

Retail Druggists' Association who paid tribute to the ideals and personnel of the association. Dr. Copcland, who devoted a large part of his talk to a discussion of the growing menace of the drug evil, declared that only to a negligible degree were the retail druggists of the state responsible for the growth of narcotic habit. He added that little or no supervision over the retailers was necessary to compel them to live up to the letter of the narcotic law.

Ex-President Lewis C. Hopp, A. Ph. A., met with a serious loss in the destruction of his pharmacy by fire. Those who know the type of pharmacy conducted by Mr. Hopp can realize what the fire meant to him, and sympathy is extended.

A. & R. S. Lehman have sold their pharmacy at 375 Third Ave., New York City, to Clement Grassi. The former owners bought the store from Riedel & Son in 1900; it is one of the oldest and best-known establishments in this section of the city.

Peter S. Rohn is the new president of the Philadelphia Retail Druggists' Association.

Frank J. Dubsy, a former president of Illinois Pharmaceutical Association, is president of Chicago Retail Druggists' Association.

Secretary-Treasurer A. G. Hulett, of the recently organized Arizona Pharmaceutical Association, writes of the association as a "good husky western fellow—ready to lend aid and strength to build up pharmacy."

F. Wayland Ayer, of N. W. Ayer & Son (advertising), died March 5. He was internationally known as one of the fathers of modern advertising. He was a successful business man and interested in many philanthropic and benevolent movements.

The Pharmaceutical Journal and Pharmacist, February 10, 1923, comments at length editorially on "The Digest of Comments on the Pharmacopœia of U. S. and on National Formulary" for the year ending December 31, 1920. The editor states: "By this means the revision committees get a good general impression as to the trend of opinion on the various questions at

issue, a method of working that is now definitely established in the states, and that might, with great profit, be adopted here at home."

Walter D. Adams, Secretary-Treasurer, Texas Pharmaceutical Association, has this as a business motto: "No promise is ever barred by the statute of limitation." His advertising attracts attention; the following are the introductory lines of "Fly-Way" advertisement: "A bob-tail cow during fly-time stands about the same show as a humming bird in a bull fight." The store and the man are sketched in *The Crowds Drug News*, for January, a house organ.

President H. L. Haussamen, of the North Dakota State Board of Pharmacy, and wife, also Mr. and Mrs. **Charles H. Huhn**, have been spending part of the winter in the South.

Dr. Edward C. Franklin, professor of organic chemistry at Stanford University, Palo Alto, Cal., who was recently elected president of the American Chemical Society, will leave about the middle of March for a tour of the country, to lecture before local sections of the American Chemical Society and classes in the large universities.

U. S. Senator-elect from Michigan—**Woodbridge Ferris**, of Big Rapids, Mich.—is the founder of Ferris Institute, attached to which is a department of pharmacy. While not a pharmacist, he has given direction to the studies of many young pharmacists. **Hon. George W. Edmonds** is, if our information is correct, the only graduate pharmacist in Congress.

ANNUAL MEETING OF AMERICAN DRUGGISTS' FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

At the annual meeting of the American Druggists' Fire Insurance Company, held February 13 and 14, in Cincinnati, **Samuel C. Davis**, of Nashville, and **Edward Voss, Jr.**, of Cincinnati, were elected directors in place of the late **Simon N. Jones** and **A. O. Zwick**. **Louis C. Hopp** was elected to fill the vacancy on the executive committee caused by the demise of **Dr. A. O. Zwick**.

OBITUARY.

JOHN BEST.

By Samuel T. Hensel.

John Best, one of the pioneer druggists of Colorado—for fifty years a loyal member of the American Pharmaceutical Association—has crossed "the great divide," leaving behind him memories which his family, friends and busi-

ness associates will ever cherish—of a genial, gentle soul. He was a type of the educated young man coming to the West—of the educated pharmacist and druggist of that day who came to seek his fortune.

The importance of the time and place of his advent to the great West compels me to digress

in order that I may convey to the reader a correct idea of the environment in which he lived, and of the activities in which he engaged throughout a long and honorable life.

John Best was born in Bristol, England, March 18, 1843. He came to America when a boy and soon thereafter entered the New York College of Pharmacy, graduating in 1865. His preceptor, a Mr. Hayes, subsequently sent him to Central City, Colorado, to take charge of a store, of which he later became the proprietor.

Central City, Gilpin County, was then a thriving mining town situated far up in the heart of the mountains at an altitude of 9000 to 10,000 feet above sea level—nearly at timberline. It was the adopted home of a large number of young men of vision and with constructive ability, who, in conjunction with other hundreds of young men of equal caliber in other parts of the territory, subsequently, in 1876,



JOHN BEST.

brought about the creation of the great commonwealth of Colorado. Three of them, Henry M. Teller, Nathaniel P. Hill and Edward O. Wolcott, became United States Senators. William N. Byers founded the *Rocky Mountain News* and was its first editor. Nathaniel P.

