

celebrated November 18; nearly 500 members, ladies, and friends were present at the dinner and dance given at McCallister Hotel. The address of the evening was made by C. W. Summerfield, of the Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce. The reports of the officers were most encouraging. The selections of the musical program were well rendered and other entertainment features added to the evening's enjoyment.

AMENDED REGULATIONS OF VIRGINIA BOARD OF PHARMACY.

Secretary A. L. I. Winne advises that the reciprocity regulations of the Virginia Board of Pharmacy have been amended so as to require in addition to a bona fide residence in the state in which applicant is registered a year prior to examination and a year of practice in that state a year subsequent to registration, and the usual satisfactory grades on both practice and theory subjects, that the applicant be a graduate of a school of pharmacy approved by this board.

U. S. ARMY MEDICAL LIBRARY.

According to a report of Surgeon General Ireland there are now 801,887 volumes and pamphlets in the U. S. Army Medical Library. The library has volumes dating back to the earliest periods of medical history and as far

as modern medicine is concerned the collection is probably the most complete in the world. A special exhibit is being arranged for the visitors to the Convention of the American Congress on Internal Medicine, to be held in Washington next April.

CENTENARY OF THE MEDICAL COLLEGE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

The Centenary of the Medical College of the state of South Carolina, at Charleston, was celebrated during the week of November 12. One of the features of the program was a tableau picturing the history of medicine. The closing scenes presented contributions to pharmacy by Egypt, Greece and Arabia; pharmacy of medieval and modern times. One of the luncheons was under the auspices of the pharmacy department, and participated in by the Dean, the head of the department, Prof. W. H. Zeigler, alumni officers and the student-body. Among the out-of-town visitors were Deans Wortley F. Rudd and Jordan and Chairman of the U. S. P. Revision Committee, E. Fullerton Cook.

Distinguished guests, representatives of various departments of the Government, concerned with medicine and pharmacy, were present at the banquet in the Francis Morton Hotel; among the speakers were the above-mentioned pharmacists.

THE PHARMACIST AND THE LAW.

RESALE PRICE PROTECTION LEGISLATION.

While it is probably impossible to enact a price protection law during the next session of Congress, progress can be made by hearings. Bulletin No. 92 of the National Wholesale Druggists' Association urges the members of this organization to write to Chairman Samuel E. Winslow and other leaders of the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce and impress on them the importance of granting hearings upon the pending price protection bills as early as practicable during the coming session. There are now pending before the House Committee four bills dealing with the subject of price protection; they differ in certain details and through the hearings the merits will be brought out.

All pharmacists should interest themselves in this and follow the advice given in foregoing paragraph, and act promptly.

PAN-AMERICAN STANDARDS MEETING MAY RAISE METRIC ISSUE.

At its coming session, Congress is to be urged to enact a law establishing metric units of weights and measures in merchandising throughout the United States, after a transition period of 10 years.

Metric advocates are pointing out the importance of the First Pan-American Standardization Conference, which meets in December of this year at Lima, Peru, and which will be attended by many United States delegates. All American republics will participate, and the United States alone is not on the metric basis. Leaders in the metric movement declare that permanent Pan-American standards can only be founded upon the decimal metric system, already employed by the vast majority of civilized nations. They express the hope that the Standardization Conference will pass resolutions urging the United States of

America to adopt metric commodity quantity standards, through Congressional enactment.

The importance of the Pan-American Standardization meeting is expected to direct the attention of our Congress to the necessity for considering world standards. In the meantime, metric advocates in the United States are active. The Metric Association holds its Convention in Washington, D. C., during December, and other organizations favoring the standardization move are cooperating.

Fred A. Britten, Congressman from Illinois and metric leader in the House of Representatives, declares: "I regard the adoption of the metric system of weights and measures by the United States of America as of great importance. Its universal adoption is inevitable."

INTERNATIONAL OPIUM CONFERENCE.

A number of the newspaper headings of articles bearing on the Conference at Geneva, read "War On Opium;" for some of the sessions "Opium War" might have been applicable. Charges and counter-charges embittered earlier sessions of the Conference on Far Eastern opium problems. China charged that if the great powers had not adopted effective measures to reduce opium-smoking in the Far East, such as rationing and the registration of smokers, it was because they did not wish to do so. England charged Japan with attacking the

British Government during the discussion over the Japanese proposal that countries exporting opium should recognize the import certificates issued by other countries and furnish opium when the documents declared that the opium was for legitimate purposes.

November 25th there was another outbreak in the Conference, but after many accusations and words almost violent in nature between the Japanese, British and Indian delegates an agreement was reached in principle on the issue which caused the collapse of the first opium Conference. This question concerns the freedom of Japan to import opium and recognition of import certificates by British authorities when Japan tranships her opium at Hongkong. Despite this accord, however, the first Conference is generally regarded, virtually, as a failure, because it provides no effective system for putting an end to opium-smoking in the Far East. The American plan proposes to accomplish complete suppression of opium-smoking within ten years—a ten per cent. cut each year.

The American proposal declares that to prevent the abuse of drugs "it is necessary to exercise the control of the production of raw opium in such a manner that there will be no surplus available for non-medicinal and non-scientific purposes." The nations therefore are asked to enact laws regulating the production of raw opium and coca leaves which shall prevent the existence of such a surplus.

BOOK NOTICES AND REVIEWS.

PUBLICATION OF BOOK REVIEWS DEFERRED.

On account of the annual index in this issue of the JOURNAL it is necessary to defer the printing of several book reviews, to a succeeding number. The two reviews following have been held over for some time.

Chemical Encyclopedia: A digest of chemistry and chemical industry by C. T. Kingzett, F. I. C., F. C. S., 3d edition. D. Van Nostrand Company, New York, 1924. 606 pp. \$8.00.

This volume is larger and more comprehensive than its earlier editions which were originally published under the title, "The Popular Chemical Dictionary."

The aim of the author has been truly accomplished, in his desire to place before the reader

an epitomized digest of chemistry, its industrial applications and miscellaneous information concerning principles of allied Technology and Interest.

The manner of treatment of the vast amount of material included renders the work exceptionally valuable to professional chemists, students and manufacturers. It further affords an educational treatise to all desiring information along the particular lines covered by the text.

We can find practically every common or specific chemical and technically related noun, ranging between Abietic Acid and Zymogens, alphabetically arranged.

Chemical Formulae are given where necessary, together with tabular references, and statistics are noted throughout the volume.

The composition of alloys, alcohol volume