

St. Louis, Missouri; No. 291, Henry J. Nie, 1228 East 12th St., Kansas City, Mo.; No. 292, William Donald Wardlaw, 631 Garfield Ave., Scottsdale, Pa.; No. 293, William Silberman, 6330 Throop St., Chicago, Ill.; No. 294, Myron Shapiro, 29 Virginia Ave., Jersey City, N. J.; No. 295, Walter Johnson, Des Arc, Arkansas; No. 296, Roger W. Perkins, 6231 Kenwood Ave., Chicago, Ill.; No. 297, Arvil Summerill Kimbro, 6345 University Ave., Chicago, Ill.; No. 298, Albert Edward Nordstrom, 604 Center St., Waukegan, Ill.; No. 299, Thomas George Crawford, 822 Forest Ave., Oak Park, Ill.; No. 300, Walter Williamson Seibert, Ashley, Ill.; No. 301, Aaron Pritikin, 4448 N. Bernard St., Chicago, Ill.; No. 302, Sam Levy, 1419 S. St., Louis Ave., Chicago, Ill.; No. 303, Harold Lizer, 2418 W. 34th Pl., Chicago, Ill.; No. 304, Isaac M. Glass, 1917 South 7th St., Springfield,

Ill.; No. 305, Harry Cooperman, 3327 W. Flournoy St., Chicago, Ill.; No. 306, Fern Ward Buooa, 3800 Third St., Des Moines, Iowa; No. 307, Margaret E. Pellett, 1839 Barth Ave., Indianapolis, Ind.; No. 308, Charles E. Willets, 4 East North Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa.; No. 309, Marvin Jackson Andrews, 601 Cathedral St., Baltimore, Md.; No. 310, J. A. Goetz, Osceola, Ark.; No. 311, Stanley Armistead, Waldron, Ark.; No. 312, H. S. Gentry, Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Dept. of Pharmacy, Auburn, Alabama; No. 313, Henry Stanley Grady, 2149 St. James Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio.

(*Motion No. 16.*) *Vote on applications for membership in the American Pharmaceutical Association.*

ROBERT P. FISCHELIS, *Secretary,*
Board of Directors, A. Ph. A.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE LOCAL BRANCHES

"All papers presented to the Association and Branches shall become the property of the Association with the understanding that they are not to be published in any other publication prior to their publication in those of the Association, except with the consent of the Board of Directors."—Part of Chapter VI, Article VI of the By-Laws.

Article IV of Chapter VII reads: "Each local branch having not less than 50 dues-paid members of the Association, holding not less than six meetings annually with an attendance of not less than 9 members at each meeting, and the proceedings of which shall have been submitted to the JOURNAL for publication, may elect one representative to the House of Delegates."

Reports of the meetings of the Local Branches should be mailed to the Editor on the day following the meeting, if possible. Minutes should be typewritten, with wide spaces between the lines. Care should be taken to give proper names correctly, and manuscript should be signed by the reporter.

CHICAGO.

The 139th regular meeting of the Chicago Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association was held at the University of Illinois School of Pharmacy Building, January 11, 1924, with President Warren in the chair. The meeting was preceded by a dinner at the Hotel LaSalle in honor of the guests of the Branch, Doctors E. Fullerton Cook, E. L. Newcomb, A. G. DuMez, E. A. Ruddiman, A. John Schwarz. At the first session, reports were heard from the Secretary-Treasurer, and the Committee on Nominations. The Secretary-Treasurer's report is as follows:

During the year 1923 the Branch has held 8 regular meetings, the 131st to 138th, inclusive.

At the meetings during the year, Dr. H. H. Rusby of New York, Dr. David Klein of the Wilson Laboratories, Dr. Robert W. Keeton, of the Research Laboratories of Rush Medical

College, Dr. Egil T. Olsen, Superintendent, Englewood Hospital, J. A. Hynes, of the U. S. Customs Service, L. E. Warren, Chemist, American Medical Association Laboratories, Secretary H. C. Christensen of the N. A. B. P., Secretary S. C. Henry of the N. A. R. D., Dr. Bernard Fantus, Dean W. B. Day, Professors C. M. Snow, A. H. Clark, E. N. Gathercoal, and others have presented addresses.