Hill, young chemist, founded the *Denver Republican*, and was also engaged in other activities which will be referred to later. Joseph Thatcher and Dennis Sullivan were the leading spirits of the Denver National Bank. Walter Cheeseman, for many years a leading druggist, organized the Denver Union Water Company and was connected with other public utilities and enterprises.

These great names give added luster to the little mining town of Gilpin County, which came into being as a result of the decline of placer and other mining in California in 1859—ten years after the first great rush to the gold diggings—for here was found a friable ore which yielded enormous returns of native or metallic gold.

The miners of that day did not understand the scientific meaning of this red earth, and it was not until the geo-chemist stepped in and

explained its origin, that lode mining was revived and carried to greater depth, with the result that Colorado continued for nearly a generation to enrich the nation and the world with its seemingly exhaustless treasures. It was red oxide of iron they explained, and was the result of the decomposition of iron pyrites, or iron sulphide, which was invariably found at the beginning of the permanent water level, at a depth of from 75 to 150 feet. This announcement immediately led to the revival of the mining industry both here and in California. Nathaniel P. Hill, a chemist of ability, availed himself of the process of roasting this sulphide ore. He erected a smelter for that purpose which brought him fame, fortune and, subsequently, senatorial honor.

It was in this environment and with these associations that the subject of this sketch lived for many years, and was honored. He became the mayor of the town and was ever ready to perform his duty as a citizen. In 1887 he sold his store to Llewellyn P. Davies and moved with his family to Denver. He never reëntered the retail drug business, but for many years served as a member of the State Board of Pharmacy, then known as the Board of Examiners, of which for a time he was the president.

His love for the American Pharmaceutical Association was unflinching, and with the exception of the past year or two he was a regular attendant at the monthly meetings of the Denver Branch. Several years ago, Mr. Best presented to the Branch a complete set of the Proceedings of the American Pharmaceutical Association, from the first volume down to the time of the first edition of the *YEAR BOOK*.

Mr. Best married Miss Margaret C. King in 1871, and they had three children, one son and two daughters; the widow and one daughter survive him. He died January 30th of pneumonia.

For some years Mr. Best was known as the oldest druggist in Colorado and the oldest living graduate of the New York College of Pharmacy. He was a man of fine personality—kind, gentle and considerate of others—in a word, a gentleman of the old school.

The American Pharmaceutical Association and the Denver Branch, A. Ph. A., have lost an ardent and faithful member, whose memory will long be cherished.

CLEMENT BELTON LOWE.

Dr. Clement Belton Lowe passed away at his home in Vineland, N. J., February 5, 1923.

The sudden call came as a shock to friends, owing to the fact that he had held up so well after the passing away of his wife on January 23rd.

The following data are taken from the Century volume of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy:

Clement Belton Lowe was born in Salem, N. J., in 1846, and his early education was obtained in the public schools of that place. Later he spent five years in Bucknell University, Lewistown, Pa., from which he was graduated in 1865 with the degree of Ph.B. He spent the year 1866 at the Philadelphia Polytechnic College, intending to become a civil engineer, but was compelled by ill health to relinquish this purpose. In 1867 he entered the drug business with William Lippincott at the northeast corner of Ninth and Vine Streets, later succeeding to the sole ownership of the business, which he continued until 1895. He became a student at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy in 1882, and was graduated as a Ph.G. in 1884. He subsequently studied medicine at Jefferson Medical College, from which he was graduated in 1887. In 1899, he purchased the Pel-



CLEMENT BELTON LOWE.

ham Pharmacy in Germantown, which he conducted until 1914, besides devoting part of his time to the practice of medicine.

In 1886 he became assistant to Professor John M. Maisch and when Professor Edson S. Bastin succeeded Professor Maisch, in 1893, he continued in the same position.

Upon the demise of Professor Bastin in 1897, Dr. Lowe became professor of materia medica, physiology and pharmacology. He served as chairman of various important committees, and in 1907 was elected president.

He also was a prominent worker in the American Pharmaceutical Association, which he joined in 1895. He occupied the position of secretary and chairman of the Section on Education and Legislation from 1899 to 1901, and was vice-president in 1909. He was for some years editor of the Alumni Report of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, the author

of "A Syllabus of the Botanical Natural Orders" which has passed through several editions, and editor of the volume on "The Medicinal Plants of the Philippines."

Since 1914 when he sold his drug store in Pelham, Germantown, he resided in Vineland, N. J.

He resigned and was made professor emeritus of materia medica in 1921, when he was succeeded by Dr. Horatio C. Wood, Jr.

Dr. and Mrs. Lowe had four children, two sons and two daughters. The former are now living in Vineland, N. J.; the daughters died in 1900.

Prof. Frank X. Moerk, W. L. Cliffe, E. G. Eberle, and officials of the Baptist Church, Vineland, served as pall-bearers.

CHARLES WILLIAM GRASSLY.

