

EDITORIAL NOTES

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LABORATORY SEMINAR—PHARMA- COGNOSY, PLANT CHEMISTRY AND BOTANY—COMPRISING LECTURES, DEMONSTRATIONS AND DISCUS- SIONS.

Through action by President L. D. Coffman and Dean F. J. Wulling the entire facilities of the College of Pharmacy of the University of Minnesota are placed at the disposal of participants in the Seminar referred to in the title. The announcement states there has been a growing realization that if pharmacognocists, plant chemists, botanists, and others interested in medicinal plants, vegetable drugs, and food products could have an annual opportunity of cooperative laboratory work, the results of such studies would be helpful and valuable. The one-day experiment of last year has prompted a program extending over a week, namely, August 20-25.

Prof. E. L. Newcomb is secretary and also a member of the Committee on Arrangements, and with him are associated members of the faculty, whose teaching subjects are allied. Other members of the faculty have cooperated and also heads of departments in colleges of pharmacy, and others; among these are the following: Arno Viehoever, Henry Kraemer, C. B. Gnadinger, H. W. Youngken, E. N. Gathercoal, Albert Schneider, E. E. Stanford, C. J. Zufall, C. W. Ballard, Anton Hogstad, W. F. Sudro, H. C. Hamilton.

The program of the week includes a visit to plant gardens, where methods of growing, harvesting, drying and preparation of herbarium material will be demonstrated and studied. There will be an excursion through a drug milling plant where the different drug mills will be shown in operation, methods of preservation and storing explained and drug containers studied.

Space will only permit of the inclusion of part of the program, of a few of the sessions, so as to give an insight into this most interesting undertaking. Numbers of the program apply to four sessions.

8. Demonstration of methods for drying, garbling, and cleaning of original bales of drugs, spices, or food products.—E. Fischer.

9. Demonstrations of methods of grinding and powdering of bales of drugs, spices, or food products.—E. Fischer.

10. Individual laboratory work, including opportunity for carrying out processes under No. 8 and No. 9.

22. Reagents and uniform methods for work in plant microscopy.—E. N. Gathercoal.

23. Maximum and minimum figures representing measurements of microscopic elements—desirability for a U. S. standard micrometer scale.—E. Fischer, E. L. Newcomb.

24. Quantitative microscopic analysis—demonstration of methods.—H. W. Youngken, A. Schneider.

25. Individual laboratory work.

38. Volatile Oils: *Chenopodium*—Turpentine and other oils for special study, and demonstrations on methods of preparation, assay, standards, etc.—A. Hogstad, W. F. Sudro.

39. *Nigella damascena*: Constituents, recent observations.—C. H. Rogers.

40. Electro-metric analysis of alkaloid-containing drugs.—McGill.

41. Individual laboratory work.

47. *Digitalis*: Dried and undried leaves demonstration of testing various extracts by different biologic methods.—H. C. Hamilton.

48. Domestic ergot: Demonstration, samples and testing.—C. H. Bailey, E. L. Newcomb.

49. Poisoning by rhus, vanilla, primula, anacardium and other plants.—E. D. Brown.

50. Pollen and its relation to hay fever.—C. O. Rosendahl.

51. Aspidium: the biologic method of standardization.—E. D. Brown.

52. Insulin: methods of preparation and testing.—W. P. Larson.

53. Discussion on work of this session, and general summary on the work of the week; discussion on best method for conducting such meetings, to be led by H. W. Youngken, A. Schneider, E. D. Brown, H. C. Hamilton.

COÖPERATION OF MANUFACTURERS, THE COLLEGES, LABORATORIES, HOSPITALS, ETC., IS PROGRESSING.

A comprehensive article on "Insulin: Its Action, Its Therapeutic Value in Diabetes, and Its Manufacture," by the Insulin Committee, University of Toronto, is printed in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, pp. 1847-1851. Parts of the article are also printed in a bulletin of the University of Toronto. The closing paragraphs of the report follow:

"Now that a satisfactory process has been worked out for the manufacture of insulin on a large scale, the Insulin Committee considers that, at the expiration of the temporary agreement with the Eli Lilly Company, licenses to manufacture insulin should be granted to other firms who are able and willing to comply with certain conditions imposed by the committee. The Eli Lilly Company agrees to assign to the committee patents covering certain improvements in the manufacture of insulin that have been elaborated by it. All information in the possession of the committee, including the various methods involved in the manufacture of insulin, whether patented or not, will be conveyed by the committee to the licensed manufacturers, it being understood, however, that they on their part agree to put at the disposal of the committee any new processes they may devise, whether patentable or not, and that the committee may then transmit this information to other manufacturers. In other words, the policy is to be that all patents already applied for and all information concerning the manufacture of insulin will be interchanged and made available for such manufacturers as satisfy the Insulin Committee that they are in a position to undertake the manufacture of this substance. By this arrangement it is considered that the purposes for which the University of Toronto holds the patent rights will

be fulfilled, and that the medical profession will be assured of the most satisfactory product at the lowest cost.

