

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to the Association and Branches shall become the property of the Association with the understanding that they are not to be published in any other publication prior to their publication in those of the Association, except with the consent of the Council."—Part of Chapter VI, Article VI of the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.

BALTIMORE.

The January meeting of the Baltimore Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held at the Hotel Emerson, January 27, 1925, John C. Krantz, Jr., presiding.

Dr. Wyatt W. Randall, Chief of the Bureau of Chemistry in the Maryland State Department of Health and a member of the Faculty of the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health, spoke on the subject the "Inert Gases of the Atmosphere."

Dr. Randall sought to emphasize the value of a study of the mental attitude of the investigator towards the facts already known when his research began, and of the influence exerted by newly-discovered facts upon his progress. As an instance, the classical research of Lord Rayleigh which led, through careful studies of the densities of the lighter gases, to the conviction that atmospheric "nitrogen" was not a single form of matter, was discussed at some length. The isolation of argon and later—through the brilliant work of Ramsay—of helium, neon, krypton and xenon, followed as a logical result. The speaker laid stress, however, upon the amazing ingenuity and resourcefulness which characterized the experimental work of the two men, and endeavored to show that only by the combination of such brilliant qualities of mind with rare technical skill could the work have been brought to a successful end.

The election of officers followed, with the following results:

President, Robert L. Swain, 16 West Saratoga St., Baltimore, Md.

First Vice-President, Charles C. Neal, 307 W. Pratt St., Baltimore, Md.

Secretary-Treasurer, B. Olive Cole, Greene and Lombard Sts., Baltimore, Md.

Committee on Membership, Wilmer H. Schulze, Chairman, L. M. Kantner, Miss Carrie G. Mossop.

Committee on Professional Relations, George P. Hetz, Chairman, James A. Black, L. S. Williams.

Committee on Science and Practice of Pharmacy, J. Fuller Frames, Chairman; John C. Krantz, Jr.; W. F. Reindollar.

Committee on Education and Legislation, E. F. Kelly, Chairman; Samuel Y. Harris; J. Carlton Wolf.

The February meeting of the Branch will be held on the 25th at the Hotel Emerson, and the speaker will be Dr. H. H. Lloyd, Professor of Chemistry, Goucher College, his subject being—"Some Recent Views of Atomic Structure."

B. OLIVE COLE, *Secretary-Treasurer*.

CHICAGO

The 148th meeting of the Chicago Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held Friday, February 6, at the University of Illinois, School of Pharmacy. The general subject of the meeting was "Sponges."

President L. E. Warren called the meeting to order and introduced Dr. C. E. Thoraldsen, Professor of Zoölogy at Northwestern University, who gave a very interesting talk on "The Life History of Sponges." He explained the histological structure of sponges, their habitat, cultivation, and characteristics peculiar to them.

C. N. Shuler, an authority on the commercial history of sponges, was then introduced by the President. He followed the talk of Professor Thoraldsen closely by displaying samples of the many different varieties of sponges obtained from the Mediterranean

Sea, Cuban waters, and other tropical seas. He emphasized the commercial value of the sponge in relation to the drug business and how a very profitable business along this line could be worked up by having a well-organized display and bringing it to the attention of the customers.

A rising vote of thanks was given to the two speakers of the evening for their kindness in addressing the Association on this very interesting subject. L. E. WARREN, *President*,
E. N. GATHERCOAL, *Secretary*.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA.

The twenty-third meeting of the University of North Carolina Branch of the A. PH. A. was held in Gerrard Hall, Monday evening, February second.

Dr. Paul S. Pittenger, head of the department of pharmacodynamics of the H. K. Mulford Co., delivered an address on "Physiologic Drug Assay Methods," which was illustrated by the demonstration of the application of the assay methods of various drugs on test animals and by charts. The lecture was divided into three parts; first, Dr. Pittenger spoke on the necessity of physiologic standardization by showing the wide variation in the activity of preparations made by the

same methods from different crops of drugs; secondly, he gave an account of the accuracy and advisability of the use of the various methods for the standardization of those preparations which could not be assayed by chemical methods. In concluding the address the speaker demonstrated the methods of standardization on test animals. He showed the one-hour frog method for the standardization of digitalis, the gold fish method for digitalis, the cock's comb one, the isolated uterus method for ergot, the standardization of the suprarenal gland by the blood pressure method on a dog, and standardization by determining the M. L. D. on guinea-pigs. Dr. Pittenger brought his own test animals from Philadelphia and was assisted in the demonstration by Mr. Cuique of the Mulford staff.

Dr. Pittenger's lecture was particularly interesting and much enjoyed by an audience of nearly five hundred consisting of the faculty and students of the Science Schools at the University and of many physicians and pharmacists from nearby cities.

The Branch wishes to express its appreciation to Dr. Pittenger and the Mulford Co. for the privilege of hearing such an interesting lecture.

E. V. KYSER, *Secretary*.

HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS AND MUSEUMS.

Ernest Spafford said "the knowledge possessed by a historian is not greater than the sum of his sources. History is constantly being made, and in ages yet to come the happenings of to-day, which now may seem commonplace enough, may be of grave and interesting import. "Although there have been in past ages many who recorded events and left those records for others to find, there are many gaps and spaces which probably will never be adequately filled."

So the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION has a duty to pharmacy for which a Headquarters Building is essential, and all divisions of the drug trade should cooperate in this valuable and interesting work. Helen E. Fernald, Chief Docent of the University Museum (Philadelphia), said that "times are changing. The museum is beginning to realize its responsibility toward the public. The public is beginning to realize to what great extent the museum is its own and how it can be made to serve many purposes. The museum is fast becoming a workshop for artists, a laboratory of students in art, history or the classics, and

ultimate source and authority for many persons of divers interests. It is destined to be used more and more and in increasingly various ways as time goes on. In fact, there seems to be no limit to its possibilities of service except that imposed by the type of collections themselves or the size and number of the staff."

WISCONSIN HISTORICAL MUSEUM DRUG-STORE EXHIBIT.

The Secretary of the National Association of Museums, who was a recent visitor at Madison, Wis., is among the more recent persons to congratulate Curator Brown of the Wisconsin Historical Museum on the old-time drug store exhibit. He said that this drug exhibit was the best single piece in the entire museum. The material for the exhibit was collected during the past fifteen years through the untiring efforts of Dr. Edward Kremers, director of the course in pharmacy at the University of Wisconsin, and arranged by Curator Brown. Many Wisconsin druggists contributed toward the exhibit and it is now probably the most complete assembly of old-time drugs, preparations and drug-store paraphernalia existing anywhere.

Pharmaceutical Era.