Charles William Grassly, a member of the American Pharmaceutical Association from 1884 to 1917 and a charter member of the Chicago Veteran Druggists' Association, died at the home of his sister at Jacksonville, Ill., Monday, February 19th.

The deceased was born in Germany, December 5, 1847. He came to the United States in 1863, and graduated from St. Louis College of Pharmacy in 1868, of which institution he was the oldest living alumnus. He entered the drug business as a clerk in Chicago in 1863, and was in business on his own account since 1872 until his retirement a few months ago. He was a charter member of the Chicago Veteran Druggists' Association.

John Hurley, a pharmacist of Little Falls, N. Y., and widely known as an organizer, died at his home February 18th at the age of 62 years. He was for many years a member of the New York State Board of Pharmacy. He joined the New York State Pharmaceutical Association in 1896 and was active in its meetings. In 1906 he helped organize the Mohawk Valley Drug Association, of which he was the first president. At the time of his death he was chairman of the board of trustees of the Raybrook State Tuberculosis Hospital.

Mrs. Matilda Patch, wife of Ex-President E. L. Patch of the A. Ph. A., died February 7th at St. Petersburg, Fla. Mrs. Patch frequently attended earlier meetings of the American Pharmaceutical Association with her husband, and took an active part in the entertainments when the Association met in Boston in 1911. She was born in Amherst, Mass., 71 years ago and besides her husband she leaves five sons, Joseph A., Claude E., and Ralph R., of Stoneham, Mass.; Arthur L.

of Winsor, Vt., and Ernest L. Patch, Honolulu. Professor and Mrs. Patch had gone to Florida hoping to gain strength and health. The sympathy of the American Pharmaceutical Association is extended.

Dr. Gustav D. Hinrichs, who for many years was a member of the American Pharmaceutical Association, died at his home in St. Louis, Mo., February 14th at the age of 86 years. Dr. Hinrichs was educated at the University of Copenhagen, and came to the United States soon afterward. For a number of years he was a member of the faculty of the St. Louis College of Pharmacy.

Dr. William Caspari, Professor of *Materia Medica* at the College of Pharmacy of the University of Maryland, died February 13th. He was a graduate of the Maryland College of Pharmacy and also of the Baltimore Medical College. He was a son of the late William Caspari of a family well known in pharmacy, and was 60 years old.

Henry Thacher, for many years senior member of the firm of S. A. D. Sheppard Company, druggists, of Boston, Mass., died in Dorchester, aged 66.

WILLIAM KONRAD ROENTGEN.

Professor William Konrad Roentgen, discoverer of the X-ray, died February 10th. He was born in Lennep, Prussia, March 27, 1845. He studied at Zurich, Switzerland, where he took his doctor's degree in 1869. After service as professor of physics in various German universities he was sent in 1885 to Würzburg, where in 1895 he made the discovery for which his name was chiefly known, that of the Roentgen X-ray. It is said that in 1896 Roentgen was approached by one of Germany's largest electrical concerns to make his invention available for technical purposes and manufacture, but that while approving of the idea he rejected the suggestion of personal coöperation, saying: "What I have discovered belongs to the universe."

SOCIETIES AND COLLEGES.

WHY PHARMACISTS OPPOSE SALES OF DRUGS IN GENERAL STORES.

Bulletin No. A, 1—News Service of Drug Trade Bureau of Public Information—Robert P. Fischelis, Director.

Whenever physicians foster public health measures which may incidentally require a visit to the doctor's office, they are accused of selfish motives by some people who either do not think or who cannot understand the altruistic spirit which a great majority of the medical profession constantly exhibit in matters of public welfare. Similarly other professional men are abused whenever they advocate any measure intended to benefit the public at large, if by any chance such measures may even indirectly benefit some of their number financially. There are occasions in every trade and profession when certain benefits are derived as the result of legislative enactments intended for the good of all the people. Should such enactments be prevented just because a few happen to profit directly while all profit indirectly? Common sense dictates a certain tolerance in matters of this kind, for it is well known that no legislature can long endure if its enactments savor of class favoritism.

In a number of states bills are now before the legislatures, which seek to limit the sale of drugs and the compounding of prescriptions

to those who are qualified and licensed to do this very important public health work. In most of the states such laws are already on the statute books. General storekeepers oppose these bills on the ridiculous ground that they are sponsored by selfish druggists who want to force people living in rural districts to buy goods from them, rather than from the general store. The best answer to these accusations is that all such proposed bills either make specific provisions for the sale of common household remedies in original packages by general stores, where there is no pharmacy within a reasonable distance, or specifically provide that the law shall not apply to the sale of home remedies in original packages by general stores.

Any honest champion of the cause of the rural citizen should be satisfied with such provisions and should realize fully that no matter how much general merchandise a druggist may sell, he is the only proper person to sell drugs and compound medicines. The state laws all require a licensed druggist to have at least four years of pharmaceutical experience and in many states he must be a college graduate. Every state requires registered pharmacists to pass a qualifying examination and the standards for licensure are going higher and higher every year. If the people did not believe that