

H. LIONEL MEREDITH
HAGERSTOWN, MARYLAND

President of National Association of Boards of Pharmacy
1924-1925



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JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION

VOL. XIII

NOVEMBER, 1924

No. 11

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The business stationery of Mr. Meredith, now president of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy, will attract the attention of those interested in the progress of pharmacy. We quote, "Prescription and Biochemic Laboratories—Office Hours: 8 A.M. to 12, 1 P.M. to 5 P.M., and by Appointment." This pharmacy has recently been the subject of an article in a pharmaceutical publication and, evidently, the venture has been successful. The gross receipts are smaller than of the business formerly owned and conducted by Mr. Meredith in Hagerstown, but the net profits are larger and the number of work-hours less.

The only further reference to this pharmacy is made for the purpose, in a way, of acquainting the readers with its owner. Before the laboratory was opened rules for its conduct were adopted; although success did not come at once, the proprietor exercised forethought, had persistence and possessed the essential courage. Just one example (more or less hypothetical) for general application is given. No merchandising is permitted. An item prescribed by a physician is dispensed in the office, whereas the very same article, which may or may not be on the market in package form, will not be sold on call to the same customer nor to any other patron who happens in the pharmacy to purchase, even at the time the prescription for that medicinal is being filled. Probably this may be an extreme case, but is here stated to bring out the point, which is only to indicate one of the principles of conduct governing that establishment. As has been said, it required courage to adhere strictly to the plan, but Mr. Meredith did and does, and has won. This trait introduces the subject perhaps just as well as writing at greater length of his activities, which will be very briefly reported.

After graduating from high school in Hagerstown, June 1892, young Meredith entered pharmacy under the preceptorship of D. C. Aughinbaugh & Son. The young man's qualities of observation and thoughtful application gained for him the *Druggists' Circular* Scholarship in 1897, awarded for a paper on "How to Conduct the Business of a Retail Pharmacy." He matriculated at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and graduated from this institution in 1900. His standing with his

fraters is evidenced by his selection as president of the class and the Zeta Phi Society of that year. The prize he esteemed highest was that of winning the daughter of the late Prof. John M. Maisch (Miss Marie), to whom he was married after graduation. He became a member of the American Pharmaceutical Association during this eventful year (1900).

In 1903 he was appointed on the Maryland Board of Pharmacy and has been its presiding officer; this (1924) is his seniority year as member. He served the Maryland Pharmaceutical Association in various offices; as president in 1909-1910. He has been chairman and member of important N. A. B. P. committees, and vice-president of the National Drug Trade Conference. In 1919 he completed a course in bio-chemistry and bacteriology at the University of Pennsylvania, and was awarded the Ph.M. degree by the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Sciences in 1922. He is now bacteriologist for Hagerstown; has been president of its Chamber of Commerce. He has held other civic positions—member of the Maryland Council of Defense, Emergency Fleet, Enlistment Bureau, Federal Fuel Commission, etc.

President Meredith is a Rotarian; he belongs to the Masonic bodies, is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and the Meredith home is enlivened and made happier by three budding children.

E. G. E.

THE WORK THAT SHOULD BE DONE BY THE MANY IS SOMETIMES LEFT FOR THE FEW TO DO.

The statement of the title needs no corroboration, so it is said. Many institutions have grown and have accomplished work because of the determination of a very limited number; the majority have, at times, sought excuses for their passiveness and for the activities of the few. Working millions of the individual fortunes have been withdrawn from trade and dedicated to research, and even these efforts have not escaped suspicion and ill-will. The opinion has been expressed that these millions may some day rule the country in the name of charity—but the question is, would this needful work be done at all if left to the multitude? Books, or at least a book has been published in which the complaint is made that the educational institutions are largely financed by rich men. If they were not, what would be the status?

A medical college and its hospital, celebrating its centenary this year, have retained their independence and collective individuality against the influences said to induce mergers in the name of greater scientific efficiency, but there is coming to them no largely increased financial aid from the state because of their very much larger service.

Some pharmacists in the various activities may set examples, exhibiting a larger interest, and give more general support to pharmaceutical institutions and organizations; join more actively in establishing the Pharmacy Headquarters by the contributions of the many, rather than of the few. The latter are very welcome, and the Association is correspondingly grateful, but its appeal is for all pharmacists to participate in the undertaking, which is to benefit pharmacy in all of its divisions; the many contributions evidence a spirit which should encourage others to do likewise.

E. G. E.