

THE DEPARTMENT OF THE AMERICAN CONFERENCE OF PHARMACEUTICAL FACULTIES

[EDITOR'S NOTE.—In the symposium on "The Next Step" the editor takes the liberty of publishing a second letter from Dr. Edward H. Kraus of the University of Michigan, first because of an error in his original, and, second, because of the emphasis which he and many other men are placing upon the necessity of an educational survey of the Schools of Pharmacy. Furthermore, pharmaceutical educators throughout the country who know Doctor Kraus have read with much satisfaction of his acceptance of the deanship of the College of Pharmacy of the University of Michigan. His counsel will be welcomed by the Conference membership.

Resolutions adopted by the Michigan State Pharmaceutical Association, relating to a survey of pharmacy, are appended.

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

THE NEXT STEP IN THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM OF THE AMERICAN CONFERENCE OF PHARMACEUTICAL FACULTIES.*

EDWARD H. KRAUS, University of Michigan: I was very much interested in the discussion which you conducted in the Department of the American Conference of Pharmaceutical Faculties in the May number of the JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

I was pleased to note that the question of a survey of pharmacy by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching is also considered by a number of other contributors as of fundamental importance at this time. I regret that the proofreader of this material failed to notice that a rather important part of the last sentence in my communication was omitted—the sentence reading: "In discussing the matter recently with a representative of the Foundation I was led to believe that conditions have changed somewhat more sympathetically in the past." This sentence, as it appears in my communication of March 7 to you, reads as follows: "In discussing the matter recently with a representative of the Foundation I was led to believe that conditions have changed somewhat *and that a renewed request would probably be received* more sympathetically than in the past." It is obvious that with the loss of the underscored line the sentence, as it appears, does not make good sense.

It is quite likely that our State Association which meets in Grand Rapids, June 12, 13 and 14 will adopt resolutions urging the Carnegie Foundation to undertake such a survey.¹ If other state associations have not taken action in this matter would it not be well to suggest it to their officers and to the pharmaceutical educators concerned? If the Foundation can be made to see that not only the educators but also that practicing pharmacists are vitally interested in this matter we may be able to get favorable action.

W. F. SUDRO, School of Pharmacy, Agricultural College, North Dakota: With reference to your requests as expressed in your letters of February 19th and March 10th as to the future educational program of the Conference, I am very pleased to submit the following suggestions.

The thought as expressed in your letter with reference to the three days a week school may be interpreted in an entirely different light than was actually the reason for the establishment of such an arrangement. Without doubt such an arrangement of courses was made for the distinct purpose of giving students the opportunity of assisting themselves financially while carrying on their educational program. In the educational plan as carried out at this school, it is distinctly impossible for any student to devote any particular amount of time to outside activities of this sort. Sometimes I wonder whether or not we are acting wisely in matters of this kind. You are well aware, of course, of the plan as adopted for some years by the College of Engineering of the University of Cincinnati, in requiring their students to devote a considerable length of time in practical work in the various factories. I know, of course, a very similar plan is in vogue at those institutions of pharmacy connected with large dispensaries, and I believe it is a step in the right direction. We do endeavor to place our students during the summer months

* Continued from June issue, JOURNAL A. PH. A., p. 545.

¹ Resolutions have been adopted and are appended.

in as many pharmacies as possible, but in a great many instances we find that the druggists are not at all responsive to any such arrangement, particularly where a young man or woman has had no practical training to speak of.

The thought I had in mind was the fact that probably the three-day plan or a modification of it could very well be adopted in some form or other by the schools of the Conference. Such plan would not be at the volition of any student, but would be mandatory by the requirements of the school.

It will not be long now before all the schools of the Conference will be on a three-year basis, and possibly it may be well to think about what shall be done with that extra time. Would it not be a good plan for the Conference to go on record as demanding a minimum number of credits or units with reference to certain specified courses such as English, Mathematics, Political Economy, History, etc. I firmly believe that an expansion can be made with reference to many of our courses dealing with pharmacy, but I am of the opinion that if no well-defined program is meted out by the Conference, the extra time will be devoted chiefly to an expansion of pharmaceutical subjects. It has been my experience that students of our longer curricula are able to grasp the principles of pharmacy in a more thorough manner than those of our students who graduate from our two-year course.

