

## OBITUARY.

## HENRY A. JORDEN.

Henry A. Jorden, member of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION since 1902, died at his home in Bridgeton, N. J., March 10. He was formerly a member of the New Jersey Board of Pharmacy and also, for a time, its Secretary; for many years he was active in the State Association. He graduated from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy in 1868, and was engaged in business up to the time of his death: He held a wide acquaintance among pharmacists and was highly regarded in his home city. Mr. Jorden is survived by his widow,

PROFESSOR AUGUST VON  
WASSERMANN.

A Berlin dispatch, of March 18, states that the death of August von Wassermann removes the last of the four great scientists—Koch, Ehrlich, Behring and Wassermann—who established the leadership of Germany in the investigation and treatment of infectious diseases. No successor is at hand to take the place of the discoverer of the epoch-making Wassermann reaction, which entitled him to historical equality with Koch, who was the first to isolate the infectious protozoa of syphilis; Ehrlich, the inventor of salvarsan, and Behring, the finder of a diphtheria serum. It was the fate of the great researcher to die of a disease—organic kidney trouble—not yet touched by a gifted hand like his.

Though perhaps the most renowned of medical men in this decade, Dr. Wassermann never practiced medicine. His private fortune allowed him to dedicate his entire time to the laboratory.

Not very long before his death it was announced that he had determined a new blood test by which, it is hoped, cancer can be detected long in advance of present methods.

Professor Wassermann was director of the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute for Experimental Therapy and professor of medicine at the University of Berlin. He was born in Hamburg in 1836. He studied medicine at Berlin, Strasbourg, Erlangen, Munich and elsewhere, becoming an assistant professor at the Koch Institute of the Charite, in Berlin, following the completion of his studies. He became an assistant professor of therapeutics in the University of Berlin in 1902, later being advanced to a full professorship in 1911.

In 1913 he was appointed director of the newly-founded Institute for Experimental Therapy in Berlin. It was in 1906, while an assistant professor in the University of Berlin, he made his discoveries which led to the universal blood test which bears his name.

In March, 1923, Dr. Wassermann announced the discovery of a method of determining the presence in the body of what he termed "latent active tuberculosis."

B. A. Parsons, sales manager of Parke, Davis & Company, died suddenly March 19, at his home in Detroit. Pneumonia complicated with pulmonary embolism caused his death.

He is survived by his wife, Margaret Stimpson Parsons, a married son, Stuart O., living in Ohio, and a daughter, Helen M., attending the Liggett School. Mr. Parsons was 49 years old at the time of his death. He was born in Maple Valley, Michigan. Coming from the University of Michigan, he entered the employ of Parke, Davis & Company thirty years ago. Before being made sales manager two years ago, he held the position of manager of the Kansas City branch of Parke, Davis & Company. During his residence in Kansas City he was prominent in civic affairs, being at one time police commissioner and at another President of the Kansas City board of commerce.

## SOCIETIES AND COLLEGES.

A. PH. A. DRIVE FOR HEADQUARTERS  
IN NEW YORK CITY.

Retail pharmacists in Greater New York have an opportunity, during a three-month period which began on March 15, to contribute to the Headquarters' Building Fund of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION. Pharmacists in the Greater City, to date, have not "gone over the top" in the matter of contribu-

tions to the fund and this special drive has been arranged to make it possible for them to do so.

Nathaniel Nicolai is directing the drive and, under his supervision, a corps of solicitors is calling upon retailers throughout the city. The committee appointed several months ago to collect funds in New York will continue to function under the direction of Chairman Robert R. Lampa and will cooperate with Mr.