

EDITORIAL NOTES

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WE ARE SHAPING OUR COURSE TOWARD ACCOMPLISHMENT.

BY GEORGE M. BERINGER.

It is now more than a decade since some of the leaders of pharmacy startled the members of the American Pharmaceutical Association with the proposition that the Association should have a permanent home, that this building should be located in one of the larger cities, that it should serve as the Association's headquarters in which its offices and editors could be housed, and from which its activities would be directed. At first, there was only a hazy atmosphere accompanying the discussion of this subject. There was no clear vision, no well defined plan, no chart of the course that must be followed to attain the object. The scope of the activities contemplated was not defined and the character of the building that would be required to serve the determined activities and uses was given scant consideration.

In the years that have since elapsed, the proposition has been a periodical topic for discussion at the meetings of the American Pharmaceutical Association and its branches and it likewise has occupied considerable space in the drug journals. These discussions have served largely as a means of educating the body pharmaceutical as to what the American Pharmaceutical Association has already accomplished under the most trying conditions and with insufficient equipment; what it aims to do for the advancement of pharmacy, and to crystallize the thoughts into a definite plan of action.

It is now well understood that the proposed American Pharmacy Building is to be a national

building to serve not only the needs of the American Pharmaceutical Association but that this Association in a truly altruistic spirit proposes to offer its services and the use of portions of this building to the various drug and pharmaceutical organizations of the country for the purpose of holding meetings and carrying out coöperative work in behalf of the interests which these bodies represent. The building shall be owned, constructed, equipped, controlled and managed by the American Pharmaceutical Association, not only as a monument to pharmacy, but as a service in perpetuity thereto. That it is proposed to house therein the offices and editorial staff of the Association, also a national pharmaceutical museum and a thoroughly equipped laboratory for pharmaceutical research.

The events of last year have demonstrated that the time has now arrived when the thought and discussion devoted to this project must be followed by earnest concrete action. After careful deliberation, we have come to a proper decision, and the time has now arrived when we must look forward to the accomplishment of the project, to the fulfillment of the ambition, to a fruition of the effort, and from henceforth there must be action, and then more action, and finally more action until success is achieved and the project is accomplished.

We are shaping our course now toward a consummation, 'tis a consummation devoutly to be wished."

PERSONAL AND NEWS ITEMS.

A. H. King, Manhattan, and Roy P. Taylor, Pittsburgh, have been appointed by Governor Davis, of Kansas, as members of the State

Board of Pharmacy to succeed J. Floyd Tilford and D. F. Deem.

J. K. Lilly addressed the Mortar and Pestle Society of the School of Pharmacy of the University of Florida on March 6th. The subject of his address was "A Visit to the Cinchona Plantations of Java." He traced the history of cinchona from the time of its discovery to the present and spoke of the development of modern cinchona plantations, the method of handling the bark and the manufacture of quinine.

Clyde L. Eddy, chairman of the German Pharmaceutical Relief Committee, reports that by the prompt response to the appeal, the recently organized relief committee was enabled to send food drafts on March the 14th to all of the thirty children whose names had been obtained from the German Pharmaceutical Association. Each child has received or presently will receive a package containing 49 pounds of flour, 25 pounds of rice, 10 pounds of sugar, 8 pounds of cooking fats, 3 pounds of cocoa and 24 one-pound tins of evaporated milk. The Committee is grateful for the prompt and generous response that was made in behalf of the German children; further contributions are asked for the continuance of this work of charity.

J. Leon Lascoff celebrated the 25th anniversary of his business activities, March 11. During this period 530,204 original prescriptions have been filled in this store. His son is now associated with him.

Hugo Kantrowitz, Editor of the *Apotheker Zeitung*, has recently celebrated the 45th anniversary of his connection with the publication named. Prior to that time, the dean of pharmaceutical editors was employed by a Philadelphia newspaper and this publication expressed its congratulations.

Otto J. S. Boberg, veteran druggist of Eau Claire, Wisconsin, attended the recent meeting of the Iowa State Pharmaceutical Association as a representative of the Wisconsin Association. He was favorably impressed with the Drug Show, which attracted many visitors.

Dr. Edward Plaut, president of Lehn and Fink, Inc. has presented the Harriman Research Laboratory with the sum of \$3000, for 1924, to be known as the Plaut Research Fund for Studies in Internal Medicine. This fund is to aid in the investigation of the effects of certain therapeutic agents especially the endocrine glands. Dr. K. G. Falk has been placed in charge of this work.

Caswell A. Mayo, former president of the American Pharmaceutical Association, was the guest of the Chemists' Club of Cincinnati at one of their recent monthly dinners at the University of Cincinnati. The subject of his address was "Where Drugs Come from." He also addressed the Paleolinguists' Society of the University of Cincinnati on "Medicine and Pharmacy in Ancient Egypt."

J. L. Hopkins & Co., drug millers, have moved their office from 100 William St., New York City, to more commodious quarters, 135 William St.

Colonel Frank L. McCartney, for a number of years with the Monsanto Chemical Works, St. Louis, is now manager of the Chicago office of the Norwich Pharmacal Company.

