

Your Chairman begs your indulgence for this long address, which he realizes is contrary to the precedent of Chairmen's addresses, but he feels that the time has arrived for constructive and definite action and he craves action.

#### ABSTRACT OF DISCUSSION.

Charles H. LaWall said this address should go to all pharmacists; it should not be lost because of the few members here. In his opinion a sufficient number of reprints should be made for mailing to all officers of State Associations, all drug journals and colleges of pharmacy with the request that publicity and coöperation be given the plan. He made a motion accordingly and that the matter be referred to the Board of Directors, as to the financial outlay.

Chairman Nitardy asked whether this would come from the Section as a recommendation to the Board of Directors. The mover replied in the affirmative. The motion was carried.

A further motion, which was carried, referred the address for publication.

Chairman Ruth said that the Section should start on a definite program of writing articles for periodicals.

Chairman Nitardy referred to another recommendation of Chairman Ruth's address—that the By-Laws of the Scientific Section be adopted by this Section; he asked whether it was necessary to refer these to a committee. Charles H. LaWall considered this unnecessary and moved that the recommendations be approved. The motion was seconded and carried.

The By-Laws were read section by section; in Section 9, the word "extract" was changed to "abstract," and "scientific interests" was changed to "pharmaceutical interests" in order to make the term apply to this Section. A vote was called for to adopt the By-Laws, as amended, as a whole; it carried.

Report of the Special Committee on Recipe Book was called for, see p. 865, September JOUR. A. PH. A. The report was made by F. W. Nitardy; a motion to adopt and approve the report was made by Charles H. LaWall.—Carried.

Chairman Ruth appointed as members of the Committee on Nominations: *Chairman*, P. Henry Utech, B. E. Höckert and H. M. Faser.

By request of the Chairman, Charles H. LaWall presented notes of two papers to be submitted for publication, on "A New Emulsifying Agent for Volatile Oils" and "Denaturants in Distilled Extract of Witch Hazel;" the co-worker on latter paper is Joseph W. E. Harrison. Chairman Ruth requested that the contributors complete the papers and send them to the JOUR. A. PH. A. for publication.

A general discussion of the papers was participated in by Messrs. Gray, Krantz, Doran, Walton, Becker, Glover, Gauger, Handy and others.

The emulsifying agent receiving consideration in the first paper is albumen and potassium bitartrate.

In the discussion of the notes on denaturants in distilled extract of witch hazel, the varying costs were brought out, evidencing that pure ethyl alcohol was not invariably used in the preparation. Mr. Doran stated that for the distillation the weight of witch hazel is not given, so it lacks standard. Mr. Walton referred to the Government's viewpoint—classifying witch hazel among toilet articles and not as medicine. Mr. Handy contended that in framing a standard it should be remembered that witch hazel has constituents which have therapeutic value, however minute the quantities they may be essential to its action, and pharmacists should have assurance that the product purchased by them is what the manufacturers allege it to be. Mr. Doran said that correct labeling is the key to the situation.

A paper, by E. F. Kelly and John C. Krantz, Jr., was next read on "An Experiment in Extraction" (see pp. 815-818, September JOUR. A. PH. A.). There was no discussion, but Charles H. LaWall expressed his appreciation of this interesting and scientific study, which throws light on some of the difficulties of extraction.

A paper by Jos. W. E. Harrison on "The Preservative Effect of Certain Substances on Carrel-Dakin Solution," was read by Charles H. LaWall—see October JOUR. A. PH. A., p. 902. The following paper was called for and read by the author:

#### THE A. PH. A. RECIPE BOOK—ITS SCOPE.

BY IVOR GRIFFITH.

The A. Ph. A. Recipe Book was the name originally intended for this compilation of for-

mulas. It has been suggested that the title of the book be changed to the A. Ph. A. Book of Formulas, which is certainly more dignified and less kitcheny than the former title. Yet, it has been criticized because of possible confusion with the National Formulary. This, however, is not likely.

The character of the book in its many aspects is in the hands of certain committees and there is every promise of an excellent final product.

Indeed the mere fact that this Association has planned to assemble and publish this book is proof sufficient of the existent need for such a compilation and the brilliant career of the National Formulary is warrant enough for its ultimate success.