The meeting at which Dr. Rusby presented an illustrated lecture on the Mulford Expedition to South America was one of our best meetings in point of interest and of attendance. However, the "Insulin" meeting was also very attractive in both of these respects. All the meetings were well attended and of great interest. One meeting, that of December, was an innovation in that it was entirely entertainment. At this meeting a welcome was extended to new members and the Lambda

Kappa Sigma sorority furnished splendid entertainment and supper. The average attendance for the 8 meetings was 64, with the largest attendance 205.

The membership of the Branch January 2, 1924, was 480. On January 2, 1923, it was 446. The net gain for the year is 34.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

January 2, 1923	
Balance on hand.....	\$ 82.98
December 31, 1923	
Contributions from members.....	164.50
Commissions on new members.....	102.00
	<u>\$349.48</u>
December 31, 1923	
Printing & postage.....	\$140.18
Dinner expenses.....	25.75
Speakers.....	75.00
Miscellaneous.....	19.30
Balance on hand.....	89.25
	<u>\$349.48</u>

The report of the Committee on Nominations is as follows:

OFFICERS.

President, L. E. Warren.
 1st Vice-President, Otto H. Mentz.
 2nd Vice-President, R. A. Linke.
 3rd Vice-President, Josephine Dyniewicz.
 Delegate to the House of Delegates, E. N. Gathercoal.
 Secy.-Treas., E. N. Gathercoal.

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN.

Membership, Wm. Gray.
 Legislation, James H. Wells.
 Practice, I. A. Becker.
 Medical Relations, Dr. Bernard Fantus.
 Publicity, Samuel C. Henry.

The report of the committee was adopted and the nominees declared elected.

Dr. E. Fullerton Cook was presented and delivered an instructive address on the subject, "The Pharmacopœia in the Making." Dr. Cook discussed the history of the Pharmacopœial Committee, indicating some of the struggles of Dr. Lyman Spaulding in 1819-20 which resulted in the production of the first U. S. Pharmacopœia. He presented, also, the history of the present Revision Committee, describing its division into sub-committees, and the functions of the chairman, and the executive committee, which consists of the 15 sub-committee chairmen, and of the sub-committees themselves. He pointed out the vast amount of correspondence involved in the

revision work, mentioning the fact that already more than 2000 large pages of typewritten matter had been distributed in the form of circulars to each of the 50 members of the Revision Committee. Each of the sub-committees also has a large file of circulars; that of the sub-committee on botany and pharmacognosy totaled more than 1400 pages to date. He illustrated the address with lantern slides, tracing the development of the monograph on "Epinephrine." The address was very instructive to those in the audience who were not so familiar with revision matters and opened the way for the address by Dr. E. L. Newcomb on "Some of the Unsolved Problems of the Present U. S. P. and N. F. Revisions."

Dr. Newcomb said, in part, it was the American Pharmaceutical Association and its active members that years ago saved the U. S. P., and since 1850 pharmacists have taken an active part in the U. S. P. revisions. To-day the actual work of revision outside of questions of scope and dosage lies almost entirely in the hands of pharmaceutical workers. Not only is pharmacy thus interested in the U. S. P., but the A. Ph. A. owns and revises the National Formulary. These two books make the retail druggist more than a merchant.

One of the problems in connection with U. S. P. revision that continually arises is the personnel of the Revision Committee. Should the revision be taken out of the hands of organized medicine and pharmacy and placed in charge of a committee of Government employees? Perhaps the greatest argument in favor of such a change is the question that arises in the minds of some as to the unbiased probity of the members of the committee. Let it be said at this time that in the entire history of the revision of the U. S. P., the Revision Committee has invariably been made up of men unbiased and whose sole interest lay in producing a book of standards absolutely without bias. Grocers in their State and national associations make no scientific study of the standards for foods and spices, hence the Government officials have had to step in and the A. O. A. C. has been formed to establish such standards. Medicine and pharmacy, however, in their organizations are constantly studying scientific standards and no occasion exists for the Government to take exclusive charge of these standard works dealing with medicines.