I trust that the thoughts as advanced in the preceding paragraph may be found of some value to you in formulating future policies of the Conference.

WILBER J. TEETERS, University of Iowa: In my judgment, for the good of pharmacy in general, the following problems should be taken up by the American Conference of Pharmaceutical Faculties in the order in which I have given them, which seems to me to be the order of importance.

First—The standardization of the colleges. This would eliminate the incompetent institutions that are presuming to give what they are not. Full publicity to such a report of standardization would, in my judgment, do for pharmacy education what the Flexner report did for Medicine. As a result we would have fewer and better colleges of pharmacy and I predict that with such examination and standardization some of the colleges that now hold membership in the American Conference of Pharmaceutical Faculties would find it necessary either to very materially change the character of their institutions or, otherwise, they would find themselves among the eliminated number.

Second—The elimination of the three-day system of instruction now employed in some colleges. It is absurd to claim that students can get in three days what should be given in a six-day week.

Third—A system of grading of work done. The present system, or lack of system, should be eliminated and in its stead some system as near uniform as possible be adopted by all colleges of pharmacy.

C. C. BASS, School of Pharmacy, Tulane University: Through oversight your letter of May 1 was not answered more promptly, due, in part, to my absence from the city at the time of its arrival. Your letter, written in February, was also overlooked, for both of which I sincerely apologize.

In our own School of Pharmacy we are debating questions of importance of one kind or another. One of the important things is, no doubt, proper administration of admission requirements. I doubt whether our problems here are very different from those in other parts of the country. I feel, and I am sure the President of the University and the Board of Administrators also feel, that any extensive changes in the schools of pharmacy and education along these lines must be postponed until after some suitable agency shall make a proper survey of the schools of the country and the general needs, particularly the adoption by the licensing boards of the same requirements as now laid down by the schools of better grade.

One of the most helpful influences in education of any kind is the proper rating of the schools, so that the kind of work to be given at the different schools can be known by anyone who wishes to investigate. I believe that this is the great need—inspection and rating, with recommendations for improvement and classification of schools throughout the country.

JOHN J. MULLOWNEY, Medical College, Nashville, Tennessee: In reply to your letter of May 7th, I beg to say that it is my opinion that for the next three or four years you are asking about all that can be expected reasonably of the average candidate for a degree in pharmacy, when you ask them to train themselves for three years.

I heartily agree with you that every applicant for pharmacy should have four years of a high school course. McHarry has required this since about 1918. Possibly in three or four years it would be well to require four years for a degree in pharmacy, but for the present, I am of the opinion that three years on top of a good high school course is about all the public and the candidate can do.

J. A. KOCH, University of Pittsburgh: The next step in our Conference program I think will be to bring about the general recognition and adoption of the three-year course. While this course has been adopted by the Conference, I think that the majority of the colleges holding membership feel that the adoption is not at all fixed or binding. I believe that the three-year course will be quite generally adopted all over the country in 1925, but feel that it will be necessary for us to do quite a little diplomatic missionary work to bring this about.

MARIANO V. DEL ROSARIO, The University of the Philippines: I have received your favor of February 19th when our college year was ending and I regret the delay of this answer due to the fact that examinations, commencement, etc., came at the same time.

Referring to your question as to the next step which the Conference colleges and schools must have in prospect, I should say that it is the adoption of the compulsory four-year course in pharmacy leading to the unique degree of Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy.

In the Philippine Islands, it was already agreed upon by the faculties of the five schools and colleges and the board of pharmacy to raise our three-year course to a four-year course, and through the action of the Philippine Legislature I am fully confident that our freshmen of 1924 will have it.

