

WASHINGTON N. A. R. D. MEETING.

The executive committee of Washington druggists having in charge the preparations for the annual convention of the N. A. R. D. are meeting weekly to report the progress made by various committees. These sessions will be continued throughout the summer period. F. T. Stone is chairman of the executive committee, Paul Pearson, vice-chairman; Col. Robert N. Harper, treasurer, and A. V. Burdine, secretary. Heads of the other working committees already functioning are: Publicity, N. B. Parker, chairman, and M. G. Gibbs, vice-chairman; entertainment, W. P. Herbst, chairman, and Ralph Judd, vice-chairman; registration, S. L. Hilton, chairman, and R. Mayo, vice-chairman; transportation, A. F. Gorsuch, chairman, and W. T. Kerfoot, vice-chairman, finance, W. H. Bradbury, chairman, and Charles Walter, vice-chairman; drug show, Paul Pearson, chairman, and H. W. Kenner, vice-chairman; reception, H. C. Easterday, chairman, and E. W. White-side, vice-chairman; program, A. C. Taylor, chairman, and Alois Burgher, vice-chairman; ladies' committee, Mrs. C. L. Henry, chairman, and Mrs. W. H. Bradbury, vice-chairman. In addition there is an advisory committee composed of members of the Maryland Phar-

maceutical Association and the Baltimore retail druggists' association.

Joseph Henry Maiden, honorary member of the American Pharmaceutical Association, the greatest authority on the botany of the Australasian Eucalypti, has retired—according to advice in a communication from him—under the age-limit, from the Directorship of the Sydney Botanic Gardens, a post he has held since 1896 (see sketch, *JOUR. A. PH. A.* for March 1920, p. 233; also see pp. 438 and 441, Volume IX). Opportunity is taken advantage of in extending to the distinguished member many more years of health, happiness and usefulness.

Seventy-five years ago the late Dr. H. C. Wood, best known to pharmacists through the "U. S. Dispensatory" and as presiding officer of several pharmacopœial conventions, visited in Great Britain. In an address, during that visit, Dr. Wood said—"the original and proper business of the apothecary was to prepare and vend medicines; this continues to be the service he renders in the United States, and the consequence has been that by a concentration of time and abilities upon his own pursuit he has elevated pharmacy from the rank of a mere trade to the dignity of a profession, and increased in a corresponding degree his own personal respectability."

THE PHARMACIST AND THE LAW.

THE METRIC MOVEMENT IN AMERICA.

George L. Edmunds, in an editorial of the *New York Evening Telegram*, writes that "after nearly a century and a quarter of needless lagging in the rear of the world's advancement toward rational measurements of distance, bulk and weight there is to be noted today a serious tendency toward America's official adoption of the simple, readily calculable and generally universal metric system.

"There remain today of the nations which possess any world importance in industry, trade, agriculture or political power only the United States and the British Empire in which calculations applying to manufacture, transportation, production and construction cannot be made in decimal sums.

"That is why duplicate bills,* now pending

* By Senator Ladd and Representative Britten.

in Congress, affording the gradual adoption of the metric system by the government and people of America during the next nine years or so, will receive in the course of the present session consideration at least if not the immediate favor of our Federal Legislature."

THE OPIUM CONFERENCE.

Associated Press dispatches from Geneva inform that failure still marks the efforts of special governmental delegates who are trying to agree on the draft of a convention which will be submitted to the big international opium conference in November. The opinions of the experts show wide divergence, with France and Holland on one side and England on the other.

France is holding out for limiting opium and narcotic drug trade by a stringent control of contraband and illegal sales, rather than by direct limitation of manufacture. England desires a convention restricting manufacture in all countries.

It is understood that, if the United States cannot obtain the acceptance of her fundamen-

tal principle of limiting the production of opium and coca leaf, she will at least back England in the efforts to limit manufacture. Edwin Neville, the American delegate, was not present at a recent private meeting of the experts. Another meeting of the delegates will be held in August in collaboration with the league of nations permanent advisory commission on opium.

THE CRAMTON BILL.

As is generally known the Cramton Bill passed the House and is now on the Senate calendar, therefore, the duty of pharmacists is clear—namely, to voice opposition to the bill in every possible way that promises results. Surely, the Senators should be impressed with the general opposition of the drug industries, and also the Congressmen. And at the proper time, when the next Congress assembles, the press should learn of the general opposition of the drug trade to the measure. State and local associations should take up the matter again, before Congress convenes, so that other efforts may be strongly reinforced by these organizations.

REVIEW OF PROHIBITION ENFORCEMENT.

In a report by Federal Prohibition Commissioner Haynes prohibition enforcement of the past three years is reviewed. A gratifying statement of the report reads:

"One of the most effective measures adopted by the present administration in keeping control of sales of liquor and preventing the forcing of business in liquors was the adoption of a rule to the effect that wholesale druggists will be permitted to procure and sell potable spirits not to exceed an amount equal to ten per cent. of their wholesale drug business during the preceding year. The result of this rule has been to place the wholesale business in liquors in the hands of entirely responsible and reliable druggists, and the majority of the wholesale druggists agree that it is a necessary and salutary measure."

ISOPROPYL ALCOHOL STANDARD.

The Internal Revenue Bureau has announced that the specific gravity of isopropyl alcohol "shall not be more than 0.8224 at 60/60 degrees F.," amending the specification of isopropyl alcohol used as one of the denaturants in several denatured alcohols.

MARYLAND POISON LAW PROSECUTIONS.

Robert L. Swain, deputy food and drug commissioner of the Maryland State Health Department, is looking after Poison Law violators among grocers and general store owners—the law requires that poisons must be sold in original packages, labeled to indicate the manufacturer's name, and records of sales must be kept.

BOOK NOTICES AND REVIEWS.

Kohlenhydrate bearbeitet von Prof. Dr. Geza Zemplen in Budapest und Dr. ing. F. F. Nord in Berlin. Allgemeine und spezielle Methoden zu inrem Nachweis in qualitativer und quantitativer Beziehung. Ihre Isolierung, Aufbau- und Abbaueversuche. 3 Vol. Lexicon. 1101 pp. Urban and Schwarzenberg, Berlin N. 24 and Wien I.

These three volumes constitute Part 5 of the Chemical Methods of that monumental, classic work, "*Handbuch der biologischen Arbeitsmethoden*," by Geh. Med. Rat Prof. Dr. Emil Abderhalden, Director of the Physiological Institute of the University Halle, with the coöperation of about 500 eminent specialists. The University of Halle (est. July 12, 1694) was first made famous by one of its native sons, Dr. Friedrich Hoffmann (1660-1742), professor

of medicine and court physician to King Frederick the Great. Hoffman's name will continue to live in pharmacy and medicine through his Liqueur anodynus mineralis, our present Hoffmann's Drops. The fame of Halle continues with such an eminent authority as Dr. Emil Abderhalden in the chair of physiology. In spite of numerous splendid offers of larger universities, this scholar adheres to Halle and has obtained excellent results in the investigation of metabolism and foodstuffs.

Among his many literary achievements the *Handbuch der biologischen Arbeitsmethoden*, of which he is the editor-in-chief, is unquestionably his master work as can be readily seen from the following outline of the chapter headings: I, Chemical Methods; II, Physical Methods; III, Physical-Chemical Methods; IV, Applied Chem-