Let it be said at this time, that no sub-committee of the U. S. P. Revision Committee should have exclusive power in any matter,

but all matters approved by any sub-committee should receive the endorsement of the full committee.

The second problem in connection with the revision is as to whether changes should be made unless something in the literature of the previous decade justifies such a change or whether the revision should be based on research investigations by the committee or sub-committees. The present revision of both of these standard works is a combining of both of these methods. A review of all published work has been made and much research investigation also has been carried out in connection with the revision. As one looks over the monographs of the Pharmacopœia, especially those that have remained through many revisions, one is impressed by the thought that some data are very well established and the likelihood of change is very small. Other items, however, are unquestionably open for further investigation. It is of interest to note, also, the trend of revision changes. Some decades ago the trend to enlarge the monographs was very marked. At present, and I believe this will hold for the future, the tendency will be to reduce the size of the monographs and to eliminate all statements that are not proved absolutely essential.

The possibility of establishing the fineness of powdered drugs has been a problem of great interest. When it was discovered in our investigations at the University of Minnesota, some time ago, that commercial powders of a designated degree of fineness did not conform to the definitions in the Pharmacopœia for such powder, we started work to determine if these drugs could be reduced to a definite degree of fineness. In the examination by sifting of 1500 samples of powdered drugs, partly commercial and partly produced in the laboratory, we have yet to find a single sample that conforms to the U. S. P. definition. If it is impossible to retain the present U. S. P. definitions of the degrees of fineness of a powder, it is very important to determine the proportions of the different finenesses that go to make up the powder most suitable for percolation or for such other purposes as the Pharmacopœia indicates. The study of these "powder curves" has been taken up and will be pursued in an endeavor to establish data for the next pharmacopœial revision. These "curves" depend upon the type of mill employed, the speed of the mill, the moisture in the drug and other factors. It becomes evident that practically

each drug must be dealt with by itself in connection with the problem of reducing it to a powder. It is possible, also, that other means than sifting will need to be employed to determine the fineness of the powder. Some powders are practically unsiftable.

There has been splendid coöperation between the sub-committees on extractive galenicals and the pharmacognosy sub-committee and a schedule of names has been adopted for the designation of the fineness of powders, namely, coarse, moderately coarse, fine and very fine. The proper defining of these four terms is one of the important problems before the pharmacopœial committee. Another problem of great moment is in connection with physiological assays. These probably will be made obligatory for a number of drugs in the present revision. The particular problem that arises is the relation between the toxicity of the drug to small animals and its therapeutic value to man. It has been well demonstrated in connection with digitalis that the toxicity is not altogether conformable to the therapeutic value of the drug. Whether the toxicity of aconite corresponds to this therapeutic value is also a question, but it is sure that aconite which is toxic is of more value than aconite which is not, and samples of aconite yielding by chemical assay a full 0.5 per cent. of alkaloids are known which are neither toxic nor of therapeutic value.

The use of a blanket standard in connection with the inorganic matter in vegetable drugs is an innovation. Such a standard was also suggested for the foreign organic matter, but so little is known on this subject that such a blanket standard was thought inadvisable.

The problem of sampling large quantities of a drug to obtain a representative sample is a very great one, and while progress has been made, it is not as yet really satisfactorily solved.

The question of moisture in drugs needs a very large investigation. The determination and the naming of the color of a drug or chemical in both the whole and powdered form is a problem of great moment. The question of the introduction of a color chart into the Pharmacopœia has been up but has been deferred for further investigation.

In connection with the question of continuous revision of the Pharmacopœia, problems have risen and the idea of appointing special committees and referees to investigate further a number of these problems is being considered.