President Arny in his address called attention to the commendable work done by Chairman Lascoff in the compiling and testing of the formulas chosen and in their assembling. It has entailed much unselfish labor and no inconsiderable expense of time and money. The presentation of his final report cannot but reflect the wholesome interest and untiring work which have been his share in the consummation of this great undertaking. The compilation, one might state then, is ready for final consideration, except perhaps in regard to the grouping of formulas, the elimination of repetitive formulas and some other important items of assembling and editing.

There may be a question then and a very pertinent question as to the need for this paper in such a time. In answer it can be stated that the paper is submitted in order to gain some helpful information from members of the section as well as to sustain interest in this important venture of the Association.

This is not the Section on Commercial Interests nor the Conference of Pharmaceutical Faculties where juggling over large figures and small fractions is in the hands of experts, but it is quite pertinent to call to your attention that the A. Ph. A. Formula Book has in it financial potentialities that if properly developed will place in the hands of our directors a valuable source of additional income. The writer while editing the department of questions and answers in a prominent trade journal learned a great deal about formularies or what purported to be formularies. Incidentally, he also learned a great deal about querists. First of all, he learned that the small percentage of pharmacists who send questions to these departments in drug journals are very often lacking in one or two extremely important particulars—they lack thinkeries or they lack formularies. Sometimes they lack both. Lacking a thinkery, a formulary is of no avail and lacking a formulary even brains may fail to bring the answer.

Let us consider a concrete example—A physician walks into a Buffalo drug store and requests a pint of Benedict's Quantitative Sugar Solution. Proficient in the art of procrastination the druggist informs his customer that it will take some time to compound this preparation and offers to send it around to the office in half an hour. The physician after requesting promptness leaves. Then a frantic search through the U. S. P. where Benedict is still unknown—then through the N. F., then through a dispensatory and finally through a series of formularies of varying degrees of senectitude and shabbiness. His search is fruitless. One old formula book lists Benedictine but not Benedict's. Then he foolishly consults Webster and is chagrined to find that Benedict is there and infers a state of compound blessedness but this does not afford the solution of his problem.

His next step is to call the Buffalo College of Pharmacy only to find that all the professors are attending a convention at the Statler Hotel or else out fishing.

Frantically as the end of the half hour approaches—Benedict's still absent from his mind and Benedictian far from his heart—he calls up the physician and tells him that he regrets greatly his inability to furnish him with the promised solution, for the simple reason that he has no idea of what it contains other than sugar.

Now that is only a story—but it is not entirely fanciful, for similar incidents can be quoted from the experience of every practicing pharmacist. The moral of the story is that there are no good formularies available to-day. Yes, there may be secured a great many formularies but they are without exception inadequate. They often have bulkiness and an astronomical multiplicity of formulas but bulkiness and a multiplicity of formulas do not constitute comprehensiveness. One such formulary consulted at random had thirteen recipes for silvering mirrors, forty-eight formulas for dentifrices and three for imitations of castoria, and this fertility of formulas obtained throughout the book.

Previously, reference was made to the senectitude of the collection of formula books gen-

erally available in the drug stores. One can quite as pungently ridicule the senility of some of the individual formulas in more recent editions of these books. To repeat—there is not a single good general pharmaceutical formula published in the United States to-day.

But what constitutes a good formula book? In brief, the following descriptive terms seem to carry the writer's impression of a serviceable and authoritative formula book, such a book as could be sponsored by this Association and be in keeping with its reputation and dignity.

1. Comprehensiveness. 2. Up-to-dateness. 3. Reliability. 4. Availability or accessibility. These terms let us now consider very briefly.

1. *Comprehensiveness*.—When Dr. Charters is finished with his commonwealth study of pharmacy it will be splendid to have him engage in a tussle with the million and one formulas so that by his special process of elimination he might select for us the thousand prime formulas outside of the official books, then the next thousand of less importance, etc., just as he did with the Latin of the curriculum. He would find in this field a most abundant opportunity for his unique methods of survey. Seriously, however, it must be a most difficult task for the Committee to determine not what must go into this book but what must be left out. Some of the formularies publish many translations from foreign sources, notably the German, as if the mere translation implied worthiness. Such a formula ascribed to Hager called for chloride of potassium in a gargle, obviously a mistake, and was printed next to a similar formula from an American source but which called for the chlorate. Comprehensiveness implies systematic arrangement. The book must be well divided into reasonable parts. One cannot scramble together a collection of good formulas and call the product a good formula book. There must be a system. Therapeutic formulas properly labeled shall be in their own department. Cosmetic formulas elsewhere, formulas for testing solutions, industrial formulas, photographic formulas, etc., all must be in their own place. Only thus can we arrive at a serviceable hand book of formulas.

