting on the Academy of Pharmacy stated that papers of incorporation were being prepared by their attorney. Also, the New York Retail Druggists' Association has voted an appropriation of $1000 to the fund.

Dr. Mayer, chairman of the nominating committee, reported that the following ticket had been drawn up by the committee:

President, Charles W. Holton; *Vice-President,* H. B. Smith; *Secretary,* Hugo Schaefer; *Treasurer,* Robert R. Gerstner.

Committee Chairmen: Progress of Pharmacy, George C. Diekman; Fraternal Relations, Robert S. Lehman; Education and Legislation, Clyde L. Eddy; Membership, O. Canis, Jr.

They were unanimously elected.

For the Committee on the Progress of Pharmacy, Dr. Diekman presented an instructive report embodying abstracts from leading foreign journals. Among the articles referred to were: Interesting Observations on Treatment of Soils with Arsenical Sprays; Observations on Calumba Root; a New Constituent of the Thyroid Gland; the Various Varieties of Santalwood Oil; the Protection of Brass Weights. A number of formulas were also brought to the attention of his hearers.

William H. Gesell, read a paper on "Volume Production Pharmacy."

Dr. Joseph L. Meyer also gave an interesting talk on "Books and the Theatre," during the course of which he pointed out the opportunities that exist in New York for getting in touch with what is going on in the world of books and theatres.

HUGO H. SCHAEFER, *Secretary.*

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA.

The second meeting of the University of North Carolina Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association was held in the Assembly Room of the Pharmacy Building, Monday evening, January 22, 1923.

After the regular business session the following papers were presented:

"The History of Rubber and the Manufacture of Rubber Sundries," by G. W. C. Rush. Mr. Rush gave a very interesting résumé of the early history of rubber and the events leading up to the present development of the rubber industries, and the processes in the manufacture of soft and hard rubber sundries. Samples of rubber and rubber products were exhibited.

"Crude Drugs of North Carolina," by Homer E. Whitmire. In the course of his paper Mr. Whitmire recounted in a very interesting way his recent visit to the firm of Wallace Brothers, Statesville, N. C., who are the oldest in North Carolina, and probably one of the largest collectors and distributors of crude drugs in America. This was especially interesting in that it brought to us the fact that North Carolina is the source of a greater variety of crude drugs than any other state in the Union, this one firm during a single year, 1920, handling well over a million pounds of native grown crude drugs. Mr. Whitmire is making a collection of drugs and preparations used by the Cherokee Indians of this state for an educational exhibit for the School of Pharmacy.

ALMOND P. WESTBROOK, *Secretary-Treasurer.*

PHILADELPHIA.

The February meeting of the Philadelphia Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association was held Tuesday evening, February 13th, at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science.

On account of the absence of President Jenkins, Mr. E. G. Eberle was elected chairman pro tem.

The first paper of the evening was presented by Messrs. George Slothower and Peter Masucci, two research chemists. The title of their paper was "Some Physical and Chemical Properties of Neorobin."

Neorobin is a derivative of chrysophanic acid and its therapeutic uses are the same, but it is said to have certain advantages over the acid. It does not stain to the extent that chrysophanic acid does and is said to have more marked beneficial action.

According to the authors neorobin is prepared by reducing an acetic acid solution of chrysophanic acid with tin. It is a yellowish or yellowish gray powder which is not stable in the air. Its melting point is about 190° C. and is soluble in chloroform, alcohol, acetic acid, etc.

It is marketed in vacuum vials owing to instability and is used in ointment form of about a one per cent. strength.

Professor L. Gershenfeld then spoke on the advantages of the pharmacist in qualifying for bacteriological and clinical chemistry work. He cited several instances where pharmacists had materially increased their income by doing work of this kind. These men were not residents of a large city but lived and practiced in the smaller towns. He also emphasized the enhanced respect physicians have for pharmacists who qualified for this work, and the added prestige in the community.

Professor Gershenfeld then answered questions on the subject propounded by the members.

A vote of thanks was voted to the contributors of the papers.

Jos. W. E. Harrisson, *Secretary.*

SUBCOMMITTEES APPOINTED BY SERUM CONFERENCE, LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

The following subcommittee chairmen were appointed by the second international conference on the standardization of serums and serological tests of the Health Committee of the League of Nations: Serological tests, Jules Bordet, director, Pasteur Institute, Brussels; standardization of tetanus and diphtheria antitoxin, Prof. Louis Martin; anti-dysentery serum, Professor Cantacuzene, Bucharest; anti-pneumococcus serum, Prof. Neufeld, director, Robert Koch Institute, Berlin; anti-meningococcus serum, Prof. Augustus B. Wadsworth, Rockefeller Institute.

Professor Wadsworth, who represented the Rockefeller Institute at the conference, is the director of the division of laboratories and research, New York State Department of Health. He had the following to say with regard to the conference in a statement issued after his return:

"It is noteworthy that the invitations were extended by the Pasteur Institute and that in the interests of science and humanity the representatives of nine different nations found common ground for this first meeting on French soil. We all shared and enjoyed alike the cordial hospitality of the French scientists.

"Despite the many different points of view, the practical results from the free discussion were most encouraging. If such conferences can be repeated it is not difficult to understand that the ultimate results in improvement of methods used throughout the civilized world will be of the greatest significance for humanity. In the discussion of such problems the political difference between nations, even of the present stupendous problems of world politics, are forgotten in the search for truth."

The annual meeting of the French Academy of Medicine was chiefly devoted to the memory of Pasteur. Dr. Calmette spoke from the point of view of hygiene; Dr. Widal, medicine; M. Barrie, veterinary science; Dr. Delbet, surgery, and M. Delezenne, general biology.