Probably the revision will be continued throughout the decade in this manner.

Dr. Newcomb's address was very well received and was discussed by Messrs. I. A. Becker, H. C. Christensen, A. H. Clark, A. G. DuMez and E. A. Ruddiman.

E. N. GATHERCOAL, *Secretary.*

THE MINUTES OF THE UNOFFICIAL CONFERENCE OF U. S. P. AND N. F. REVISION WORKERS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS SCHOOL OF PHARMACY, JANUARY 12, 1924.

An unofficial conference of the members of the U. S. P. and N. F. Revision Committees and others interested in the work of these committees to consider some of the unsolved problems of the present revision was called under the auspices of the Chicago Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association at Chicago, January 12, 1924.

Mr. L. E. Warren, President and Mr. E. N. Gathercoal, Secretary of the Chicago Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association, were elected Chairman and Secretary of the Conference.

The following were in attendance: Dr. E. Fullerton Cook of Philadelphia, Dr. A. G. DuMez of Washington, D. C., Dr. E. L. Newcomb of Minneapolis, Mr. A. John Schwarz of Indianapolis, Dr. George D. Beal of Urbana, Prof. Hugh C. Muldoon, Prof. George C. Schicks and Prof. C. L. Cox of Valparaiso, Dr. E. L. Ruddiman of St. Louis, and Dr. O. V. R. Smith, Prof. Elmer H. Wirth, Prof. Clyde M. Snow, Mr. L. E. Warren, Prof. E. N. Gathercoal, Prof. W. B. Day, Dr. Hugh McGuigan, Dr. Bernard Fantus, Mr. William Gray, Dr. H. W. Vahlteich, Prof. A. H. Clark, Mr. H. H. McCausland, Prof. M. A. Miner, Mr. Alford Hansen, Dr. Carl Neilsen, Mr. C. K. Glycart, Miss Vivian Stuchlik, Mr. J. A. Dorjahn and Dr. J. A. Hynes of Chicago.

The program for the Conference was as follows:

- Dr. E. Fullerton Cook—"An Introductory Statement."
- Dr. Hugh McGuigan—"The Standardization and Action of Local Anesthetics."
- Dr. E. L. Newcomb—"The Designation of the Degree of Fineness of Powdered Drugs."
- A. J. Schwarz—"The Sampling of Crude Drugs."
- Dr. Bernard Fantus—"Dose Standardization of Elixirs."

Dr. A. G. DuMez—"Official Abbreviations and Other Problems of Nomenclature."

Dr. H. W. Vahlteich—"The Acid Content of the Pepsin Preparations."

Dr. Geo. D. Beal—"Can the Anthraquinone Drugs Be Scientifically Valued?"

Prof. A. H. Clark—"Continuous Revision of the U. S. P. and the Division of the Book into Two Separately Bound Parts."

L. E. Warren—"The Pharmacopœia from the Standpoint of the Analyst."

Dr. Henry Kraemer—"The Color and Odor of Drugs."

DEMONSTRATIONS.

Prof. E. H. Wirth—"The Demonstration of the Scoville Test for Determining the Strength of Capsicum."

J. A. Dorjahn—"Matching Powdered Drugs to a Color Chart."

Miss Vivian Stuchlik—"The Fermentation of Low-Alcoholic Liquid Galenicals."

Chairman E. Fullerton Cook, of the U. S. P. Revision Committee, opened the meeting and said in part: The very successful working out of the conferences of the various sub-committees, as well as of the whole Committee, in connection with the present revision leads me to believe that the work of future revisions will follow more and more along the conference line. The results of the present conference will no doubt be of help and should be placed before both Revision Committees. There is no way to bring about results and expedite a program so well as in conference, where the exchange of views face to face and the give-and-take discussion will perhaps do more in a few moments than weeks of correspondence could accomplish.

The general circulars issued to all of the members of the Committee now exceed 2000 large typewritten pages. Each of the 15 sub-committees has also a large file of similar sized pages—that of the sub-committee on botany and pharmacognosy now numbering 1400 pages.