There must be uniformity of style in writing the formulas—here, if anywhere, will there be a fine field for outdistancing the current formularies. One gazes with amazement at a formula such as this; quoted verbatim from its original source:

Atropine sulfate (1%).....	30 minims
Cocaine hydrochloride.....	3 grains
Solution of epinephrin (1:1000).....	30 cc.
Camphor water..... ad.....	100 cc.

Such examples of hybrid metrologic statements are not earmarks of intelligent editing and their frequent presence in formularies and drug journals is to be deprecated.

2. *Up-to-dateness*.—This term is self-explanatory and involves the obvious need for revising the formula frequently in order to keep abreast of the times. An example of senility as well as an example of asininity is seen in the formula which follows:

Syrup of Iodo-tannic acid (French Codex).....	℥
Tincture of aconite 1880.....	10 drops
Syrup of anise, to make.....	℥i

The senility is reflected in the second item and the asininity in the first, for nowhere in the formula was there a formula for the first ingredient.

3. *Reliability*.—Our formula book will have in it no formula that cannot be assembled. That is a broad statement to make. Judging from the impracticability of some formulas which we have seen in the books one cannot help coming to the conclusion that they are the work of arm-chair wielders of graphite on cellulose. It seems well assured, however, that none but worthy formulas will find a place in the A. Ph. A. Formula Book for the compoundability of every formula has been tested in the laboratory of the chairman. That is a most commendable feature of his management of the book. Reliability, however, is a broader term than one might imagine, as it infers the reliability of the finished preparation as well. And yet this might be said to be quite far from the province or possibility of this book; nevertheless, there is a margin of interest that can be displayed in this direction. To illustrate there is quoted herewith a formula taken from a list recently submitted to the Chairman. Needless to say it will be deleted.

Castor oil.....	3 Gm.
Powdered altheae.....	
Soap, to make.....	100 pills

Each pill would accordingly contain about half a drop of the exquisite grease, surely a quantity not calculated to disturb the equanimity of the peristaltic machinery. Reliability of formula also involves a reliability of working directions and these must be furnished in every possible case.

4. *Availability or Accessibility.*—This is a problem of editing. It involves a good arrangement of the formulas, good indexing and cross indexing, good printing and good form. It also involves availability from the standpoint of price. The book must be moderately priced in order to find a market for the later revisions.

There are many more things that might be said in regard to the book; there is the question of ethics. Questionable formulas must be omitted. Distinctly therapeutic titles such as heart-tonic pills or blood purifier should be avoided. Blatant copies of proprietaries shall be left out. The legal aspects of formulas must be closely scrutinized. But why go on, for these matters are undoubtedly in safe hands and it can be quite properly stated that when the book finally emerges from its long and tedious period of formation, it will be found useful, virile and correct and a credit both to its compilers and to its sponsors.

The importance of classification was stressed by Charles H. LaWall. Chairman Ruth referred to an experience he had with a formula that had become misplaced, by which he emphasized the need and usefulness of a reliable Recipe Book.

A new method for making emulsions was described by Henry G. Ruenzel (see p. 871, September JOUR. A. PH. A.).

#### THE A. PH. A. BOOK OF FORMULAS.

Chairman Leon Lascoff, of the Committee on Unofficial Formulas, presented an illustrated report; about 500 preparations made according to formulas submitted and printed were on exhibition during convention week; for further elucidation and additional references he had with him about 150 lantern slides, many of which were shown. Before explaining different preparations, he referred to the publication of Formulas in the JOURNAL A. PH. A., which can be traced by reference numbers in the heading of this division in the JOURNAL (see October issue, pp. 975-977, and index of preceding volumes).

An address by the Chairman printed in the April (1924) JOURNAL and presented before New York Branch, A. Ph. A., embodies the main points brought to the attention of the members by Chairman Lascoff. He gave an account of the number of formulas published, the sources, list of deletions from U. S. P. that have not been included in the N. F. under revision. The Chairman's activities were cited, the number of bulletins issued, the reports made at A. Ph. A. Branch meetings and heretofore published.