"The Insulin Committee desires to express its appreciation of the whole-hearted manner in which the Lilly research laboratories have coöperated in working out the problems of large scale production of insulin. Without this collaboration it is unlikely that a non-irritating product of such satisfactory potency and durability could have been produced in adequate amounts to meet the demand of the medical profession, in this comparatively short time."

PENETRATIVE POWERS OF ARSENICALS.

The probable reason why the chances for the complete cure of a generalized syphilitic infection are poor, says the U. S. Public Health Service, is because the usual remedies (arsphenamine, neoarsphenamine, and silver arsphenamine) all lack the power necessary to enable them to penetrate the infected tissues in sufficient amounts to destroy the last remaining parasites. Other arsenicals, sulpharsphenamine, tryparsamid, and 3-amino-4-oxyphenol arsonic acid, have superior penetrative powers and their use as remedies is suggested.

The report was made by Carl Voegtlin, M. I. Smith, Helen Dyer, and I. W. Thompson, all of the U. S. Public Health Service, after prolonged experimentation, both chemical and bacteriological, on rabbits. While the authors admit that results so obtained cannot be transferred, without reservation, to the treatment of human syphilis, they nevertheless advance several reasons that cause them to believe that a clinical trial of the more penetrative preparations named is strongly indicated.

In conclusion they express, as Ehrlich did, their belief that no matter what arsenical may be used better results will be obtained from single large doses a week apart than from smaller doses given at shorter intervals.

TOXICITY OF CARBON TETRACHLORIDE.

The toxic effects of carbon tetrachloride have been studied by Lamson and McLean by means of the phenoltetrachlorophthalein liver function test. In two cases the effect on renal function has also been studied by means of the phenolsulphonephthalein test.

It was found that single doses of 4 cc of carbon tetrachloride per kilogram produce functional disturbance of the liver in the dog, with complete return of function to normal within ninety-six hours. Signs of intoxication in these animals could be observed by this method before any visible signs or symptoms were evident. The kidneys did not appear to be affected by this dose. Administration of 2 cc per kilogram produced no demonstrable disturbance in either kidney function. Finally, 4 cc per kilogram, given in divided doses of 2 cc per kilogram at forty-eight hours intervals, was found to have no toxic effect, which is contrary to the belief that divided doses are more toxic than a single massive dose.

GROUP ADVERTISING.

Group advertising has a value because of the coöperation it evidences between retailer, wholesaler and manufacturer—a confidence, significant of belief in one another and a concurrent estimate of the product advertised. The confidence of the public should be maintained—once lost, there will be doubt of sincerity and a questioning of the purpose. While group advertising when rightly directed is constructive publicity, it is destructive when misdirected. Guard it as you would your name.

PERSONAL AND NEWS ITEMS.

Prof. Dr. Hermann Thoms and Mrs. Thoms were guests of honor at a dinner given in New York City, August 7, under the auspices of the New York Branch A. Ph. A., New York German Apothecaries' Society and New York Veteran Druggists' Association. As stated in the July number of *THIS JOURNAL*, Dr. Thoms is on his way to Japan, whither he has been invited by his pupils. Mrs. Thoms and the professor visited in Philadelphia, August 8. He came to see the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, of which he is an honorary member. A luncheon was served at the Bellevue-Stratford and, thereafter, points of historical interest were visited by the guests, under the guidance of members of the faculty. Prof. and Mrs. Thoms will stop in Detroit and Madison before continuing their journey to the Pacific Coast.

James Vernor, who is a Detroit Councilman and still active in his own business, celebrated his 80th birthday, April 11. A sketch is printed in *JOURNAL A. PH. A.*,

July 1919, p. 529. Mr. Vernor was a member of the first Michigan Board of Pharmacy, in 1885, corresponding secretary of the old Michigan Pharmaceutical Association when it was organized in 1874; vice-president of the Association of Secretaries of State Boards in 1891; and vice-president of the American Pharmaceutical Association in 1888. He was a hospital steward and then a lieutenant in the Civil War. His councilmanic experience extends for over a quarter of a century.

Dr. William Allen Pusey, President-Elect of the American Medical Association, was born in Elizabethtown, Hardin County, Ky., Dec. 1, 1865, son of Dr. Robert B. and Belle Brown Pusey. He received the A.B. degree from Vanderbilt University in 1885, the A.M. in 1886 and the M.D. from the Medical College of New York University in 1888. The following year he began practice in Chicago. From 1894 to 1915 he was professor of dermatology in the University of Illinois School of Medicine. He has been dermatologist at St. Luke's and Augustana hospitals, and was president of the American Dermatological Association in 1910 and of the Chicago Medical Society, 1918-1919. During the war he rendered conspicuous service to the government as chairman of the Committee on Venereal Diseases in the Surgeon General's Office, outlining the plan of attack on these diseases and aiding in the preparation of the "Manual of Treatment of Venereal Disease." He is author of a number of textbooks, and since its foundation in 1920 has been an editor of the *Archives of Dermatology and Syphilology*, published by the American Medical Association. From 1911 to 1922, Dr. Pusey was treasurer of the A. M. A.