Clarence O. Bigelow of New York City has erected a tablet in his pharmacy commemorating the 85th anniversary of the founding of the business by Dr. Galen Hunter. The tablet records the changes of the firm, as follows: 1863-1880 under the proprietorship of George L. Hooper; from 1880-1922 as the pharmacy of Clarence O. Bigelow. In 1922 the business was incorporated and this tablet also marks the third successive passing of ownership from employer to employees. Among the present staff of thirty-five tried assistants, G. H. McCausland, F. S. Morse, F. A. Schraedley and A. F. Weisboord have served in this pharmacy for upwards of a quarter of a century.

Harry F. Sinclair, whose name has been conspicuous on front page news items during the past few months, was at one time a druggist of Independence, Kansas.

Julius A. Koch spoke before the Congress of Women's Clubs of Western Pennsylvania, March 12, on "The Chemistry of Cosmetics."

Herbert S. Speckart has been elected president of the St. Louis Retail Druggists' Association. Mr. Speckart served in the U. S. Navy during the War.

Dean Frederick J. Wulling was presented with a gavel, in recognition of his long service as presiding officer of the Scientific Section of Minnesota Pharmaceutical Association. He has presided at each of the twenty annual sessions of the Section.

Frank Schachleiter, secretary of the Arkansas Board of Pharmacy, has announced that the board intends to inaugurate a vigorous enforcement of the pharmacy law of that state to correct certain conditions due to a laxity in observing some of the provisions of the act. A month's grace will be allowed, Mr. Schach-

leiter said, after which, if steps to comply with the law are not taken, the board will file information and seek prosecution. An extremely lax condition, which had its inception in oil boom towns, has spread throughout the state, according to Mr. Schachleiter, who added that similar alleged conditions exist throughout the Middle West.

Frank H. Carter, for more than thirty years active in the American Pharmaceutical Association, has sold his pharmacy in Indianapolis to his brother so as to devote more of his time to other interests. Mr. Carter was local secretary of the A. Ph. A. meeting of 1896 in Indianapolis. Mr. and Mrs. Carter attended the Asheville meeting.

Solomon Boehm, member of the A. Ph. A., for more than fifty years, celebrated his golden wedding anniversary January 27th at Hotel Belvedere, New York City. All the children and about 100 other relatives were present. **Dr. Charles E. Caspari** represented the St. Louis College of Pharmacy on this happy occasion.

Edward V. Sheely, of Memphis, Tenn., celebrated the 25th anniversary of his pharmacy at the corner where he is still located during the week of March 2nd. Invitations to the store and prescription blanks were printed in silver ink to commemorate the occasion.

William H. Gano, Philadelphia, is making a rapid recovery following an eye operation, necessitated by the threatened loss of sight. It is gratifying to report that the operation was successful.

Edwin F. Leonard, member of the A. Ph. A., and Mayor of Springfield, Mass., is a prominent pharmacist of his home town where he formerly owned several stores, but increasing duties prompted him to dispose of all except one of them.

The Journal of Chemical Education has issued its third number and is measuring up to its mission. The first editorial of the number referred to considers the Metric System and the Editor points out an important fact—that in order to have these units generally adopted it will be necessary for those who use them in their work to also designate the quantities when ordering supplies. The practice is quite general to employ the old system in buying and selling and the metric system in manufacturing and dispensing.

Within an hour after the terrific explosion at the Nixon Nitration Company on March first which killed and injured many, Johnson and Johnson unloaded surgical dressings, antiseptics, medical supplies, etc., at the scene

of the disaster. Trucks from the plant also brought quantities of food, thus relieving as far as possible the distress of the afflicted.

Eli Lilly and Company have given \$25,000 to Butler College which is seeking an additional endowment of \$1,500,000 and contemplates the construction of new buildings at Fairview Park, Indianapolis.

Fuller Morrisson and Company and Robert Stevenson and Company of Chicago have consolidated. The present-day tendency seems to be toward consolidation of business interests and in that way doing away with quite a large percentage of overhead expenses.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN DRUGGISTS FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The report of the annual meeting of the American Druggists' Fire Insurance Company shows that \$48,076,490.50 of insurance was written by this company during 1923. This is an increase of \$4,639,348.99 over the previous year. Fire losses amounting to \$176,354.05 were paid and for reinsurance the sum of \$137,064.22. The total assets of the company now amount to \$1,101,676.60 and the net amount of surplus for the protection of policy holders amounts to \$893,286.31. More than 90% of the assets of the company are invested in Government, county and municipal bonds. About 17,800 retail druggists in all parts of the United States are carrying some of their insurance with this company. The amount saved its policy-holders in the cost of their insurance during 1923 was \$163,194. The following well-known pharmacists are directors of the company: Charles B. Avery, L. G. Heinritz, James H. Beal, Edward W. Stucky, William C. Anderson, Lewis C. Hopp, George O. Young, Edward Voss, Samuel C. Davis, John D. Muir, E. H. Thiesing, Walter Rothwell, M. C. Kahn, E. B. Heimstreet, and Frank H. Freericks. The company plans the erection of a home office building very soon after the necessary bond issue has been voted for the Central Parkway in Cincinnati.

Police Commissioner of New York, Richard E. Enright, has branded the statement that 17,000 school children in one borough of New York City are narcotic drug addicts. The "malicious propaganda," he said, "was published under the letter-head of the International Narcotic Association." Police and school records showed, he said, that not one of the 951,000 school children in New York City is addicted to narcotics.