A comprehensive index of preparations was prepared by the Chairman and exhibited by him; the cross references make it possible to find quickly the formula for any of the preparations. This work, like other activities, evidenced the deep interest of the Chairman. The formulas are typewritten on slips which fit into the book and these are designed also for use by contributors of formulas, carrying all essential information relative to the preparation and history, in so far as this is obtainable.

Chairman Lascoff stated that he had appointed a Committee on Scope, composed of Messrs. Griffith, Fischelis, Scoville, Wimmer and Hilton. He recommended that the book be called the "A. Ph. A. Book of Formulas," and that, when published, it should include three divisions: Pharmaceutical formulas, non-pharmaceutical preparations or specifications and hospital formulas. So far 1503 formulas had been considered, of which 630 are for pharmaceuticals, 171 for toilet and related preparations, 38 for the soda fountain, 25 photographic formulas, 16 for flavorings, 354 hospital formulas, 85 for household remedies, 10 veterinary formulas, 25 for reagents, and the remainder deletions from the U. S. P. and N. F.

Chairman Lascoff stated he had received a number of letters from interested persons, here and abroad, asking when the Book would be completed. He felt that his assignment was that of compiling the formulas and the editing of the Book should be done by some one experienced in such work and recommended the appointment of an editorial committee.

He thanked all who had aided him in his work.

Chairman Ruth invited discussions which would be helpful for the Chairman and his co-workers in completing the Book.

H. V. Army moved that a rising vote of thanks be given the Chairman and his associates. H. L. Meredith considered that nearly all the work had been done by the Chairman. The vote carried unanimously.

I. A. Becker spoke as Chairman of the Committee on Photographic Formulas—he selected the formulas with the thought in mind to make the preparation of developing, reducing solutions, etc., and the sale thereof a source of profit for the pharmacist.\* He thought that in addition to the formulas references to other formulas should be included. Chairman Lascoff said there was a chapter given over to this subject.

Charles H. LaWall moved that the Section join in the recommendations made by President Army in his address and refer action on the Book of Formulas to the Council. The motion was seconded and carried.

The first session of the Section was then adjourned.

#### SECOND SESSION.

The second session of the Section on Practical Pharmacy and Dispensing was convened at 1:40 P.M., August 29, by Chairman Robert J. Ruth; F. F. Berg acted as Secretary.

Reading of papers was the first order of this session. (Abstracts of discussions will be printed with papers as they are published and omitted from the minutes; titles and names of authors only are given.—Editor.)

"Branches of the American Pharmaceutical Association in Schools of Pharmacy," by E. V. Kyser.

"A Hospital Pharmacy," by Henry J. Goeckel.

"The Hospital Pharmacist's Opportunities to Advance Pharmacy and to Aid in the Attainment of Therapeutic Success," by Henry J. Goeckel.

"Hospitals in China" (read by Chairman Ruth), by Harvey V. Stokeley.

"Why Botany and Pharmacognosy," by William J. Stoneback.

"Some Observations on Glycerin Suppositories," by Wilbur L. Scoville.

The foregoing paper was published in September JOURNAL, p. 818. There was no discussion except in so far as the difference was noted between manufacture in the pharmacy, where local conditions only had to be considered, and manufacture of suppositories that may be stocked for a time and then shipped to sections where climatic conditions differed. And also it was noted that the making of suppositories was more or less a specialized art. Messrs. Berg and Kebler expressed the foregoing and also an appreciation of the paper.

J. Leon Lascoff exhibited a Chinese pill, about the size of a "moth-ball;" the outer covering was of paraffin; inside of this the pill proper, wrapped in paper on which the directions for use were given. The speaker thought similar application might be made omitting the directions inside—perhaps for some remedials, instead of gelatin coating; he was not prepared to make any further suggestion; he hoped to bring along specimens of special forms of dispensing, as practiced in other countries, next year.

"Further Reports on a New Mercurial Poisoning Antidote," by William A. Hall.

"Our Pharmaceutical Conventions—Why We Should Attend Them," by Frances M. Greenwalt.

"Temperature Effects in Making, Diluting and Keeping the Carrel-Dakin Type of Hypochlorite Solution, including the Proposed U. S. P. Formula," by Irwin A. Becker.

"What Is a Modern Drug Store?" by F. W. E. Stedem.

"Pharmacy—Then Let Us Be Pharmacists," by John C. Krantz, Jr.