The condition of the pharmaceutical profession in this country is far different from those in the United States. Among all the drug stores in the islands, which may be less than one thousand, there are only six or seven established in the American fashion with soda fountain and other sundry articles absolutely strange to the profession. Most of the rest, I may state, are conducted in the European style and our school is the one to lead our graduates in a new direction. As you can see in our new curriculum, a copy of which will be forwarded to you, our aim is to prepare the pharmaceutical chemist to be a true help to the physician, and in addition to his drug store maintain a laboratory in a way similar to the French pharmacies.

This measure is extremely beneficial and suits our local conditions mainly in provinces where the few practitioners have not time to devote to this kind of examinations.

So far, two of our graduates are working as junior bacteriologists in the Bureau of Science of the Government and some others are thinking to open their private laboratories.

In connection with your request of sending you something for publication I may inform you that I have just forwarded to Mr. Maronon an address which I delivered in the last Philippine Pharmaceutical Convention. I suppose you remember Mr. Maronon who represented our school in the last meeting of the American Conference. He may inquire if the paper can be published in the JOURNAL for it contains also some remarks about the profession.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE MICHIGAN STATE PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, GRAND RAPIDS, JUNE 13, 1923.

Inasmuch as the action of the President and Board of Regents of the University of Michigan in appointing Dr. Edward H. Kraus, Dean of the College of Pharmacy, meets with the most hearty approval of the pharmacists of the state, be it:

Resolved, that the Michigan State Pharmaceutical Association in convention assembled in Grand Rapids, June 13th, 1923, place itself on record as commending this action on the part of the University authorities, and be it further

Resolved, that copies of this resolution be mailed to the President of the University of Michigan, and to the members of the Board of Regents.

To Dean Edward H. Kraus:

Realizing the importance which your services will mean to Pharmacy, both state and national, and understanding that you have accepted the Deanship of the College of Pharmacy of the University regardless of your other University activities, we, the members of the Michigan State Pharmaceutical Association, wish to express our hearty appreciation of your decision in accepting this appointment.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY MICHIGAN STATE PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION
RELATIVE TO A SURVEY OF PHARMACY.

WHEREAS, Very great progress has been made in the last quarter of a century in all sciences, especially in those upon which the health of the public depends, and

WHEREAS, The pharmacist by training and association with the members of the Medical and Dental professions is most vitally concerned with all such advances and movements, and

WHEREAS, In the mind of the general public the status of the pharmacist to-day is not as important and as dignified as formerly, although his responsibilities to the State and the Nation are constantly becoming greater through legislative action, and

WHEREAS, The general trend in this country is toward higher educational requirements for all professions, such advanced standards being already effective in the allied sciences of Medicine and Dentistry, and

WHEREAS, Various States and Colleges of Pharmacy have already adopted such increased educational requirements, while other States and Colleges of Pharmacy apparently are content with existing standards, which condition is causing much confusion, and

WHEREAS, In our opinion legal and educational requirements should be more nearly uniform throughout the country, which result can be best accomplished by the adoption of standard requirements for licensure and for admission to and graduation from Colleges of Pharmacy, and

WHEREAS, The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, through its searching and constructive studies on Medical Education in this country, Canada and Europe, contributed greatly to the present improved condition of Medicine and Medical Education, and

WHEREAS, A similar study of Dentistry and Dental Education is now in progress and nearing completion, and

WHEREAS, The American Conference of Pharmaceutical Faculties has, on several occasions, requested the Carnegie Foundation to undertake a similar study of the present status of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Education in this country;

Be It Therefore Resolved, That we, the members of the Michigan State Pharmaceutical Association, assembled in annual convention in Grand Rapids, June 13th, 1923, most heartily approve of the action of the American Conference of Pharmaceutical Faculties in this matter, and

Be It Further Resolved, That we most earnestly urge the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching to undertake the suggested study of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Education in this country, believing that of all the organizations in this country the Foundation is the best qualified to undertake such a searching and critical study in view of its experience and splendid results in the allied professions of Medicine and Dentistry, and

Be It Further Resolved, That copies of these resolutions be sent to the President of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, to the President of the University of Michigan, to the members of the State Board of Pharmacy, and to the various Pharmaceutical Journals.