

for the nation. The American Conference of Pharmaceutical Faculties, composed of the faculties of the best colleges of pharmacy in the United States, has done an excellent work for pharmacy. It has always stood for the best and has urged higher requirements and more competent practitioners for pharmacy. As mentioned above it has recommended that all applicants for entrance to member colleges be required to subscribe to the pharmacy code of ethics. The National Association of Boards of Pharmacy has done for the boards what the Conference has done for the colleges. No other profession has such an organization. Pharmacy has the fifth qualification.

Sixth. A profession is recognized by the commonwealths by laws that protect the public from incompetency. Every state in the Union has a pharmacy law that specifies certain qualifications that must be met by all practitioners and fixes penalties for infraction of the law. In addition, the United States government has recognized pharmacy as indicated in the discussion of the second qualification. Pharmacy has the sixth qualification.

Seventh. A profession has a literature. Pharmacy has such a literature and it is indeed a rich literature. The JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION and the YEAR BOOK of this Association are typical examples of scientific publications that are purely professional. The National Formulary, recognized by Congress, in the Pure Food and Drugs Act and the Prohibition Act, is published by the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION. The United States Pharmacopœia is revised every ten years by a committee, 66 per cent of whom are pharmacists. Pharmacy has representation in the National Research Council. A great amount of research is accomplished by pharmacists every year, thus adding materially to the literature of pharmacy. The *American Journal of Pharmacy* and a host of others are also adding yearly to the literature of pharmacy. I have only briefly sketched this literature, but enough has been given to prove that pharmacy has a literature. Pharmacy has the seventh qualification of a profession.

I have proved that pharmacy has all the qualifications of a profession; therefore *pharmacy is a profession.*

A NEOPHYTE OF THE SIGMA XI.*

BY H. V. ARNY.

In behalf of the initiates of 1924 permit me to express our thanks for the great honor you have vouchsafed us in conferring upon us membership in the Sigma XI. We neophytes stand before you with mingled feeling of awe and of exaltation. We shy young things of 1924 are awed at the thought of being in the presence of you, our "grave and reverend" seniors; we possess a feeling of exaltation; I might even say exultation, at being privileged to be initiates of this great organization, since we realize that membership in the Sigma Xi is a distinction, an opportunity and a privilege.

It is a distinction to be received into a select society which numbers among

* Remarks made "On behalf of the Initiates of 1924" at the annual initiation banquet of the Kappa Chapter of the Sigma Xi Society, the national honorary fraternity of research workers.

its members such wise and adept workers in the field of science as Millikan, Baekeland, Menzies and Parsons; to say nothing of you distinguished gentlemen whom I see scattered around the room. Then membership in the Sigma Xi is an opportunity; an opportunity to follow science in its most beautiful phase; the search after truth, the search after still more facts. All of us who have taught a number of years can enumerate our disappointments, as we have seen our pupils of the greatest scientific promise desert the field of science in their chase after the elusive dollar. How many young men of the most brilliant promise sell their scientific birthright for a mess of pottage! A mess of pottage is all right in its place, as we initiates have demonstrated in the hearty justice we have shown in the ample "mess of pottage," that the Kappa Chapter has just provided for us. A mess of pottage may save the starving body, but the starving mind, the starving soul, needs other sustenance and to us scientists the inspiration of research is as necessary to the full development of our mind as food is to the development of our bodies. As I understand it, the Sigma Xi is committed to the principle that it is our duty to do research work; that even as all we of to-day know, all that we teach, is the result of tens of thousands of studies by thousands of investigators of the past, so in turn it is our duty to show our gratitude to our predecessors, the masters who have gone before us, by adding our modest contributions to the sum total of human knowledge. If this be the actuating principle of the Sigma Xi, it is the duty of us, her sons and daughters, to make best possible use of this opportunity for service. Then, membership in the Sigma Xi is a privilege. It is a privilege to become brothers of you distinguished members of the Kappa Chapter; to be members of the great national society; to be deemed worthy to wear the key that carries the message of the Sigma Xi throughout the length and breadth of this great land of ours—yea, even as we have found this evening, throughout the world.