"The Use of Silica-Gel as a Clarifying Agent," by E. V. Howell.

"Extraction of Nux Vomica," by J. A. Pierce.

"Dispensing and Dispensary Practice for Students," by Frederick J. Wulling, published in October JOURNAL, p. 923.

"The Importance of Physical Characteristics in Pharmaceuticals," by Caswell A. Mayo and George E. Éwe.

"Sweetening Effect of Ammonia on Fluidextract of Licorice," by F. F. Berg—published in September JOUR. A. PH. A., p. 814.

---

\* See JOUR. A. PH. A., volume VI, p. 194; volume VIII, p. 829; volume XI, p. 551.

Arno Viehoever inquired for how long the preparation had been under observation and whether the organoleptic tests were made with freshly prepared products or after standing. The author replied that tests had been made with both; that this experimentation was the wind-up of a long series of experiments.\*

The paper by Edward Swallow on "The Status of the Hospital Pharmacist," was read. The following papers were read by title:

"Should Our Definition for Sugar be Broadened? If So, Why?" by L. E. Sayre. This paper is printed in the October JOURNAL, p. 909.

"Opportunities for Qualified Pharmacists in U. S. Government Service; with Comments on Narcotics and Alcoholics," by Cornelia Cunningham.

"Drug Store Management," by A. T. Maier.

"Why Are Hospital Pharmacists Considered Jacks at All Trades?" by Cornelia Cunningham.

P. Henry Utech moved that the papers read by title be referred for publication; the motion was seconded and carried.

Mr. Utech reported as Chairman for the Committee on Nominations, as follows:

*Chairman*, John C. Krantz, Jr., Baltimore; *Secretary*, F. J. Blumenschein, Pittsburgh; *First Vice-Chairman*, Miss Frances M. Greenwalt, St. Paul; *Second Vice-Chairman*, to be selected by Council; *Delegates to the House of Delegates*, Robert J. Ruth.

Because of the new ruling under the By-Laws no *Second Vice-Chairman* is named; the Committee is of the opinion that this officer should reside in the next convention city.

Henry G. Goeckel moved that the nominations be closed; seconded and carried.

Caswell A. Mayo moved that the Secretary be instructed to cast one ballot for the nominees named; seconded and carried.

The officers-elect were then duly installed and they expressed appreciation of the honor conferred on them.

A rising vote of thanks was tendered the retiring officers.

Henry G. Goeckel inquired whether any effort had been made to associate with the American Hospital Association.

Past Chairman Ruth stated that Miss Greenwalt was affiliated with the organization of hospital pharmacists and will make an investigation and report at the Des Moines meeting. It was so moved and seconded by Arno Viehoever.—Carried. On motion, seconded and carried, the Section adjourned.

(Minutes of other Sections will follow in a succeeding issue.)

---

#### COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN OF NATIONAL WHOLESALE DRUGGISTS' ASSOCIATION.

Chairmen of the various committees of the National Wholesale Druggists' Association have been appointed by President Sewall D. Andrews, as follows: Credits and Collections—W. W. Gibson, Albany, N. Y.; Delivery and Traffic—Wm. Jay Schieffelin, Jr., New York City; Drug Markets—John F. Belsterling, Philadelphia; Educational—A. Kiefer Mayer, Indianapolis; Insurance—Roy M. Johnston, Fort Smith, Ark.; Legislation—C. Mahlon Kline, Philadelphia; Memorials—Harry J.

Schnell, New York City; Proprietary Goods—Henry D. Faxon, Kansas City; Quality of Medicinal Products—P. E. Anderson, New York City; Rates and Routes—Romaine Pierson, New York City; Special Lines—J. M. Penland, Waco, Texas; Trade-Marks—Frank A. Blair, New York City; Uniform Accounting—Sewall Cutler, Boston; Local Associations—W. E. Greiner, Dallas; Membership—C. J. DeWoody, Dallas; Prohibition Problems—Wm. Jay Schieffelin, New York City; Special committee to confer with Department of Commerce on Simplification—H. H. Robinson, Baltimore, *Chairman*; Walter V. Smith, Philadelphia; Harold D. Cowan, Buffalo.

---

\* Other references are made to JOUR. A. PH. A., volume VII, p. 958; volume IX, p. 307; volume X, p. 688; volume XII, p. 432.