J. K. Lilly, head of Eli Lilly & Co., of Indianapolis has returned from a trip around the world. A testimonial dinner was given for him by the Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce, June 12. In his address of the occasion Mr. Lilly said: "A trip around the world affording glimpses into lands impoverished by ignorance and the worship of false gods is sufficient to convince any one that citizenship in the United States is the most precious possession in the world."

Dr. C. A. Browne has been named head of the Bureau of Chemistry.

Dr. Browne is a native of North Adams, Mass., where he was born in 1870. After taking his M.A. degree at Williams, he studied at the University of Göttingen, Germany,

where in 1902 he received both M.A. and Ph.D. degrees. He took up his profession as a chemist in New York in 1892, and in 1895 and 1896 was instructor in chemistry at Pennsylvania State College. After four years as assistant chemist at the Pennsylvania Experiment Station, Dr. Browne returned to Germany for two years to study sugar chemistry. From 1902 to 1906 he was research chemist at the Louisiana Sugar Experiment Station, New Orleans, and in 1906 and 1907 was chief of the sugar laboratory of the Bureau of Chemistry, resigning to become chemist in charge of the New York Sugar Trade Laboratory, Inc. He is an associate editor of the *Journal of the American Chemical Society* and is the author of many bulletins, papers and textbooks on chemical subjects.

Dr. Charles F. Chandler, professor emeritus of chemistry at Columbia University, consulting chemist of the Chemical Foundation, Inc., member of the American Pharmaceutical Association since 1867, has been elected an honorary member of the London Society of Chemical Industry, which he served as president in 1889-1900.

Dr. Jacob Diner diverted, a gift intended by his many good friends for the purchase of a Cadillac car for him as an expression of appreciation for his efforts in behalf of the New York Drug Store ownership law, to a fund for giving deserving pharmacy students financial help. The occasion was a celebration of the event referred to, honoring all those who so persistently and successfully worked for the passage of the law.

Mrs. L. E. Sayre, wife of Ex-President Sayre, has been seriously ill for several months, but is slowly recovering. Professor Sayre fears that it will be impossible for him to attend the Asheville A. Ph. A. meeting.

Mrs. William H. Gano died July 28th, after an illness extending over several months. Sympathy is expressed to our fellow-member in his bereavement.

The Heinitsh Drug Store, Lancaster, Pa., in addition to its antiquity enjoys the unique record of having been owned and operated by one family for 143 years. From the time Carl Heinrich Heinitsh opened its doors early in 1780 up to the present time, none but a Heinitsh has been a factor in its ownership. Mrs. A. A. Heinitsh is the present owner, although the business is under the management of Edward L. Page. The late Charles A. Heinitsh, owner of the store for a half

century, was president of the American Pharmaceutical Association in 1882.

A perfect record of conduct for twenty years in the naval service was disclosed July 7th by Secretary Denby, when he publicly commended **Samuel S. Gant**, of Liberty, Mo., chief pharmacist's mate, upon his transfer to the fleet naval reserve.

"Gant's entire service of twenty years contains no report against him of any infraction of naval regulations," Secretary Denby said. "A clear record of service covering such a long period of time is extremely rare."

Dr. F. A. Grazer, member of the American Pharmaceutical Association, is shown outside of the botanical garden which the doctor is cultivating for the instruction of nurses of the Sacramento Hospital, in *Till and Tile* for May.

Harry B. Mason, who has been Director of Promotion of Parke Davis & Co., is now Assistant to the President.

L. B. Hayward, superintendent of Parke, Davis & Co. laboratories, has been elected a director of the corporation.

Edward Mallinckrodt of St. Louis has given \$500,000 toward the construction of a group of new chemical laboratories for Harvard University, it is announced. The building will bear the donor's name and will stand between the new lecture hall and the university museum, near the Wolcott Gibbs and Coolidge laboratories.

The Chemist and Druggist of June 30 featured the London botanical gardens. The illustrations are excellent and the accompanying article interesting. The attractions of Oxford are described so as to serve as a guide for the members of the International Congress of Pharmacy, who visited there July 26.

The annual special issues of the *Chemist and Druggist* are always attractive and interesting and this number is not surpassed in that respect by previous editions. We are impressed by the coöperative support of advertisers who make such an issue possible—there are upwards of 200 pages of advertising.

What will be called the "Bibliography of Bibliographies in Chemistry and Chemical Technology," is now in process of compilation by the National Research Council, Washington. Clarence J. West, in charge of the compilation, has sent out a request to all who have bibliographic data on the general chemical or special fields to aid him in his work, which will in the end benefit all chemical research workers.