Perhaps it will not be impertinent for me to add at this time a personal word of thanks. I consider the honor of my election to the Sigma Xi as an honor bestowed upon American pharmacy. To most scientists, pharmacy means the corner drug store. To our toastmaster, who, judging from his jocular introductory remarks, seems to have an intimate knowledge of such establishments, pharmacy seems to be associated with "the boot-leg shop." Since this hideous phase of Volsteadism has been mentioned, I owe it as a duty to pharmacy to remind my hearers of the fact that in the sordid "boot-leg" transaction, three individuals are equally guilty: the boot-leg druggist; the boot-leg doctor, who writes the prescription; and the thirsty citizen who for indulgence of self coaxes two weaklings to besmirch two honorable callings. But to return to my theme, pharmacy is not exclusively the retail drug store which has faithfully served the public for centuries and which is still faithfully serving it under most trying conditions. Pharmacy is partly a business, partly an art, partly a profession. And, moreover, pharmacy is one of the most ancient of sciences. In the dim mists of the past, in the days of ancient Egypt the priest was a theolog, a star gazer, a physician and a pharmacist. To those of you who doubt the latter statement, I commend a study of Eber's "Papyrus" and other medical writings of the Land of the Pharaohs. As I have said elsewhere, "Before Science was, Pharmacy is." It is true in these days of material rather than spiritual progress, the cark of business has dimmed the scientific luster of pharmacy, but a calling that has numbered among its followers such men as Scheele,

the Swedish apothecary, Sertürner, the apothecary of Eimbeck, Pelletier, the great *pharmacien* of Paris, to say nothing of our present day, John Uri Lloyd—such a calling I think has the right to call itself a science.

The National Conference of Pharmaceutical Research of which I have the honor of being chairman has now enrolled 200 individuals—pharmaceutical chemists, pharmaceutical botanists, pharmacognosists and dispensing pharmacists—who are interested in research. That their interest is not purely academic is shown in the fact that at each annual meeting of the scientific section of the American Pharmaceutical Association, anywhere from 50 to 100 papers embodying research are presented and discussed. A remarkable evidence of the research activity of American pharmacy is shown in the operations of the Revision Committee of the United States Pharmacopœia. This organization entrusted with the preparation of the national legal standard for medicines is, as far as I can learn, the oldest coöperative research group in existence in this country, having celebrated its centennial in 1920. Of the 50 pharmacopœial revisers, 33 are pharmacists. Surely a calling that can produce such a record of research is worthy to be classed among the sciences.

But my brother and sister initiates of 1924 may think I am forgetting them. So, Mr. Toastmaster, in my last minute, permit me in their behalf to say in the words of that great and strenuous man, the immortal "T. R.," that we have had "a bully time" this evening; that we are proud to be members of the Sigma Xi and that we hope by our future work to show ourselves worthy to carry forward the traditions of the Sigma Xi.

WHAT SHOULD A PHARMACIST KNOW?

THE COMMONWEALTH STUDY OF PHARMACY.

BY JULIUS A. KOCH.

To-day the trend in the education of youth is characterized chiefly by its practical application to the requirements for the actual service expected in the individual's chosen field. It is based upon the idea that while it may be desirable for the individual to know more than is necessary for adequate service, he should at least know that much.

The men concerned with the study of pharmaceutical education from the functional point of view were early confronted with the problem of how best to determine the specific body of knowledge the pharmacist should have in order to insure proper service.

They felt that, if they were to make a list of the duties of the pharmacist as a public servant, study thousands of prescriptions in detail, chart the economic facts necessary for the successful conduct of business, and in short to consider carefully all the services that are and should rightfully be expected of a pharmacist, they would have a body of material from which they might with some degree of accuracy determine specifically the background of knowledge necessary for its proper fulfilment.