The sub-committees are each made up of a group of workers interested in the work assigned to their particular sub-committee. These men, under the leadership of their chairman, undertake the actual study of the monographs of the Pharmacopœia. The gifts of time and talent donated to this work by the tireless workers of these sub-committees have, in a number of instances, been supplemented by similar gifts from workers outside of the Revision Committee who have been added to

the personnel of the sub-committees as auxiliaries. The chairmen of these 15 sub-committees constitute the executive committee which has the supervision of the editing of the revised manuscript.

Chairman Cook's introductory address was well received and cleared the field for the presentation of the papers to follow.

Dr. E. L. Newcomb, of the University of Minnesota College of Pharmacy, was next introduced and spoke on the subject of "The Designation of the Degree of Fineness of Powdered Drugs."

Because the present audience was largely in attendance at the meeting of the Chicago Branch the preceding evening, at which Dr. Newcomb discussed the same subject, he abbreviated his talk but stated that the important idea before the Conference was the actual framing of the definitions for the degrees of fineness of powdered drugs. But four degrees of fineness, namely, coarse, moderately coarse, fine and very fine, are recommended for the new Pharmacopœia, and these terms have already been adopted by the sub-committees revising the galenicals. The thought so far expressed in connection with definitions for these terms is that at least 95% of the powder shall pass through a No. 20 sieve for the coarse degree, a No. 40 sieve for the moderately coarse, a No. 60 sieve for the fine, and a No. 80 sieve for the very fine powder.

There is no question but that a problem of great magnitude lies in the determination of the degree of fineness of a drug most suitable for its perfect extraction. It is becoming more evident that each drug must be dealt with individually, as in this respect it is a law unto itself. The principle that the powdered drug should represent the entire drug must be maintained, even though the powder may represent a wide range of degree of fineness. After the best powder curve of the drug in relation to its extraction has been determined, this curve should be the standard for that drug.

Professor A. H. Clark stated that he believed that these definitions should be in as simple a form as possible; that, after all, it made little difference whether the drug was a No. 80 or No. 20 or No. 60 or a mixture of these, provided it was in such form that it could be properly extracted. One essential of the powdered drug is a greater degree of uniformity of its therapeutic activity than is found in the whole drug, and means should be taken to insure this therapeutic uniformity.

Dr. A. G. DuMez, Chairman of the U. S. P. Sub-Committee on Nomenclature, presented a number of titles that had been criticized, and asked for a show of opinion from the audience. After frequent discussion, the following recommendations were approved by the Conference:

Antipyrina—Shall it be changed to "Phenazone," the Br. P. title?—No. Gossypium Purificatum—Shall "Purificatum" be dropped?—No. Magnesium Oxidum Ponderosum—Shall "Ponderosum" be dropped?—No. Sulphur Sublimatum—Shall "Sublimatum" be dropped?—No. Talcum Purificatum—Shall "Purificatum" be dropped?—No. Terra Silicea Purificata—Shall "Purificata" be dropped?—No. Acetanilid—Shall "Acetanilide" be adopted?—Yes. Acetphenetidin—Shall it be changed to "Acetophenetide?"—Yes. Acidum Phenyleinchoninicum—Shall it be changed to "Cinchophenum?"—Yes. Antimonii et Potassi Tartras—Shall it be changed to "Antimonylis et Potassii Tartras?"—Yes. Aqua Ammonia and Aqua Ammonia Fortior—Shall these be changed to "Liquor Ammonii Hydroxid" and "Liquor Ammonii Hydroxid Fortior?"—No; retain present title. Caffeina Sodii-Benzoas—Shall it be changed to "Caffeina cum Sodii Benzoate?"—Yes. Theobromina Sodii-Salicylas—Shall it be changed to "Theobrominae Sodium cum Sodii Salicylate?"—Yes. Chloral Hydratum—Shall it be changed to "Chloral Hydras?"—Yes. Eucalyptol—Shall it be changed to "Cineol?"—No. Hexamethylamina—Shall it be changed to "Hexamina?"—Yes. Saccharum and Saccharum Lacts—Shall these be changed to "Sucrosium" and "Lactosum?"—Yes. Sodii Boras—Shall this be changed to "Sodii Tetraboras?"—Yes. Oleum Anisi—Shall the English title be "Oil of Star Anise?"—Yes. Benzosulphinidum and Sodii Benzosulphinidum—Shall these be changed to "Glusidum" and "Glusidum Soluble?"—No. Plumbi Oxidum—Shall this be changed to "Plumbi Monoxidum?"—No. Aloes—Shall the title be changed to "Aloe?"—Yes. Cascara Sagrada—Shall the title be changed to "Rhamnus Purshiana?"—Yes. Belladonna Folia—Shall this be changed to "Belladonna Folium?"—Committee to use own judgment. Oleum Cassiae—Shall this be changed to "Oleum Cinnamomi?"—Yes.

