

EXPANSION OF THE NEW YORK COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.

A communication from Dean H. H. Rusby, of Columbia University College of Pharmacy of the City of New York, gives briefly an account of the growth of this institution and the efforts made to meet its requirements in serving pharmacy. We are taking the liberty of quoting from the communication, feeling assured that there are many who will be glad of the opportunity to share in making this larger institution possible, for which about \$250,000 are required. An extract from the letter follows:

"Last fall, after it had been found necessary to turn away two or three hundred applicants, the necessity of securing additional room was apparent to everyone familiar with the situation, and the Faculty was invited to submit outlines of the requirements of their respective departments. The response was prompt, but the extent of the requisition was

appalling. Besides calling for lecture halls, recitation rooms and laboratories for a class of two-year students, fifty per cent larger than any previous one, large sums were asked for perfecting the accommodations for advanced classes, and to equip research laboratories for professors and specialists."

A lot adjoining the present building has been purchased and preliminary work is under way. Initial payments were made out of the current funds of the treasury, and continued by the early subscriptions of generous friends, some fifty thousand dollars being subscribed by the Board of Trustees. The interest of the undergraduate students was manifested by subscriptions amounting to \$28,000, to which \$3000 were added by the members of the faculty. To secure the total amount required and insure success of the undertaking, many subscriptions of large amounts must be forthcoming, and a campaign is under way.

THE PHARMACIST AND THE LAW.

THE KNOX DECISION.

The New York Commercial comments editorially on the Knox Decision:

"The decision of Judge Knox that Congress had no right to dictate to a physician what he shall prescribe for his patient is entirely in line with conservative thought on this subject. That amendment to the Volstead law is clearly unconstitutional. It may be that unscrupulous physicians will abuse their power, but that does not alter the fact that Congress went beyond the Constitution in making the restriction. The Eighteenth Amendment, in words as plain as the English language can make them, limits the enactment of laws against liquor when used for beverage purposes. There can be no mistaking its meaning, and yet, regardless of that, Congress placed restrictions upon the use of liquor for medicinal purposes. It doesn't matter what one's views may be, for or against Prohibition, there is the Constitution, there is the English language, and that is all there is to it."

The New York Times concludes an editorial in which there is much food for thought:

"Would the medical profession itself be able to maintain its prestige unimpaired if suddenly and without its own consent it was shouldered with the privilege of dispensing liquor without restraint or limit? What would this privilege

do to the habits and conscience of the youthful medico struggling to make a living? Druggists who take their profession seriously are now profoundly irritated by uses which licensed adventurers have been making of it since the first days of Volsteadism. And it is certain that all self-respecting physicians would be humiliated by the spectacle of a swarm of embryo bootleggers rushing through the colleges in order to obtain the right to distribute whisky without fear of the law."

RESOLUTIONS OF THE AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVES AT THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS' OPIUM COMMITTEE IN GENEVA.

The following are resolutions proposed on behalf of the United States by Hon. Stephen G. Porter; they present the position of the United States on Narcotic Drug Control:

"1.—If the purpose of the Hague opium convention is to be achieved according to its spirit and true intent, it must be recognized that the use of opium products for other than medicinal and scientific purposes is an abuse and not legitimate.

"2.—In order to prevent the abuse of these products it is necessary to exercise the control of production of raw opium in such a manner that there will be no surplus available for non-medicinal and non-scientific purposes.

"3.—The nations which are parties to The Hague opium convention are urged to bend every effort to induce the nations which are not parties to the convention, or which have not yet enacted legislation to put it into effect, to do so at once.

"4.—Those nations which have well-developed chemical and pharmaceutical industries are urged to prohibit the importation of all narcotic drugs except such quantities of crude opium and coca leaves as may be necessary to provide for medicinal and scientific needs.

"5.—All nations are urged to prohibit the exportation of narcotic drugs, including opium in whatever form and coca leaves and derivatives of these drugs, to those countries which are not parties to The Hague Opium Convention and which do not have domestic systems of control—including import and export certificates."

An Associated Press dispatch of May 30, states:

"Strict limitation of the production and sale of prepared opium under absolute government monopoly was approved by the opium advisory committee of the League of Nations. The vote was 6 to 1, with France casting the negative ballot and Portugal abstaining.

"The vote of the commission refers to recommendations to the council of the League of Nations which is to meet shortly in Paris."

NARCOTIC DRUG CONSUMPTION HAS DECREASED.

Federal Prohibition Commissioner Haynes has announced that the records of the Narcotic Division of the Prohibition Unit show a very material decrease in per capita consumption of opium and cocaine during the last three years.

The official records of the division show that during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1921, the sales of opium, morphine, cocaine, heroin, and dionin made by manufacturers were sufficient for one and seven-eighths grains of morphia per capita, whereas during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1922, the quantity of opium imported and used by manufacturers was sufficient for only seven-eighths of one grain per capita. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1921, the per capita consumption of cocaine, according to the sales made by manufacturers, was one-third of one grain, which has been reduced to one-fourth of one grain for the year ending June 30, 1922. The records show a continuing

downward trend in the amount of both opium and cocaine consumed so far during the present fiscal year.

Smuggled drugs are not considered in the computation, as there is no method whereby such figures may even be estimated, but the records show that smuggling of narcotics has been materially curtailed, especially during the past year, according to Commissioner Haynes.

The foregoing is a source of great satisfaction. Courts have imposed sentences of imprisonment, lately, that will have a good effect in deterring those who are almost tempted to engage in illegitimate traffic, and check those who have preyed on the unfortunate addicts.

ALCOHOL REGULATIONS.

A new ruling provides that:

Hereafter the vendor will not exhibit all copies of the permit to purchase and the confirmation to the officer in charge at an Internal Revenue bonded warehouse, and such officer will not communicate with the director to ascertain the authenticity of the permit to purchase and the confirmation thereof, as provided in subsection (d) of section 57¹/₂, regulations 60, as amended by Treasury Decision 3449; and the collector will not, as now provided in subsection (e) of the same section, notify the director of the permit to purchase, nor will such permit when it accompanies form 179 bear the notation as to confirmation by the government officer. The collector will in all other respects follow the procedure prescribed by Treasury Decision 3449.

Article 3 of regulations 60 as amended by T. D. 3398 has been modified by T. D. 3480, as follows:

Directors are hereby vested with the same authority as that given the commissioner by article III of regulations 60 as amended by T. D. 3398 to approve or disapprove applications for, and to issue basic permits to physicians to prescribe, to physicians to use intoxicating liquor, to dentists and veterinarians to use alcohol, and permits to transport by truck.

PERMITS TO PURCHASE TEN GALLONS OR LESS OF ALCOHOL NEED NOT BE CONFIRMED.
(T. D. 3483.)

Regulations 60, as amended by T. D. 3449, requiring confirmation of all permits to purchase alcohol and liquors, are hereby further amended so as to exempt from such requirement permits to purchase alcohol in quantities of ten gallons or less.