RESOLUTIONS.

The following resolutions were adopted at the Conference:

First—Upon motion by Dr. E. L. Newcomb, a committee was appointed by the Chair for

the study of the definitions of drug powders and the committee later reported to the Conference the following resolution:

After careful consideration of data relative to standards for the uniformity of powdered drugs, this Conference recommends that the U. S. P. Revision Committee adopt standards providing: (1) That at least 95 per cent. of a powder of a designated degree of fineness shall pass through a standard mesh sieve of the degree of fineness indicated. (2) That, in view of the practical impossibility of preparing some drugs into a uniform powder, no specific statement be made on the permissible percentage of powder finer than the sieve indicated but that a statement be added to the effect that the percentage of the powder finer than the designated degree be kept as low as possible. (3) That standards for sieves based on the sieve standards of the U. S. Bureau of Standards be included in the U. S. P. in a table similar to that now given on p. 612.

Second—In connection with the discussion of the use of alcohol in the preparations of medicinal products for internal use Dr. Cook moved that the following resolution be adopted:

Resolved, that this Conference is opposed to the granting of the use of tax-free alcohol in the manufacture of medicinal products, as it is believed that such privilege will not result in cheaper medicines to the patient but will make economically impossible the manufacture of medicinal products containing alcohol by the professional pharmacists of our country and will throw all such manufacture into the hands of a few large interests.

Third—Upon receipt of the sad news of the death of Dr. John M. Francis, Dr. Cook moved that the Conference spend a short time in remembrance of our esteemed friend and co-worker. Dr. E. I. Ruddiman, who was in personal association with Dr. Francis for some time, Dr. E. L. Newcomb and others expressed their admiration and appreciation of his fine character and attainments. A resolution of condolence to the family of Dr. Francis was moved and unanimously approved by the Conference.

Fourth—In connection with the address on "Dose Standardization of Elixirs" by Dr. Bernard Fantus, the following resolution was offered by Dr. Newcomb and approved by the Conference:

Resolved, that this Conference recommend to the Revision Committee of the National Formulary that every teaspoonful of each

simple medicated N. F. elixir should carry an official average dose of the medicament, provided that is practicable, and that each elixir should be considered by itself.

The papers read by Dr. Bernard Fantus, Dr. Hugh McGuigan, Dr. Geo. D. Beal, Mr. A. J. Schwarz, Dr. Henry Kraemer, Mr. L. E. Warren, Prof. A. H. Clark, Dr. H. W. Vahlteich, Prof. E. H. Wirth and Miss Vivian Stuchlik will be published with the accompanying discussion of each.

E. N. GATHERCOAL, *Secretary*.

CLEVELAND.

The November meeting of the Cleveland Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association was held at the School of Pharmacy, Western Reserve University, November 27, 1923. Dr. J. C. Placak, the speaker of the evening had for his subject—"Newer Remedies." He outlined briefly the history of medicine from Hippocrates, Galen, Laennec to Pasteur.

The subjects that follow were treated in a way most interesting to pharmacists, as evinced by the approval voiced at the conclusion of the meeting:

1. Tuberculosis, and aside from the agents ordinarily employed in treatment, lung collapse brought about by air pressure exerted in the lung cavity, to permit complete rest of the lung.
2. Protein sensitization in treatment of asthma, eczema, and various skin diseases. Examples of this type of treatment were cases of asthma directly traceable to dog or horse hair; and cases of eczema or other skin eruptions traceable to particular protein—such as egg albumen—where the trouble was removed by desensitizing the patient to the offending substance. It was pointed out that the chief difficulty in the treatment of such cases is in the determination of the particular protein that is causing the trouble.
3. Fighting disease with disease germs. As an example progressive paralysis was cited, and its progressive treatment by inoculating with malaria and following with the quinine treatment, thus eliminating the paralytic tendencies.
4. In addition the following subjects were discussed briefly, with a summary of treatments to date and results obtained:

Diabetes, especially with reference to insulin.

Cancer, and the use of radium and X-ray.
Anti Sera in pneumonia and cerebral meningitis.

Diphtheria prophylaxis.

Intestinal parasites, with special reference to hookworm disease.

Use of tryparsamide for locomotor ataxia and other diseases of central nervous system.

EDWARD D. DAVY, *Secretary*.

PHILADELPHIA.

The December meeting of the Philadelphia Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association was held at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, Tuesday, December 11, 1923.

The minutes of the meeting of the previous month were read and approved and the reports of committees appointed at the last meeting were then received.

Resolutions on the death of Dr. John F. Hancock were presented and a copy was ordered to be transmitted to the family of the deceased.

Chairman Hunsberger of the Committee on Insulin Distribution then presented the following:

"Be it resolved, that the Philadelphia Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association endorses the general plan followed by the University of Toronto of releasing new therapeutic products for general distribution only after satisfactory clinical evidence of their value as medicinal agents has been proven."

"Resolved, that we express our approval of the method followed of distributing therapeutic products through their legitimate channel—the retail pharmacist."

The Branch directed that the foregoing resolutions be entered upon the minutes.

"Browsing through Old Books" was the topic in which Messrs. Ivor Griffith, Ambrose Hunsberger and Charles H. LaWall were the guides.

Dr. LaWall started the program by discussing the ancient writings and picture writings of the Nomadic tribes. He rapidly traced the progress of the conveying of thought from these ancient tribes through what may be probably considered modern writings of the Egyptians on papyrus and the Greeks and Hebrews on parchment. He talked of the many printers who now are famous and the production of their masterpieces. Exhibitions of some of the untiring work of these men were shown

including one of a hand printed and illustrated Bible on parchment.

E. G. Eberle exhibited an old Dutch volume on botanical drugs presented to the Association by William Beukma of Denver in memory of his father; also the Book of the Constitution and By-Laws, A. Ph. A., with the signatures of earlier members. He also brought other American medical and botanical books dating back a hundred years.

Other illustrated works were shown, some of which were amusing when compared to what we are pleased to call our present-day knowledge. Illustrations in scientific books, particularly those on botany, were rather imaginative.

Ivor Griffith introduced his part of the program by reading the title page of the Dispensatory of William Penn. He read a number of selections from the book. A paragraph from the title page will serve to indicate the contents of the book.

"The Compleat CHYMICAL DISPENSATORY, in Five Books. Treating of All sorts of Metals, Precious Stones and Minerals, of all Vegetables and Animals and things that are taken from them as Musk, Civet and the like. How rightly to know them, and how they are to be used in Physick; with their several doses."

Thus we see that our good governor had a very complete knowledge in this volume.

The Pharmacopeia Universalis was then discussed by Ambrose Hunsberger. This is a glossary of formulas, many of which are to-day unknown, one which Mr. Hunsberger brought to our attention being a Cosmetic Water composed of bitter almond, rose vinegar, syrup of raspberry, honey and jasmine water. Some of the doses supposed to have been administered, if the directions in the formulary were followed, would to-day cause very dire results.

Several of the members participated in the discussion and the contributors to the program were tendered a vote of thanks.

JOS. W. E. HARRISSON, *Secretary*.

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON.

DECEMBER MEETING.

The regular monthly meeting of the University of Washington Branch was held at Bagley Hall, December 13, 1923, President Shaw presiding. According to the secretary's report 25 new members have been added to the Branch since October.

After the report of the secretary and treasurer, the president introduced the speaker of the evening, Mr. Walter Sedgley, of the Owl Drug Company. Mr. Sedgley is District Manager of the Pacific Northwest and lived up to the requirements of his position during his interesting and instructive talk. Beginning with the procedure necessary to enter the drug business he developed his theme through the fields of buying, selling, stock keeping, inventory, etc. An abstract of his talk would be

unfair to the subject as presented, and the details of the talk too lengthy. Only 40 members were present, and of these only a few were from outside the University, in spite of the fact that written invitations were mailed to all the drug stores in Seattle. A second general notice will be sent to all drug stores in February, in an attempt to increase the A. Ph. A. membership list of Seattle.

H. A. LANGENHAN, *Secretary*.

FUND FOR RESEARCH.

The American Pharmaceutical Association has available a sum amounting to \$450.00 which will be expended after October 1, 1924, for the encouragement of research.

Investigators desiring financial aid in their work will communicate before March 1 with H. V. Army, Chairman, A. Ph. A. Research Committee, 115 West 68th St., New York, N. Y., giving their past record and outlining the particular line of work for which the grant is desired.

Detroit Institute of Technology School of Pharmacy, of Detroit, Mich., has been elected to membership in the American Conference of Pharmaceutical Faculties.

BUSINESS OF FAULT-FINDING.

Robert D. Towne recently said—"this is the day of the faultfinder." We are not so certain of that but there is good counsel in saying—"what is needed is red-blooded friendship. There is something for everybody to do in these days besides finding fault, and that is to take hold and help."

A speaker at a recent national meeting is reported to have said—"business men are not included among those who follow professions because of the lack of honor among them and in business generally." There are some other statements relating to business men that he is reported to have included in his address. The *New York Commercial* comments editorially—that "the speaker's belief of the lack of honor in business or among business men would get a severe shock if he could talk with the bankers of this country who come daily in contact with its business men." The editorial refers to some of other classes who once in a while go wrong, but as a rule they are fine and entirely worthy people—the conclusion of the comment is that "it's the same way with the business men of this country." It is not likely that those familiar with the facts were

greatly instructed by the speaker; perhaps he had a specific case in mind but, too often, general statements are not answered as they should be; more often they should not be made.

One of the causes leading to general accusations is disregard of law, and that in turn is due to some extent to the multiplicity of laws and would-be reformers. There are men within and without legislative bodies who spend time in devising means for bringing a larger number of people on the Government's and States' pay-rolls. Then there are groups who endeavor to secure special legislation—regardless of the welfare and needs of the public—for selfish, mercenary motives. In doing so they involve others and make them participants in their schemes.

What is needed is a quicker general sense of obligations under existing laws and that, to a larger degree, some of the troublesome enactments be made workable.

NON-SPECIFIC WASSERMANN REACTIONS.

Escomel reports in the *Gaceta Medica Peruana* three cases of extensive alveolar pyorrhea in which the Wassermann reaction was strongly positive, notwithstanding the absence of syphilis. Six species of spirilla, the pneumococcus, the streptococcus and two other bacteria, were cultivated from the gums. Under local neoarsphenamin treatment, the Wassermann reaction became negative. In other cases the misleading Wassermann reaction had been responsible for intensive arsenical treatment which had entailed intestinal, liver and cutaneous lesions from the toxic action of the arsenic. These were ascribed to the non-existent syphilis, and were treated with more observation; the resentment against the father, as the supposed source of the actually non-existent syphilis, led to suicide.—*Journ. A. M. A.*, Jan. 26, 1924.